

Schoolhouse Rock Live!
ACT1 Theater 2019
Directed by: Melody Cookson

First-Round Auditions: Monday April 1st OR Tuesday April 2nd 7 – 10 PM

Callbacks April 4th 7 -10 PM

To sign up for an Audition Date/Time, use this URL: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0845A4A82FA4FE3-act11>
Other forms available on the website.

What is ACT1 Theater?

ACT1 is an all-volunteer, non-Equity, no-fee community theater with a focus on quality entertainment. Now in our 24th year, we're proud to bring you musical and non-musical theatrical productions; you'll find us in performance in several major productions each year. Among our many full-length shows have been *Fiddler on the Roof*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Boys Next Door*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat*, *Guys and Dolls*, and many others. In 2018, ACT1 Theater formed a Partnership with the City of Alpharetta, and performed two shows of scenes, sonnets and soliloquys from the Bard; this year will feature ACT1's first full-length Shakespeare production at Wills Park. ACT1 is the proud recipient of several Metropolitan Atlanta Theater awards, and many nominations. We are a community outreach of Alpharetta Presbyterian Church, and provide entertainment to the community without religious bias.

In addition to using many experienced theater folks, one of the objectives of our work is to provide a venue for those who have never been involved with theater before. We enjoy seeing new folks discover a love of theater – whether that's performing on the stage; building sets; making costumes; or working as a stage hand, lighting technician or sound technician. We also welcome the contributions of those who keep our day-to-day operations going, like marketing or admin support. As new cast and crew members "learn the ropes" and become seasoned pros, they may decide to try their hand at stage managing or directing. All of our cast, crew, and management are volunteers. No matter what role you choose, this will be the most fun that you have had in a long time! The actors, staff and crew always form bonds that make this more than a hobby – it's family.

Can I Review the Script in Advance?

Scripts are not yet available; however, there are many videos of stage and TV versions available on YouTube.

What will auditions be like?

Upon your arrival we'll have you sign in, get an audition number, and fill out forms if not filled out previously. You can save time by downloading the forms on our website and bringing them in completed. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your appointment time if you need to fill out forms. Don't worry if you've never auditioned before – experience is not required. If you have a headshot, bring it along. If not, we'll take a picture during your sign in. Please note that there are required volunteer hours to assist with areas supporting this production or ACT1 operations. If you are under 18 years old, a parent must read and sign forms as well.

Once you have your forms completed, you will let the host or hostess know you are ready. You will be brought in for a musical audition. Please prepare one (1) of the following numbers corresponding to your vocal range. The same karaoke track will be available at the auditions. You will be evaluated on your physical interpretation of the song as well as vocal quality.

Sopranos:

- ["So Much Better" from Legally Blonde](#)
- ["I Could Have Danced All Night" from My Fair Lady](#)
- ["I Have a Dream" from Mamma Mia](#)

Altos:

- ["There are Worse Things I Could Do" from Grease](#)
- ["All for You" from Seussical the Musical](#)
- ["All that Jazz" from Chicago](#)

Tenors:

- ["Maria" from West Side Story](#)
- ["I Believe" from Book of Mormon](#)
- ["Dancing Thru Life" from Wicked](#)

Basses:

- ["The Sidestep" from Best Little Whorehouse in Texas](#)
- ["Mr. Cellophane" from Chicago](#)
- ["I Wanna Be a Producer" from The Producers](#)
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You will also do a cold reading in the form of a one-minute monologue. It's known as "cold reading", because you're not expected to memorize anything in advance. The material you need will be given to you. You may be asked to perform more than one character.

Among the things we'll be looking for are:

- Voice quality – Can you project, so that you'll be heard from the back of the auditorium?
- Energy – can we hear the interest and excitement in your voice?
- Facial Expression – Does it match the words you're reading?
- Character – Can you "be" the person you're reading?
- Willingness – Can you follow instructions and give it your best shot?

After the first-round auditions, casting calls will be made by the morning of April 3rd. If you don't hear from us, thanks but we were not able to use you this time. Callbacks will be held on Thursday, April 4th from 7 – 10 PM. Everyone who has been called back should plan to be there for the entire session, though the entire time may not be needed. You may be asked to read lines from various characters with other actors so we get a feel for your acting range and ability to play off of other actors. Also, we will be testing the ability to harmonize using the number from the show, "The Preamble." Auditioners are encouraged to review this link be familiar with the number; the callback material will be emailed to everyone who signs up for an audition slot. Auditioners will also be taught a 16-count piece of choreography, so you may want to bring character or comfortable shoes.

How will you pick the cast?

Many things go into putting a cast together. Of course, your performance at the audition is important, but so are other things that are not in your control. The script dictates, to a large extent, who will be cast. As an example, characters playing members of a family should look like they could be family. So casting is a process of finding good actors of an appropriate age who fit in combination with the other actors. No parts are pre-cast, and everyone who gets a part will have auditioned at one of the two initially scheduled times, unless special arrangements are made in advance.

When will I know if I'm cast?

If we are able to cast you, we will call you no later than Friday, April 5th. If you don't hear from us, we were not able to

use you this time. The number of people who audition prevents us from calling everyone. But remember, that doesn't mean you did a poor job, and please – come back to audition for another show! If you are cast, the first read-thru will be at 2 PM on Sunday, April 7th.

What am I committing to?

By coming to auditions you're not committing to anything. Come try us out and see what you think. However, you will be asked to list any conflicts between your personal calendar and the rehearsal and performance schedule; a large number of conflicts may affect your chances of being cast. If we offer you a part, and you accept, then you are making a commitment to attend every rehearsal possible. That means you can't miss a rehearsal unless it's absolutely necessary and you've discussed your situation with the Stage Manager in advance. **No absences are allowed during the last two weeks of rehearsals or any performance.** Even if you have your part perfected and don't feel you need to be there, remember that your fellow actors are dependent on you being where you're supposed to be. If someone has a line to deliver to you and you're not there, it makes it very difficult to stay in character and keep the scene running smoothly. A major factor in a production not getting to a polished, professional level is a cast that is erratic in attendance. OK, enough preaching – just want you to understand the importance of being at rehearsals.

Tell me about this play!

A pop culture phenomenon comes to the musical stage in *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* The Emmy Award-winning 1970s Saturday morning cartoon series that taught history, grammar, math and more through clever, tuneful songs is not only making a small-screen comeback, it's lighting up stages everywhere. *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* follows Tom, a nerve-wracked school teacher who is nervous about his first day of teaching. He tries to relax by watching TV, when various characters representing facets of his personality emerge from the set and show him how to win his students over with imagination and music, through such songs as "Just a Bill," "Lolly, Lolly, Lolly" and "Conjunction Junction." *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* brings its infectious zest to a cross-generational audience.

What are the roles available?

Tom: Young teacher who's just received his degree. Has a good heart; excited for the future, but still unsure and nervous.

Gender: male; Age: 20 to 30; Vocal range top: A4; Vocal range bottom: F2

George: Tom's romantic side. Typically sweet and caring.

Gender: male; Age: 20 to 30; Vocal range top: C5; Vocal range bottom: G2

Dori: Tom's goofy side. Endearing, cute, and very playful.

Gender: female; Age: 20 to 30; Vocal range top: E5; Vocal range bottom: F3

Shulie: Tom's sweet side. An earnest and sweet ingenue who plays guitar.

Gender: female; Age: 20 to 30; Vocal range top: B5; Vocal range bottom: G3

Joe: Tom's cool side. Very slick and laid back, but also fun loving.

Gender: male; Age: 20 to 30; Vocal range top: A4; Vocal range bottom: G2

Dina: Tom's mature side. She is thoughtful, grounded, and the voice of reason.

Gender: female; Age: 20 to 30; Vocal range top: E5; Vocal range bottom: F3

What about rehearsals?

Our schedule calls for 3 rehearsals a week, for 11 weeks, followed by 3 weekends of performances. Our first rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, April 7th. Rehearsals are normally on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:00pm and Sundays at 2:00 PM. (A couple of rehearsals will be held Saturday to avoid conflict with holidays). We take very seriously your commitment and your time. The schedule will be laid out in advance, and only rarely deviated from. The very first rehearsal will be a "read-through" and will include the entire cast. It's just what it sounds like – we'll all sit around and read the script. It's the time to meet your fellow actors, learn about policies and procedures, hear the Director's vision

for the show, get measured by the costume department, begin to assimilate your character, work on any tricky pronunciation, etc. We'll give you your copy of the script, the schedule, and any other material you'll need.

After that, the next set of rehearsals will be broken down, scene by scene, and we'll do the "blocking". Blocking is the term used for any stage movement – crossing from one side to the other, sitting down, standing up – all the stuff that supports your lines. Bring a pencil and make notes in your script as you work. Once we're through these "working" rehearsals, we're now about 4 weeks in, and it's time to combine them, and run the full act, and later the full show, fine-tuning as we go. There may be additional or extended rehearsals the week before opening, also known as "Tech Week," if the show needs intensive work prior to opening; please leave your schedule flexible this week.

When are Performances?

Currently, there are plans for 9 performances of this show June 7th – June 23rd. Here's the performance schedule:

- June 6th – 8 pm (industry night)
- June 7th - 8 pm
- June 8th - 8 pm
- June 9th - 2 pm
- June 14th- 8 pm
- June 15th- 8 pm
- June 16th- 2 pm
- June 21st- 8 pm
- June 22nd- 8 pm
- June 23rd- 2 pm
- June 23rd post-production – Set Strike & Cast Party

Tickets prices haven't been announced, but you can have all your fans book tickets at www.act1theater.com or call the box office at 770-663-8989 to make their reservations. Each cast member will get two tickets free for opening weekend. In addition, cast members may buy more tickets at a discount, for family and friends.

Who Will Be Working on This Show?

Schoolhouse Rock Live! Production Team

Director: Melody Cookson

Stage Manager: Teresa Edwards

Music Director: Holly Quigley

Choreographer: Pamela Smith

What about....?

For any other questions, please email Artistic Director, Marshall Lee Smith Junior, at ACT1Artistic@Gmail.com