

Casting a Show at RSS Theatre

All directors at RSS strive to cast fairly, with the objective of assembling an overall cast that will best serve the directorial/artistic vision for the show. This requires hours of analysis and decision making by directors and advisors (some even before auditions happen). Be assured that everyone involved takes their responsibility in this area very seriously.

RSS Theatre casting decisions are not based on seniority (grade level in school), or past participation in the program. This is a firmly held belief arrived at after years of directorial experience in assembling casts. The results of having students of all ages collaborate to produce a show, each cast solely on his or her fit for a given role, create a unique and exciting theatrical experience for our performers and audience alike.

Casting is a complex process. Directors make decisions as to who fits each part best based on many dimensions, not only by the individual skills of an actor but also in the dynamics between actors who will be creating the intended energy of a show in scenes together. Auditioning, for students, is an exciting albeit difficult process. The more a student auditions, the better they will become, especially if they seek and respond to feedback and guidance. The feeling of “rejection” over not getting cast or not getting “the part” is, of course, disappointing at first. We encourage you, if you truly want to pursue theatrical endeavors, to get right back to work and sharpen your skills for future auditions. In theatre, just as in life, all of us experience disappointment and success. It is in the gracious handling of both experiences that we truly learn how to successfully navigate the world around.

Your audition does not guarantee you a role in the show. RSS Theatre is a new program, and currently we have no way of knowing how many students will choose to audition. While disappointment for some is an inevitable part of any competitive situation (academic, athletic, or artistic) know that there are many other ways to get involved. Our technical crews (set, costumes, props, sound, and lighting) provide many opportunities for students, including leadership of crews. Keep an open mind, come collaborate, be a part of the team, and seek out a new experience!

The theatre at RSS celebrates diversity of all kinds. Encouraging diversity is an overall goal of the RSS program. We actively encourage all students to participate in productions as members of cast or crew. All students who audition are considered *equally for all parts in an inclusive environment. Theatre, after all, is a reflection of diverse culture, life experiences and traditions.*