

New Mexico Young Actors

New Mexico Young Actors Inc. (NMYA) is a New Mexico non-profit 501(c)3 organization that develops future talent by producing children's plays and musicals with students ages 9 - 18 in all leading roles. As a drama school since 1979, we have the professional expertise to educate and develop an appreciation for the arts for young audiences in our community.

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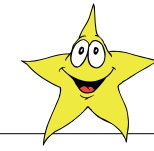
**NMYA
TOURING
SHOWS**

A cartoon yellow star with a face, eyes, and a smile. It has a small hand on its right side, as if it's waving or pointing.

A Helpful Guide

www.nmyoungactors.org

Have Show, Will Travel!



Congratulations! Your young actor has been cast in a touring production for NMYA.

Every season, NMYA produces two touring shows—one is performed in the Fall and the other in the Spring. Individual organizations (usually schools) will reserve one or more shows to be held at their location. NMYA then travels to their location, taking along the actors, sets, props, costumes, etcetera necessary for the performance. These shows are a unique way to bring live theater to students who might otherwise be unable to attend a theater performance. Your child will have a lot of fun 'performing' such a worthwhile community service.

Preparing for the Show

By now, your young actor knows his or her role for the upcoming touring show. The next few months will be spent learning and memorizing lines and stage movements.

Each child is given a copy of the script. He should take a pencil and the script to each rehearsal as many stage notes are written in the script. The director will give your actor a deadline to be "off script." This is the point at which your child should have all his lines and cues memorized. It might be helpful for your child to highlight each of his lines for quick reference.

Any assistance you can give your child to help

him memorize his lines is greatly appreciated.

It is very important to the success of the show for all actors to be present at the rehearsals and notify the director as soon as possible if a conflict arises.

Touring shows are scheduled months in advance and are scheduled on weekdays during normal school hours. There are usually 4 days of traveling and performing divided among two casts. Your actor will usually perform for two days. The director will provide a letter of explanation for your student to give to his teacher/school. The absences and make-up work remain the responsibility of the student. It has been our experience that there is rarely any opposition by the schools as they are aware of the excellent educational opportunity this provides many students around the state of New Mexico.

Parent drivers are needed to transport actors to the different performance locations throughout the day. You will be given the opportunity to volunteer for this early in the semester.

Each actor will receive a schedule for the touring week so you will know call times and return times for each day.

Let the Show Begin!

Just before the show hits the road, family and friends are invited to the dress rehearsal which is usually held at Christ the Ray of Hope church.

This provides the cast members with an active audience for their final rehearsal.

During the touring week, actors arrive at the usual rehearsal space early in the morning. Each actor is given unique instructions about whether he should arrive in full costume and make-up or get dressed at the rehearsal space. Actors should have a good breakfast prior to arriving. This sets them up for an energy-filled day and avoids spills and stains on costumes! As soon as everyone has arrived and the set is loaded, actors are matched up with drivers and depart for their first performance location. Parent-volunteer drivers are given location information and maps for each day. Parent drivers also serve as stage hands/prop masters/make-up artists as the need arises!

Lunch is usually purchased at a fast-food restaurant. Each actor is asked to bring cash for his lunch each day.

Your child will be returned to the rehearsal space at the end of the day. He may be exhausted!

After the Show

A cast party is generally held during the weekend following the show. It is hosted by a cast member's family and involves both casts. Unless the host family makes other arrangements, it is a potluck.