

Casting Notes From the Director

Many times casting appears as though leading roles are given to a small group of people over and over again. It is important to understand that fairness goes both ways. Students who are cast have worked hard on their skills. They never miss a class, they take dance classes, voice classes and acting classes because they want to improve on their God-given gifts and abilities. When they audition they usually tend to be head and shoulders above other students. It would be unfair to students to deny them a role just because they had a role before. It would be showing favoritism to weaker students to reward them over students who have proven themselves at the audition and callbacks. Many times these kind of students tend to be children of parents who are closely connected to theatre and performance because the parents are doing what any parents would do – be involved with what their child loves to do. So what can look like favoritism is really just reward for the student who is really good. Talented student should never be penalized for working hard, training and being good.

Sometimes, we want to make everything “fair” and “equal,” and when we do, we give up on the value of healthy competition. When everyone gets a prize, the prize has no real value. The kids know it and don’t want it. Fairness doesn’t mean that everyone should get the same reward. Instead it means everyone should get the same opportunity to demonstrate their abilities to compete for the reward. We are committed to offering a fair opportunity for every child who auditions and doing our best to make it possible for students to participate, even if they aren’t cast in an acting role.