

A Christmas Story Auditions 2022

AUDITION DATES & TIMES: **AUDITIONS** Thursday, September 14, 7:00-9:00 pm;
Saturday September 16, 9-noon. **CALLBACKS** Tuesday, Sept. 19 (Times TBA)

AUDITIONS AT HIGH VALLEY ARTS REHEARSAL STUDIO
210 E. MAIN STREET, MIDWAY

Name _____ Phone _____ Cell _____

Last Name First

Email (print) _____ Age (if 25 or under) _____ City _____

NO ONE WILL BE CAST WHO CANNOT BE AT EVERY PERFORMANCE AND DRESS REHEARSAL. PLEASE LIST YOUR CONFLICTS ON THE CALENDAR INCLUDED WITH THIS APPLICATION AND BRING IT TO YOUR AUDITION. CASTING WILL BE BASED ON TALENT, YOUR FIT FOR THE ROLE, AND YOUR AVAILABILITY.

Rehearsals will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 6-9:30 pm. and Saturdays 9 am to 1 pm. All rehearsals will be planned carefully so that only those in a particular scene will come at specific times. **CHILDREN WILL REHEARSE LATE DURING DRESS REHEARSALS. PLEASE BE PREPARED FOR THIS.**

Please tell us about your past singing, dancing and dramatic experiences or attach a resume.

Circle the roles in which you are interested. Ages given are age actors appears to be on stage. **More information about these roles is on the next page:**

JEAN SHEPHERD/NARRATOR - Male. Stage age late 40s to early 60s. A charismatic storyteller who is also a part of the show. He is a good-natured curmudgeon with a deadpan sense of humor. Does not sing.

RALPHIE PARKER – Stage age 11. Cute and winsome. Bright, but not precocious. A regular kid you wouldn't mind having as a neighbor. Carries the show. Sings. Dances.

RALPHIE'S DAD – Stage age 30s to 40s. Gruff and grumbling on the exterior but has a good heart. Strong singer. Good dancer.

RALPHIE'S MOTHER - Stage age 30s to 40s. She is warm and friendly and at times a bit daffy, but she's not a pushover. Sings. Dances.

RANDY, RALPHIE'S BROTHER – Stage age 9. Cute, cuddly, lovable and whiny, like most baby brothers. Sings. Dances.

SANTA – Stage age 30s to 60s. The Santa Claus at Higbees's Department store. Slightly drunk and very unhappy with his job – nothing like the "jolly old elf" of Christmas stories. Sings.

MISS SHIELDS – Stage 30s-50s. The local elementary school teacher, prim and proper. But in Ralphie's fantasy, she becomes a dynamic, show-stopping, brassy belter – a force to be reckoned with. Sings. Dances.

FLICK - Stage age 10/11. Classmate and best buddy of Ralphie. Lisps. Sings. Dances.

SCHWARTZ - Stage age 10/11. Classmate and best buddy of Ralphie. Sings. Dances.

ESTHER JANE, MARY BETH, NANCY – Stage age 10/11. Classmates of Ralphie. Sing. Dance.

SCUT FARKUS – Stage age 12/13. A textbook example of a schoolyard bully. Loud, obnoxious and intimidating. Always scowling. Sings. Dances.

GROVER DILL – Stage age 10/11. Farkus's sidekick who is always at his side. Younger and smaller than Farkus. Has a distinctive belly laugh.

ENSEMBLE GIRLS, BOYS – Stage age 10/11. 4-8 singer dancers.

WOMEN DANCERS/SINGERS – Multiple challenging singing/dancing roles. Must be comfortable with improv and comedy.

MEN DANCERS/SINGERS - Multiple challenging singing/dancing roles. Must be comfortable with improv and comedy.

Will you take a role different from the one/s for which you are auditioning? _____

Are you interested in helping backstage? If so, in what capacity? Lights _____ sound _____

Sewing _____ props _____ stage crew _____

High Valley Arts A Christmas Story Conflict Calendar

Please indicate **ALL** conflicts on this calendar. **Attendance is expected at all rehearsals not marked as conflicting.** Adherence to this calendar will promote a climate of respect for all members of the production as well as ensure that each rehearsal is successful and productive.

September						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
17	18	19 CALLBACKS 6-9:30 pm	20	21 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	22	23 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
24	25	26 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	27 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	28 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	20	30 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
1	2	3 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	4 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	5 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	6	7 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
8	9	10 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	11 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	12 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	13	14 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
15	16	17 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	18 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	19 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	20	21 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
22	23	24 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	25 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	26 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	27	28 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
29	30	31 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm				

October						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	4 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	5 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	6	7 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
8	9	10 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	11 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	12 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	13	14 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
15	16	17 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	18 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	19 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	20	21 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
22	23	24 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	25 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	26 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	27	28 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
29	30	31 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm				

November						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
5	6	7 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	8 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	9 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	10	11 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
12	13	14 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	15 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	16 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	17	18 REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
19	20	21 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	22 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	23 THANKSGIVING	24	25 NO REHEARSAL
26	27	28 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	29 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm	30 REHEARSAL 6-9:30 pm		
December						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
3	4	5 SETUP Noon-10 pm	6 DRESS REHEARSAL 6-10 pm	7 DRESS REHEARSAL 6-10 pm	8 DRESS REHEARSAL 6-10 pm	9 DRESS REHEARSAL 9-2 pm
10	11	12 DRESS REHEARSAL 5-10 pm	13 DRESS REHEARSAL 5-10 pm	14 PERFORM 7:30 pm	15 PERFORM 7:30 pm	16 PERFORM 2 pm & 7:30 pm
17	18 PERFORM 7:30 pm	19	20 PERFORM 7:30 pm	21 PERFORM 7:30 pm	22 PERFORM 7:30 pm	23 PERFORM 2 pm & 7:30 pm
24	25 Christmas Day!!!					

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Stage Age is the age the actor appears on stage

The musical is set in Indiana in November and December, 1940. The Depression is just ending, and Christmas is approaching! Ralphie, our 9 year old hero, dreams of getting an air rifle for Christmas - and not just any air rifle, but the Red Ryder Carbine Action BB Gun!

Listed below is information about characters in the musical. Watching the 1983 movie is a great introduction to the storyline.

The Narrator- Jean Shepherd: (stage age: late 40's to early 60's). Jean Shepherd is the actual author of the books that the story is based on, as well as the actual narrator voice we hear in the 1983 movie! On stage, he is a warm, charismatic and engaging storyteller; omniscient but not overpowering. A good-natured curmudgeon with a deadpan sense of humor, "Jean" focuses the action, keeps the story moving and holds the audiences' attention with his presence and spark. Throughout the show, the actor playing this role acts as a narrator, interacts with the actor playing Ralphie, and appears in scenes as different minor characters--sometimes within one scene! This actor must be very comfortable with audiences and must be able to interact with the crowd and tell the story at the same time. He sings one line at the end of the show, and does not dance.

“The Old Man” Ralphie’s Dad: (stage age 30's to 40's). Gruff and grumbling on the exterior, he has a good heart. He doesn't overtly show it, but he does love his family. A blue-collar guy, he usually expects the worst out of most situations; but is transformed into a true "song and dance" man in his moments of fantasy. The actor playing this character must be a strong singer and a good dancer who isn't afraid to go "over the top" for comedic purposes.

Ralphie’s Mother: (stage age: 30's to 40's). She is the secret engine that runs the family, keeping the household together with a smile--despite bickering children, limited funds, an x-rated lamp in the living room window, a cranky furnace and a crankier husband. She would never let The Old Man know that she is more in charge than he is--as is appropriate for a housewife of this era! Vibrant, warm, affable--but not a pushover—she is always busy, especially anytime she is in the kitchen, and even more so at Christmastime!

Ralphie: (stage age: 9) . A bright, winsome, mischievous 5th grade boy... Not a smart-aleck or overly precocious, Ralphie's imagination drives several scenes. The actor playing this role carries several songs; he must be an excellent singer (high belt, unchanged voice) and confident stage presence.

Randy: (stage age 8). Ralphie's younger brother, he is cute, cuddly, lovable and whiny--like most baby brothers! He looks up to his big brother, tries to keep up with him, and is young enough that he can be convinced to eat his dinner like a baby piggy! The actor playing this role must be an excellent singer, a good dancer, a fluent reader and have strong stage presence.

Santa: (stage age: 30's to 60's) The Santa Claus at Higbee's Department Store is ill-tempered, slightly inebriated and very unhappy with his job--nothing like the "Jolly Old Elf" of the Christmas stories! He gets rid of each kid as fast as he can--probably to shorten his day so he can head for the nearest "watering hole"! The actor playing this role must be a strong comedic actor and singer, and must be comfortable with children. He may be part of the adult male ensemble.

Miss Shields: (stage 30s-60s). The local elementary school teacher. A seemingly stereotypical 1940s educator – prim and proper. Stern when necessary. In Ralphie’s fantasy, she becomes a dynamic, show-stopping, brassy belter – a force to be reckoned with.

THE KIDS

The Kids' Ensemble is featured in several major scenes, and should plan on a robust rehearsal schedule! All of the Kids' Ensemble should be strong singers who can hold harmonies, should have tap dance experience and should be fluent readers. We'll plan on casting 3-4 girls and 4-5 boys all (stage age) nine years old, and one (stage age) twelve year old.

Flick: (stage age 9/10) A classmate and best buddy of Ralphie's; Flick is the guinea pig in the flagpole licking experiment. The actor playing this role should be able to sustain and communicate with a serious lisp!

Schwartz: (stage age 9/10) A classmate and best buddy of Ralphie; Schwartz becomes the scapegoat when Ralphie utters an unmentionable word.

Esther Jane, Mary Beth, Nancy: (stage age 9/10) Classmates.

1-3 Ensemble girls (stage age 9/10): classmates, restaurant server, tap-dancer, Higbee’s visitor.

1-3 Ensemble boys (stage age 9/10): classmate, tap-dancer, Goggle boy/Santa, Higbee’s visitor.

Scut Farkus: (stage age 12/13) A textbook example of a schoolyard bully, Scut is loud, obnoxious and intimidating. This truant is a year or two older than Ralphie and his friends, and wears a perpetual scowl under his coonskin cap. He always appears at the most inopportune time to harass his victims. In the end, when he and his sidekick, Grover Dill, are bested, they show themselves to be the biggest cowards of all.

Grover Dill: (stage age 9/10) Grover is Farkus's toady, and is always at his side. Younger and smaller than Farkus, Grover delights in being tethered to his "hero". His rapid-fire belly laughs, always heard with Farkus's threats, make them both the scourge of the neighborhood. The actor playing this role may play other roles in the Kids Ensemble.

ADULT ENSEMBLE:

The Adult Ensemble will consist of several men and women (stage ages 20's to 50's). Flexible team players who are comfortable with comedy, theater games, improv and children are perfect for these roles. Dance and sing in a variety of roles – Parents, villain, bank robbers, escaped prisoner, fireman, doctor, etc.