



August 25, 2010

Dear Middle School Parents,

This is a letter to let you know about the opportunity for Middle School students to audition for the fall Upper School musical, *The Sound of Music*, as well as the winter Middle School musical, *Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr.*

This is an opportunity that should be considered carefully by each family. The fall production (Upper School production of *The Sound of Music*) requires students to rehearse from 6-8 p.m. For the winter production, (Middle School production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr.*), rehearsals will be after school. Please see the attached sheet for more details on the rehearsal schedules.

As you can see, there is a large time commitment for rehearsals and performances. Homework will be expected to be completed thoughtfully and on time, as will collaborative and independent assignments, by students participating in the productions. Our productions are wonderful opportunities for our students, and we encourage them to participate. However, students need to make sure to maintain a balance in their busy schedules.

Sincerely,

Dara Dawson
Middle School Dean of Students

THE SOUND OF MUSIC/THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

LOWER/ MIDDLE SCHOOL PERMISSION FORM

Upper School Musical: **THE SOUND OF MUSIC**

*Performances November 3, 6, 7

Middle School Musical: **THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE, JR.**

*Performances February 2, 5, 6

- Any Lower or Middle School student who auditions for the 2010-2011 season will be considered for both shows.
- Any Lower School student who is participating in after-school Band, Strings, or Athletics WILL NOT be eligible for either the Fall **or** Winter Production.
- Any Middle School student who is participating in after-school Band, Strings, or Athletics WILL NOT be eligible for the Fall Production.
- At auditions, the student (and parent, if applicable) will be filling out a conflict sheet, which includes rehearsal time preferences for BOTH the fall and winter seasons. Sports should be included. This will be a factor in deciding the show in which they are cast.
- At auditions, the student (and parent, if applicable) will also be filling out an audition form, which will list their possible roles in each show. (i.e., "Marta" in SOM, "Millie" in TMM)
- All Lower and Middle school students who audition will be selected for participation (including off-stage responsibilities with lighting, sound, costumes, etc.) in at least one production.
- Audition results will be posted on **TUESDAY, September 7** on the doors of the MS Commons.
- By auditioning, the student recognizes that they are committing to a part of the production season and will accept the role assigned. If they have any concerns with the role in which they are cast, they have until Friday, September 10th to voice those concerns.
- Once cast, students are required to attend all scheduled rehearsals. Missing two or more rehearsals will result in role cuts and possibly dismissal from the production, according to the director's discretion.

*Expected rehearsal responsibilities:

SOUND OF MUSIC:

Lower School (member of Von Trapp family) – 2/3 rehearsals a week, 6-8pm

Lower School (ensemble member) – 1 rehearsal a week, 3:30-5pm

Middle School (member of Von Trapp family) – 3 rehearsals a week, 6-8pm

Middle School (ensemble member) – 1 rehearsal a week, 3:30-5pm

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE, JR:

Lower School – 2 rehearsals a week, 3:30-5pm

Middle School- every day after school 3:30-5pm

*TWO WEEKS before the production, rehearsals will go into the final stage, and ALL CAST MEMBERS will be called on a regular, daily basis. Please take this into consideration when planning during these weeks.

I, _____, give permission for my child, _____, to audition on August 30th, Sept 1st, or Sept 2nd for the Fredericksburg Academy 2010-2011 production season. I understand that they will be responsible for providing a conflict sheet prior to the start the rehearsal period, and therefore will be expected to attend all scheduled rehearsals therein. I understand that missing rehearsals will have a negative impact on my child's ability to participate. I also understand that the two pre-production weeks before opening night will mean a more intensified rehearsal schedule. I am willing to support the transportation of my child to and from rehearsal.

My student would be available to audition (circle and indicate preferences with #1, #2, and #3):

AUGUST 30

3:30-4:00pm

4:00-4:30pm

4:30-5:00pm

SEPT 1

3:30-4:00pm

4:00-4:30pm

4:30-5:00pm

SEPT 2

3:30-4:00pm

4:00-4:30pm

4:30-5:00pm