



**2024 FALL / WINTER SEASON**  
**GOLD STAR PROGRAM**  
**GRADES 9-12**

**PROGRAM GUIDE**



**Our Gold Star program is the branches of our tree, as our students prepare to take their talent, kindness, and ambition into the next phase of their lives!**

The Gold Star program produces award winning, full length musical productions directed by entertainment industry and education professionals. Our creative teams work on Broadway, off-broadway, national tours, regional and experimental theaters, film, television, and more! This program prepares our students for entering any professional field of their choosing. By following the protocols of a professional theatrical production, our actors develop the important skills of collaboration, confidence, emotional intelligence, and a strong work ethic, all while rehearsing and performing impactful, beautiful theater.

The backbone of Star 2B is our Kindness Pledge. Our philosophy is built on the importance of empathy, kindness, and connection between peers. Star 2B is a safe space for all our students to be themselves, express themselves, try new things, and create friendships that will last a lifetime.

All levels of performers are welcome, from beginner to professional. Individualized attention is the focus, and Star 2B strives to take each individual to their next level.

Star 2B is located within the beautiful Poughkeepsie Day School campus. With 3 studios, a large lounge and outdoor space, and the 200+ seat James Earl Jones Theater Star 2B has the capacity to offer multiple rehearsals and performances at the same time.

Star 2B will never turn away a family because of financial reasons. Payment plans, financial assistance, work study, and scholarships are all available based on individual situations. The arts are important for all ages, and Star 2B is committed to provide experiences for everyone.

### **A letter from the Founders: Julie Altomari & Theresa Podhurst**

When we started Star 2B in May of 2012, we had no idea that it would develop into a true family-like community. Our focus in 2012 was to provide a safe, creative space for our own children, where they felt confident enough to take risks and chances and to still be accepted by their peers. This focus stands true to this day.

We have found that when a group comes together, regardless of age, and they learn how to be kind and supportive to each other, the results on stage are magical. The camaraderie and love for each other is so apparent to anyone watching. This is a foundation that can be taken anywhere in life. We have seen this happen over and over throughout the past decade (plus).

The two of us have been so fortunate to have been able to watch hundreds of children grow up in our studio and on our stage. Their families have become part of our families. We hope that if you're not already a part of our family, that you will join us. You're in for a beautiful journey!

# What to Expect

## Thursday, August 29th \*Video Auditions DUE

**What to include in your audition video:**

- 1. Introduce yourself** (even if we know you! It's good practice) Tell us your *name, pronouns, age, and grade*, and introduce your song.
- 2. Sing 32 bars (about 1-2 minutes) of a classical musical theater song, or a song that shows you at your best!** Singing with accompaniment is preferred, but a cappella is fine if that's easier for you (do not sing along to a track with vocals please)
  - Please send tapes as a google drive or YouTube link to [star2bperformingarts@gmail.com](mailto:star2bperformingarts@gmail.com)

## Sunday, September 8th In-Person Callbacks

Once all audition videos have been received, actors will be notified via email which roles they have been called back for and what material to prepare. On the day of callbacks, actors will participate in a movement call led by the choreographer, followed by singing and acting callbacks with the director and music director. Auditions and callbacks are run in the style of a professional production, but we always provide guidance to actors who are new to theater!

## The Remainder of Sunday Rehearsals

Under the guidance of a team of professionals, actors will rehearse and create their production of *Les Miserables: School Edition* This will consist of individual and group music instruction, dance/movement, and acting. There will also be a 1 hour non-show specific performance skills class each week within the rehearsal time.

## Tech Week

Tech week is the Monday through Thursday leading up to the show weekend. This is the time that lights, costumes and microphones are added into the show. These rehearsals are super important, so that the actors can get used to being on stage with lights, costumes and mics.

## Show Weekend

The casts will be called to the theater 90 minutes before their show starts. This gives them time to do a fun warm up on stage, and get into costumes and microphones. They will then be relaxed and ready to share their talents with the audience!

## What to Bring to Rehearsal:

- ★ Refillable water bottle with name on it
  - ★ Script & pencil
- ★ Shoes you can move in (NO boots, sandals, crocs, clogs, open toed shoes)
  - ★ Clothing you can move in comfortably
- ★ If you bring a snack it must be a nut free, clean snack

- ★ Star 2B Studio is a cell-phone free studio. You can bring Your phones in, but they must be left in the Rock Star Lounge along with your belongings. In an emergency, you can be reached by calling the Star 2B studio.

## **What to Know**

### **Attendance Policy**

Each actor is allowed 2 excused absences. You will receive a conflict form in your email to fill out and submit prior to the cast list being released.

If an actor misses a rehearsal, they are responsible for reviewing any materials covered at that rehearsal. They will have access to videos through a link sent out for a Google Drive folder.

If an actor has more than 2 unexcused absences, there may be scenes that they will not be put in for the performance (scenes that were taught when they were absent).

\*\*This does not apply if other arrangements were made with Star 2B.

### **Payment & Cancellation Policy**

A \$100 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of registration. The remaining balance will be divided up into monthly payments charged on the account on file as follows:

\$123.75 on September 1st

\$123.75 on October 1st

\$123.75 on November 1st

\$123.75 on December 1st

**Please note that our overall production costs are based on the number of actors who are cast in the show. There will be no refunds given after the actor auditions. If an actor drops the production in the middle of the process, they are still responsible for the balance of tuition owed. The balance will be charged in full when the actor drops.**

**If you would like to pay in full, please email us before September 1st.**

**Any payment made after the 10th of the month will incur a \$20 late fee.**

### **Costume Information**

Costumes for all productions are rented from a professional costume warehouse. This will include the majority of costumes. Actors may be asked to provide their own pants, socks, and shoes. It is recommended to have a base costume for costume changes. This could consist of a tan leotard and tights or a tight fitting sleeveless shirt and tight fitting shorts in neutral colors. Emails will be sent out with more details throughout the process.

## **An Important Note on Casting**

**Every actor cannot play the same role.**

**Casting can be the most challenging aspect of this program. It is important that both parents and students understand the process.**

**It is our philosophy to give each actor a part that suits their needs and abilities. Overwhelming an actor with a part that is too difficult can have disastrous consequences, and do serious damage to self esteem.**

**When we cast a show, we use several criteria to determine casting. They include:**

- **the actor's experience and confidence level,**
- **the actor's ability to perform the part (dancing, singing, acting, etc.)**
- **the actor's history with the program (creating individual challenges and personal growth),**
- **and fairness**

**We do not cast based on:**

- **number of years or performances that an actor has been with Star 2B,**
- **any requests from actors or parents**

**It is important to note that as we consider all of the above considerations, there are no steadfast rules. Every season, we must make judgment calls in order to benefit each actor and the program.**

**For actors who participate in many productions over a long period of time, we have the ability to help them grow from one production to another.**

**As parents, you have an important role in this process. Please reinforce to your actor the importance of every role, and the satisfaction that comes with participating in a production process.**

**If your actor is disappointed, it is important that you listen, be compassionate, and continue to reinforce the value of the role they receive. It is sometimes natural for parents to feel disappointment for their children. We ask, however, that you try not to perpetuate or instigate disappointment in your child or compare your child to other actors. Each actor is on their own individual journey and we are all there to support each of them.**

# **LES MISERABLES**

## **REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

*\*note: double casting will not be decided on or finalized until after callbacks!*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>CAST</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Thursday, August 29th	DUE 11PM	Self Tape Auditions	Emailed to star2bperformingarts@gmail.com
Sunday, September 8th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, September 15th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, September 22nd	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, September 29th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, October 6th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, October 13th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, October 20th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, October 27th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, November 3rd	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, November 10th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl James Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, November 17th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, November 24th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, December 1st	N/A		NO REHEARSAL
Sunday, December 8th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, December 15th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, December 22nd	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, December 29th	N/A		NO REHEARSAL
Sunday, January 5th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, January 12th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, January 19th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Sunday, January 26th	12:00-5:00	BOTH	James Earl Jones Theater/S2B Studio
Monday, January 27th	4:30-9:00	TECH	James Earl Jones Theater
Tuesday, January 28th	4:30-9:00	TECH	James Earl Jones Theater
Wednesday, January 29th	4:30-9:00	DRESS	James Earl Jones Theater
Thursday, January 30th	4:30-9:00	DRESS	James Earl Jones Theater
Friday, January 31st	TBD	SHOW	James Earl Jones Theater
Saturday, February 1st	TBD	SHOWS	James Earl Jones Theater

<b>Sunday, February 2nd</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>SHOW</b>	<b>James Earl Jones Theater</b>
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## **The Team**

**Director**  
**Maya Lopez**

**Music Director**  
**Zack Autieri**

**Movement**  
**Liz Tancredi Gillam**

**Stage Manager**  
**Kim Bowles**

**Vocal Coach**  
**Pilar Morgan**