



## Casting Guidelines

16 Dec 2012

Thank you for sharing your talents with Chaska Valley Family Theatre. CVFT's mission is to provide quality, affordable live theater for our region, in an environment where families can participate together. While we endeavor to produce the finest theatre possible, we do so in a balanced effort, ensuring that we continue to build our core of talent, improve the quality of our productions, and meet our family-oriented mission. In part, we attempt to achieve this balance in the following ways:

### **Open Casting**

*Unless stated elsewhere in audition information, auditions are open to all persons within the specified age and gender ranges. We do not pre-cast, nor do we promise that everyone who auditions will be cast. Casting is based on ability and experience. We are a community-based theatre, and as such, in the case where multiple persons are qualified for the same role, we may give preference to persons who live in our immediate region.*

### **Family Participation**

*We try to avoid casting a child without his or her parents involved in some way. If parents are uninterested in participating on stage but the child shows a unique ability and desire to participate, we invite the parents to participate in other ways. These might include helping with children back stage, ushering/ticketing, or other behind-the-scenes roles. We set a clear expectation for regular attendance at rehearsals. When one member of a family is cast, we endeavor to cast all members of the immediate family that wish to participate. This may include, for example, younger children under the audition age for walk-on roles in ensemble/etc.*

### **Scheduling**

*Where possible, we try to schedule families to be at rehearsal on the same nights. We also attempt to avoid times that are usually reserved for family events such as Wednesday nights, Sunday mornings, holidays, etc. A preliminary schedule is published at the time of auditions. Changes will be with as much notice as possible in order to allow participants to coordinate family schedules. In return, we expect participants to take their commitment to the production seriously, and attend every rehearsal possible.*

### **Family-Friendly Environment**

*When adults or young adults are working together, they should be sensitive to the presence of children and choose language and content that are appropriate to a family environment. The production team is responsible for reminding cast members about this.*

### **Promotion of CVFT Productions**

*Families with children are a great source for finding and inviting audience members! We are a non-profit, mainly-volunteer organization, and we expect participants to encourage family and friends to purchase tickets.*

The CVFT Board of Directors takes our mission seriously. We participate in the casting process and review the cast list prior to posting. Our role is not to direct the artistic vision of the production, but to provide experience and context to the casting process to help ensure that the mission of CVFT is carried forward. We invite you to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

*Chaska Valley Family Theatre, Board of Directors*