



AUDITION NOTICE

The Upper School Theatre Department at
The St. Paul's Schools will hold auditions
for our fall musical

Disney's
High School Musical: On Stage
August 23-25, 2021
12:00-4:00 p.m.

Disney Channel's smash hit movie musical comes to life on our stage!

Troy, Gabriella and the students of East High must deal with issues of first love, friends and family while balancing their classes and extracurricular activities. It's the first day after winter break at East High. The Jocks, Brainiacs, Thespians and Skater Dudes find their cliques, recount their vacations and look forward to the new year. Basketball team captain and resident jock, Troy, discovers that the brainy Gabriella, a girl he met singing karaoke on his ski trip, has just enrolled at East High. They cause an upheaval when they decide to audition for the high school musical that is being led by Ms. Darbus. Although many students resent the threat posed to the "status quo," Troy and Gabriella's alliance might just open the door for others to shine as well.

Auditions are open to all rising SP/SPSG 9th-12th graders.

Please complete [this audition form](#) prior to the audition to sign up and note your conflicts.

Auditioners will sign up for one 2-hour time slot and will be expected to perform...

- 16-32 bars of a contemporary musical theatre song (*not* from the show)
- one short *memorized* monologue (from the selections below)
- dance sequence to be learned **PRIOR TO** the audition by using tutorial [HERE](#). (We will only be doing "We're All in This Together" and "Wild Cat Cheer" - NOT "Get Your Head in the Game")

Auditioners are encouraged (but not required) to be able to perform their songs to the best of their ability without music in hand. Monologues should be memorized. All those auditioning will participate in the vocal and dance portions; please wear appropriate clothing and footwear for choreography. Please bring marked sheet music in the correct key to your audition and a resume (if you have one). Audition sheets will be available prior to and at the audition. Please have a list of any conflicts (including after school and weekend commitments).

PLEASE get to know the music, story and characters.

Auditioners may be asked to sing selections from the show either at auditions and/or callbacks.

To prepare, please review the scenes from [this packet](#). Memorization is not required.

Sheet music from the show can be found below:

[Vocal Book for HSM](#)

[HSM Piano Conductor Score](#)

[Audition Tips - You will want to READ THIS!!](#)

[Possible Audition Songs for HSM by Character](#) (you are not required to use these - just may be helpful in thinking about style)

Audition Monologues

#1) Ms. Darbus - *(She is the drama teacher, she enters the classroom with a flourish, her eccentricity is fueled by a genuine love of theatre and of teaching. She is frustrated that the morning school announcements did not mention auditions for the upcoming school production.)*

“Well, once again, they forgot to announce the auditions for the winter musical, *Juliet and Romeo*, written by our very own Kelsi Nielson. It’s a delicious, neo-feminist adaptation of Shakespeare’s classic tragedy of star-crossed lovers...with a brand new happy ending! This year, as always, the Drama Club faces a shortage of male participants, so please come and audition. I’m offering you fun, glamour... and extra credit!”

#2) Coach Bolton - *(He is speaking to Troy having just been confronted by Ms. Darbus regarding Troy’s intentions.)*

“Darbus the deranged just chewed my head off because she thinks you’re plotting to mess up her auditions. You have the biggest game of your life coming up in two days, and championship games don’t come along every day...they’re something special. Get your head in the game, Bolton. You’re a playmaker, not a singer.”

#3) Troy - *(He is fed up with his teammates pressuring him to concentrate on the big game.)*

“I can’t believe you guys! Is this what you want to hear: Singing means nothing to me! Gabriella means nothing to me! I’ll forget the audition, forget her, and we’ll go get that championship! Everyone happy now? *(Troy now realizes that Gabriella heard every word he just said and he approaches her alone, he says the following to her.)* Gabriella, what you heard me say...none of that is true. I was sick of my friends riding me about singing with you, and I said things I knew would shut them up. I don’t want to be just “the basketball guy” anymore. I’m going to sing.”

#4) Gabriella - *(Reflecting)*

“So, over winter break my mom and I went on a ski trip. I don’t really like to ski, so most of the time I just read books in our room. On New Year’s Eve there was a big party and my mom begged me to go with her, it turned out to be pretty cool. There was a karaoke contest for the kids and I met this amazing guy, his name was Troy. The only bummer was I found out we are moving to a new state. I can’t believe this, I am going to have to start over in a new place and meet new people, maybe it won’t be all bad, at my old school I was always the “math girl”. I hated it. Remember how cool kindergarten was? You’d meet somebody, and ten minutes later you were both best friends.”

#5) Sharpay - *(On the phone with her brother Ryan.)*

“Ryan, it’s me. I need you to do something for me right now..... Tell me what you learned when you Googled this Gabriella Montez hag... She’s a brain, I see. Ok, here is what we are going to do, I need you to print out fliers about the Science Decathlon and put them into her locker and Taylor’s along with a note to Taylor so she thinks that Gabriella wants to be part of the team. We need to make sure that Gabriella gets involved in school activities that will keep her far away from Troy Bolton!”

#6) Ryan - *(Speaking to Sharpay)*

“Sharpay, the jocks and the brainiacs were mingling in study hall! They’re up to something! We need to save our show from people who don’t know the difference between a Tony award and Tony Hawk. I have an idea, you tell Darbus that Troy and his dad want to sabotage the auditions because she gave him detention. She’ll believe anything you tell her because you are the president of the Drama Club.”

#7) Jack Scott - *(Making school announcements; like a DJ)*

“Yo, welcome back all you crazy Wildcats. This is Jack Scott, the velvet fog of East High with the Homeroom 411 bringing you the morning announcements: The science Decathlon finals are coming up this Friday, so see Taylor “learning Curve” McKessie for more skinny on the hooley. All for now, Peeps.”

Character Breakdown

The Characters and Cliques of East High School (the Sophomores, anyway)

The JOCKS

- TROY BOLTON, captain of the basketball team
- CHAD DANFORTH, number two on the basketball team, Troy's best friend
- ZEKE BAYLOR, has a secret passion for baking

The NERDS

- JACK SCOTT, the PA announcer, a.k.a. the Velvet Fog of East High
- KELSI NEILSON, the mousey composer of Juliet and Romeo

The THESPIANS

- SHARPAY EVANS, president of the Drama Club
- RYAN EVANS, vice-president of the Drama Club
- James, an earthworm expressionist
- Susan, overwrought with emotion
- Cathy, a little too eager
- Alan, has a flair for couture
- Cyndra, has operatic aspirations

The BRAINIACS

- GABRIELLA MONTEZ, the shy new girl at school
- TAYLOR MCKESSIE, president of the Science Club
- Martha Cox, has a secret passion for hip-hop

The SKATER DUDES

- Skaterdude, has a secret passion for the cello
- Skaterdude 2

Other Students (Jocks, Theatre Kids, Brainiacs, Nerds) ; Wildcat Cheerleaders; Party Kids, guests in ski-lodge flashback; Fans/Spectators at the basketball championship game and the Science Decathlon

The ADULTS

- Karaoke M.C., voiceover in ski-lodge flashback
- MS. DARBUS, drama teacher
- COACH BOLTON, basketball coach, Troy's dad
- Ms. Tenny, voiceover chemistry teacher
- Moderator, voiceover science decathlon moderator

Character Descriptions

TROY BOLTON - Troy Bolton, the most popular kid at East High, is the star of the basketball team who yearns to be more than what people want him to be. Troy discovers he loves to sing, but is afraid to admit it to his friends. Look for a solid young actor who can convey the full range of emotions and character traits Troy Bolton embodies: athletic, independent, sometimes shy, smitten with Gabriella, a true leader. Troy should be a strong male singer and able to sing from his heart in a naïve yet convincing manner. He should also be able to move like a natural athlete while dancing and singing.

(Tenor: Vocal range top: B5 / Vocal range bottom: B3)

CHAD DANFORTH - Chad Danforth is a hot-wired jock, second in command to Troy. He is focused on winning his school's basketball championship, but is slowly understanding that there might be more to this world, including his sparring crush on Taylor. Actor playing Chad should be able to partner naturally with Troy, is a leader in his own accord, and can handle Chad's couple of solos and large number of acting scenes.

(Tenor: Vocal range top: B5 / Vocal range bottom: A3)

ZEKE BAYLOR - Zeke Baylor is a basketball player on the Wildcats Team. He has two secrets: a crush on Sharpay and a love for baking! Zeke and Chad are the most prominent of Troy's friends, so must be able to work with them while being able to stand out in his own spotlight, especially when he reveals his secrets! Zeke has solos, so strong singing and acting are essential.

(Baritone: Vocal range top: G5 / Vocal range bottom: B3)

JACK SCOTT - Jack Scott is the nerdy school announcer who trips over his own feet. Seeking an actor who will make this role his own and can portray a "gift of gab" radio voice. Jack can be quirky in all aspects: looks, dress and comportment. Must have excellent diction and good comic timing. *(Speaking Role)*

KELSI NIELSEN - Kelsi Nielsen is a thespian rehearsal pianist and student composer extraordinaire. Underneath her shy demeanor, Kelsi has no tolerance for people (i.e. Sharpay) who use their talent only to be number one. Seeking an actor who can play the underdog but has the intelligence and ability to shoot the "zingers" at Sharpay with timing and accuracy. Actor need not play piano but be able to look like a pianist as she continually accompanies onstage. Seeking a strong actor with ability to handle some vocal solos.

(Alto: Vocal range top: D5 / Vocal range bottom: A3)

SHARPAY EVANS - Sharpay Evans is the egocentric star of the school musicals. She is Ryan's older twin (and the alpha dog of the two) and has a mad crush on Troy. Sharpay has never met a mirror she didn't like. Seeking an actor who can portray a diva and has solid acting chops and strong singing and dancing skills. Sharpay knows how to work a crowd.

(Mezzo-Soprano: Vocal range top: F5 / Vocal range bottom: A3)

RYAN EVANS - Ryan Evans is Sharpay's fraternal twin and a star in the making. This character loves singing, dancing and lots of attention. He follows Sharpay's orders, but wants to break free from her shadow. Seeking a "triple threat" performer: strong singer, dancer and actor. Everything Ryan does is calculated and executed impeccably.

(Tenor: Vocal range top: B5 / Vocal range bottom: B3)

GABRIELLA MONTEZ - Gabriella Montez is the new girl in school. Gabriella is intelligent, pretty ("girl next door" type) and shy. She possesses a fantastic voice when she sings with Troy. Seeking an actor who can take positive risks with both her acting and singing. She must be able to portray her intelligence and independence and then easily switch over to her shy and vulnerable side. Must have a strong sense of pitch and the ability to hold her own with a partner in order to make the most of this role.

(Alto: Vocal range top: E5 / Vocal range bottom: F3)

TAYLOR MCKESSIE - Taylor McKessie, the head Brainiac of the school, is the president of the Science Club. She wants Gabriella to join the Science Decathlon team so they can finally win the competition. Taylor has a hidden soft spot for Chad, which might be why she is always making fun of him. Seeking an actor who can portray Taylor's assertiveness as well as sing a solid solo.

(Alto: Vocal range top: C5 / Vocal range bottom: G3)

MARTHA COX - Martha Cox is a proud member of the Science Club and is brainy with a secret love of dancing. She has a fun-loving sidekick personality and becomes an adoring devotee of Gabriella. Seeking an actor who is kind and funny. The role has important featured solos but the voice quality is not as important as the character. Would be great if the actor could show off some crazy brake dancing moves!

(Mezzo-Soprano: Vocal range top: G5 / Vocal range bottom: B3)

COACH BOLTON - Coach Bolton is the stern basketball coach and Troy's dad. He lost the big game years ago and wants a second chance through his son. Seeking an actor who can handle the demands of acting older than almost everyone else in the show. Coach Bolton is primarily an acting role - must be able to convincingly spar with Ms. Darbus. *(Speaking Role)*

MS. DARBUS - Ms. Darbus is the eccentric drama teacher. She is an amusing blend of Gertrude Stein and Ethel Merman. Passionate and disciplined, she is always trying to expose students to the enrichment and fun of theatre. Seeking an actor who knows how to milk every word, phrase and gesture for this role. She must make her eccentricities appear second nature. Ms. Darbus's acting skills and timing should be topnotch; her singing voice is secondary as she has no solos. Ms. Darbus exudes wacky, yet it doesn't detract from her true love of theatre and her students. *(Speaking Role)*

ENSEMBLE/CHORUS - The Ensemble makes up all the other characters who populate East High School: Jocks, Brainiacs, Thespians, Skater Dudes, Cheerleaders, Ms. Tenny, Science Decathlon Moderator, etc., with a few featured solo parts further described below. The ensemble is present throughout the show and provides the vocal power for the group numbers. These roles vary in size and in vocal, acting and dance requirements, so we are seeking performers with a wide range of abilities.

Featured Ensemble Roles...

RIPPER - Ripper is a cool skater dude who is, lo and behold, a cello player! An actor who can sell this fun "double personality" with one short but sweet air cello solo!

JAMES - In the big Audition scene, James is the auditionee who sings so badly off key it would scare anyone! Seeking an actor who can confidently sound bad... ☺

CATHY - Cathy is the auditionee who can belt like Ethel Merman! Ability to belt loud and proud is a must!

CYNDRA - Cyndra is the final auditionee and she sounds like an opera audition for the Met. Seeking strong vibrato abilities.

**Some food for thought...*

The point of an audition is for you to put your best foot forward and to show us your skill levels. It is also an opportunity for you to show us what kind of person you are. While talent is important to a good show, we are just as interested in your dedication and work ethic. There are many talented people out there. More rare is a dedicated work ethic and a pleasant, flexible attitude. If you are talented and difficult, the casting team will have little desire to work with you. If you are easy to be around and are willing to work hard, they will select you again and again. Remember, you are really auditioning not only when you are up on stage, but in how you conduct yourself from the moment you enter the room.

Looking for more ways to strengthen your skills before auditions this summer?

THE DANCE CONSERVATORY AT ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Contact our choreographer and TDC Director, Mrs. Rhodes, for information about dance classes this summer:

nrhodes@stpaulsmd.org

PRIVATE VOICE LESSONS

Working with a private voice coach is a great way to help you learn about vocal health, techniques and exercises to strengthen your instrument. There are many terrific vocal coaches around the area. Feel free to contact us for suggestions!

**For more info about our production, please contact
Christina Kemmerer, Upper School Theatre Director at ckemmerer@stpaulsmd.org**

**We look forward to seeing YOU
at the auditions!**

