

# Devon Preparatory School's

## 2023 Fall Drama

### *Peter and the Starcatcher*

**Auditions:** Sept. 7th & 9th, Devon Prep Music Room (Rm 511)

**Production Information:** Most rehearsals for this production will take place at Devon Prep. Tech week and performances will be held at Hedgerow Theater in Media. Please take note of the specific dates below that are mandatory. *A full rehearsal schedule will be distributed at the first read through.*

MANDATORY dates for full cast:

- **Orientation & 1st Read Through** - Sept 12th
- **Tech Week** - Sept. 28th - Nov. 2nd
- **Show Dates:**
  - Friday, November 3rd (pm)
  - Saturday, November 4th (am & pm)
  - Sunday, November 5th (am)
- **Strike** - Nov 5th after the show

**Please read through the following information carefully before your audition. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Grahn ([agrahn@devonprep.com](mailto:agrahn@devonprep.com))**

**Story of the Play:** A young orphan and his mates are shipped off from Victorian England to a distant island ruled by the evil King Zarboff. They know nothing of the mysterious trunk in the captain's cabin, which contains a precious, otherworldly cargo. At sea, the boys are discovered by a precocious young girl named Molly, a Starcatcher-in-training who realizes that the trunk's precious cargo is starstuff, a celestial substance so powerful that it must never fall into the wrong hands. When the ship is taken over by pirates – led by the fearsome Black Stache, a villain determined to claim the trunk and its treasure for his own – the journey quickly becomes a thrilling adventure.

**How Auditions Work:** Plan to arrive at the music room at Devon (room 511) about *5 minutes before the time slot you signed up for* to make sure you have a moment to breathe and collect yourself. When the director is ready, they will call you in, collect your completed audition form, and allow you to perform the monologue you selected. You are not expected to memorize the monologue. There will be copies available to read from, but becoming familiar with them ahead of time will help! After your monologue is complete, the director may ask you to try performing another selection and/or ask you a couple of questions, and then you will be dismissed. Final casting decisions will be emailed to all those who auditioned via the email provided on the audition form.

### **Audition Checklist:**

- Sign up for an audition slot on the signup genius
- Fill out the attached audition form to bring to your audition
  - Don't forget to include any & all conflicts you may have!
- Familiarize yourself with the play
- Pick a monologue you're interested in (don't worry about gender)!
- Breathe & Enjoy!

# Devon Preparatory School Audition Form

## *Peter and the Starcatcher*

PLEASE COMPLETE AND BE SURE TO \*\*\* PRINT CLEARLY\*\*\*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you comfortable singing on stage?      Yes      No

Are you willing to perform as several characters in one performance?      Yes      No

Would you be interested in helping with stage crew?      Yes      No

What role(s) are you auditioning for? \_\_\_\_\_

Acting or stage experience : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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The following dates are MANDATORY for all cast. Please take note of them:

- **First Read Through:** Tuesday, September 12
- **Tech Week:** October 28 - November 2
- **Show Dates:**
  - Friday, November 3 (pm)
  - Saturday, November 4 (am & pm)
  - Sunday, November 5 (am)
- **Strike:** Sunday, November 5 following the closing performance

Please list any scheduling conflicts (sports, work, retreats, etc.). You may use more space if necessary.

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# Peter and the Starcatcher

## Character Descriptions

### THE ORPHANS

**Boy (Peter):** A boy who doesn't miss much. Nameless, homeless, and friendless at the beginning of the play and a hero by the end. A survivor. More than anything in the world, he wants a home and a family. If he could grow up, he'd fall for Molly in a big way. But it'll never happen.

**Prentiss:** Ambitious, hyper-articulate, logical: yearns to be a leader, even as he knows in his heart that he never shall be one. A bit of a braggart with just the teensy-tiniest touch of cowardice.

**Ted:** Obsessed with food: the eating of, the fighting over, the dreaming about. A natural actor, an easy wit, perhaps a future poet. Called "Tubby" by Prentiss, though not due to girth, of which orphans, given meager diets, have very little indeed.

### THE BRITISH SUBJECTS

**Lord Leonard Aster:** The very model of a Victorian English gentleman, loyal subject to the Queen, devoted father, faithful friend. Also, and not irrelevant to our story, Lord Aster is a Starcatcher – dedicated to protecting the Earth and all who dwell thereon from the awesome power of starstuff.

**Molly Aster:** A true leader at a time when girls are mostly followers. Will risk everything for the sake of Doing Right. Curious, intelligent, beginning to feel things she doesn't yet understand – romantic longings that revert to childish tantrums under pressure – because, after all, she's a thirteen-year-old kid. She'll be a great woman one day.

**Mrs. Bumbrake:** Molly's nanny. British to the bone. Still has enough of her girlish charm to turn a sailor's head and leaven his dream.

**Captain Robert Falcon Scott:** Captain of Britain's fastest frigate, the *Wasp*. Years later, he will lead an expeditionary team to the South Pole, freeze to death, and become the iconic British hero, Scott of the Antarctic.

**Gremplin:** The mean and malodorous schoolmaster of St. Norbert's Orphanage for Lost Boys. Likes to keep his boys in the dark, as sunlight is known to feed rebellious notions.

## **THE SEAFARERS**

**Bill Slank:** The *Neverland's* vicious captain, without the skill or quality to lead anyone but himself, and always into disaster. A greedy man who'd sell his own mother for a ship to command and send boys to their doom for the favor of those who would use starstuff for personal gain, global domination, or worse. An orphan, too.

**Alf:** An old sea dog. Something about him appeals to the feminine sensibility – might be his bowlegs, his saucy gait, or his kind heart.

**Mack:** A very bad sailor who wants to be anywhere but under the thumb of Bill Slank.

**Black Stache:** Long after everyone else got out of the pirate business, Black Stache continues to terrorize the seven seas in search of a hero worthy of his villainy. Famous for his face foliage, he started shaving at age ten, had a bushy handlebar by eleven, and the blood of twenty crews on his hands by twelve. Heartless and hirsute, suspiciously well read, partial to the poetical and theatrical, and given to a ferocity from which no good shall ever spring.

**Smee:** First mate to Black Stache. Single-mindedly dedicated to his captain's every whim. His motto: "Tis good to be busy."

**Sánchez:** A hardworking Spanish pirate with an identity crisis.

## **THE NATIVES**

**Fighting Prawn:** King of the Mollusks, son of Jumbo Prawn and Littleneck Clam. Kidnapped by British sailors and brought in chains to England, he served as sous-chef in a country estate in Derbyshire, where, for no good reason, he learned Italian wines and mastered Italian cuisine. Since returning to his island kingdom, he vengefully murders an English with the temerity to land on his Mollusk Isle domain.

**Hawking Clam:** Son of Fighting Prawn and Sweet'n'Sour Shrimp. One day, he will ascend the Clam throne as head of the Royal Clam Clan.

**Teacher:** Formerly a salmon, now an ancient, knowledgeable mermaid.

**\*\*All actors will also contribute as narrators and various ensemble roles\*\***

### **MONOLOGUE 1: Mrs. Bumbrake**

First Class ain't what it used to be. 'Course, back in my salad days, I was a green girl bringing up brats in a big, breezy brownstone in Brighton. That was a tight spot, too, and hell on the household help. Especially the kitchen boy - a lovely island lad who cooked a cunning cannelloni, plus a pasta fazool to make you drool. But oh, it made the master mad how the mistress moaned fer 'is manicotti. He beat that boy something brutal, but the boy didn't say boo. Point is - we must button our beaks and be brave like that boy, or my name's not Betty Bumbrake. Now, you might well be afraid you'll never clap eyes on your father again, and it cuts me to the core, but never show that sorry Slank the slightest sniff of fear. There are men who can smell it on you, Molly, and they make you pay...

*(breaks down blubbing)*

## **MONOLOGUE 2: Molly**

You stop that right now. I won't answer any such question. You're inclining toward the sentimental and that's all well and good for a boy, but the fact is we girls can't afford to be sentimental. We must instead be strong. And when I marry, I shall make it very clear to my husband – that sentimentality is not on the calendar. He will have to lump it or leave it. And if he should leave, I'll stay a spinster and pin my hair back and volunteer weekends at hospital. And I will love words for their own sake, like "hyacinth" and "Piccadilly" and "onyx." And I'll have a good old dog, and think what I like, and be part of a different sort of family, with friends, you know? – who understand that things are only worth what you're willing to give up for them.

### **MONOLOGUE 3: Boy / Peter**

So... bright. Holy – Know what that is? That must be the sun! I'm feeling you, sun!

*(realizing how much he can see)* And check – it – out!! Space. Light. Air. I'm finally

FREE! And I'm gonna have... freedoms! Whatever I want. *(A yellow bird enters*

*suddenly and alights on his shoulder!)* Whoa. Hey bird, wassup? Me? Well, let's see...

Saved the world. Got a name. Not too shabby. I just – I wonder if Teddy and Prentiss

made it off the ship before it sank. I mean, how weird would it be if they – *(a chill up his*

*spine, looks up)* Please let them be okay. *(scared now, a lost boy)* Bird, we should make a

pact. I don't leave you, you don't leave me. Deal? *(The bird flies off.)* No! Come back! I

don't wanna be alone! COME BACK! *(Left desolate, but he tried to rally.)* Hey, fine. No

Molly, no Teddy, no Prentiss.... So what? This is perfect. Nobody's after me with a stick.

Nothing between me and the sky. I can just be a boy for a while. It's all I want anyway.

*(giving in to the lost feeling)* I gotta get outta here!



#### **MONOLOGUE 4: Boy / Peter**

Tell you what. You say “sorry” so easy, like the rough patch’s smoothed over, no hard feelings and everything’s fixed. Well, no. There’s dark... a mass of darkness in the world, and if you get trapped in that cave like us, it beats you down. “Sorry” can’t fix it. Better to say nothing than “sorry.” When it’s night, and I’m too scared to sleep, I look through the cracks, y’know? – between the wood nailed over the window – and I see all those little stars I can’t reach, and I think that in a hundred years, or two or three hundred maybe, boys’ll be free and life’ll be so beautiful that nobody’ll ever say “sorry” again – ‘cuz nobody’ll have to. I think about that a lot.