

**Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre**

**The Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

Book by Kevin del Aguila

Music and Lyrics by Michael Mahler and Alan Schmuckler

Based on the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" Book Series by Jeff Kinney & the 20th Century Fox Films

Audition Information

Please read the information below **CAREFULLY**.

**ALL Auditions, Rehearsals & Shows will all be held at:**

**Bryant High School**

2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306

**Auditions:** Auditions are **Monday December 9<sup>th</sup>** and **Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup>** from 5:30-8:30pm at Bryant High School (2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308). Actors ages 8-18 are welcome to audition. Actors must be 8 years old on or before December 9<sup>th</sup> in order to audition, no exceptions. Actors should sign up for ONE audition slot.

Please have actors come to the audition with a **current photograph** (school pictures are fine) and a **signed Parent Acknowledgement** (below). Please arrive approximately 15 minutes early to check in and prepare for your audition. After your audition group is released, you are free to leave. Auditions are closed; parents and/or peers will not be allowed to watch.

Actors should be prepared to **sing 30-60 seconds of a Broadway-style song** of their choice. Music from A Diary of a Wimpy Kid should not be chosen for the audition. An accompanist will be available and actors are encouraged to bring sheet music, though it is not mandatory. Actors singing without an accompanist may be asked to sing a familiar song (such as Happy Birthday or Take Me Out to the Ballgame) with the piano, in addition to their song choice. MusicNotes.com is a good resource for downloading sheet music. Please, no recorded tracks. The actors will only be asked to sing at these auditions.

**Callbacks:** The callbacks are by invitation only and will be held on **Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup>**, from approximately 5-9pm at Bryant High School. All children auditioning must be available to attend callbacks. If your actor is invited to attend callbacks, we will contact you on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. At the callbacks, actors may be asked to sing something from the show, dance, and/or read sides from the script. A callback allows the production staff to gather more information about an actor. Not being invited back does not mean you are not being considered for a role. Likewise, a callback also does not guarantee a role in the show.

**Casting:** Casting calls will be completed by Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>. **Only those cast will receive a phone call.** All others will receive an e-mail notifying them that the casting decisions have been completed. The e-mail will be sent once all the calls have been made and all roles accepted. Please note that the due to the overlapping rehearsal schedule of this show and MVCCT's winter show, A Wrinkle in Time; if you accept a role in The Diary of a Wimpy Kid, you will not be able to participate in A Wrinkle in Time.

**Rehearsals:** Rehearsals will take place at Bryant High School on ALL **Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 6pm- 8:30pm** starting on Monday January 6th through Thursday March 27th, unless otherwise noted and communicated in advance. There is **NO** rehearsal on Monday January 20<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Jr. Day) and on Monday February 17<sup>th</sup> (Presidents Day). **MVCCT expects that among those cast, this production will be their first priority after schoolwork.**

**Tech Week:** Tech week rehearsals are **Monday March 24th– Thursday March 27th**, from **5pm-9pm**. **NO EXCEPTIONS will be made for absences during tech week.**

**Performances:** Performances will take place at Bryant High School.

- Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 3pm
- Friday April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 3pm

Actors are expected to arrive **two hours** prior to performance start time.

**Participation Fee:** MVCCT is a non-profit organization with private fundraising efforts and government grants only covering a portion of our expenses. There is a **participation fee of \$325** for those cast, due at the parent meeting, which will be held on Thursday January 9<sup>th</sup>. Other expenses to anticipate may include purchasing dance shoes, tights, or other small personal costume items, and placing an advertisement in the program. **Need-based scholarships are available.**

**Parent Responsibilities:** Parents are expected to volunteer with both pre-production (rehearsal) *and* in-production (show) activities. Examples of pre-production jobs include, but are not limited to, costume collection, set construction, advertising, program designer, gift basket coordinator, cast party coordinator, hall monitors, etc. Examples of in-production jobs include, hair and make-up, ushering, concessions, parking attendant, helping backstage, etc. on the days of the shows themselves. Many of both the pre-production and in-production jobs are time intensive; some require the ability to attend tech week rehearsals. The set construction will require parents to be available to help build (or paint) the set on one of two Saturdays during the rehearsal period. ***The show's producers will explain the parent responsibilities, including the dates of the set build and how set build works, in much more detail at the mandatory Parent Meeting on Thursday January 9th from 7:30-8:30pm at Bryant High School. (See below.)***

**Parent Meeting:** There will be a **mandatory** parent/guardian meeting on **Thursday January 9th from 7:30-8:30pm** at Bryant High School. **A parent or guardian is required to attend this meeting.**

**IMPORTANT:** You should immediately receive an email confirmation when you submit your audition form. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 3 minutes of submitting your form, then your audition registration **NOT** go through. Please submit a new audition registration.

**NOTE:** If you have any questions, please reach out to us at [admin@mvcct.org](mailto:admin@mvcct.org) or 703-594-7466.

### Parent Acknowledgment Form

**\*Please sign and bring this with you to your audition, along with a current photograph.\***

My actor and I agree that rehearsals for The Diary of a Wimpy Kid will be his/her/their **first priority**, after schoolwork, for the time period of Monday January 6, 2025 to Sunday April 6, 2025.

If my child is cast, I understand that there is a participation fee of **\$325 per actor** that is due at the mandatory parent meeting on **Thursday January 9th** from **7:30-8:30pm** at Bryant High School.

I understand that MVCCT expects **parents to assist** in pre-production activities (costumes collection, set construction, program designer, etc.) and in-production activities (concessions, ushering, makeup, helping backstage, etc.). These will be explained further at the parent meeting.

Parent Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Actor's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Middle school, ugh. It's the worst. But Greg is determined not to be at the bottom of the popularity chart. He'll leave that to his weird neighbor, Fregley. Or maybe Greg's best friend, Rowley Jefferson. But it's not going to be Greg...no way.

Jeff Kinney's popular character takes center stage as Greg's cartoon diary becomes a hilarious and heartfelt musical. Will Greg's plans to become popular lead him to sacrifice his one true friend? Can anyone avoid the dreaded Cheese Touch? Grab a hall pass and don't be late for an adventure familiar to anyone who actually survived middle school.

## Character Descriptions

### **GREG HEFLEY**

11 year-old, first year middle-schooler, driven with a burning desire to achieve popularity and acclaim at any and all costs. Equal parts cocky and insecure, Greg's single-focus on popularity often makes him short-sighted and immature, almost costing him his closest friendship. Strong, comedic young performer with a powerful, unchanged singing voice.

### **ROWLEY JEFFERSON**

11 year-old, first year middle-schooler, with a determinedly sunny disposition and über positive outlook on life. Almost blindly devoted to Greg, but ultimately capable of standing up for himself. Strong, comedic young performer with a powerful, unchanged singing voice.

### **RODRICK HEFLEY**

Sullen, sarcastic 16 year-old, older brother of Greg, and his main tormentor. Brash and obnoxious, Rodrick is the front-man of the heavy-metal, garage band; Löded Diper and delights in torturing Greg and taxing their parents goodwill. Strong, comedic young performer with a powerful, singing voice.

### **FRANK HEFFLEY**

Greg's put-upon father, who possesses an interest in U.S. history and a deep distrust of teenagers. Uncomfortable speaking with tweens, Frank is always trying to toughen Greg up and get him to "go be active," perhaps in an effort to keep his son from following in his own wimpy footsteps. Strong, comedic performer and singer.

### **SUSAN HEFFLEY**

Greg's chipper, loving, and overly-supportive mother, Susan is a former Pre-school teacher who is constantly looking for "teachable moments" with her boys. Though she always sees the best in her kids (sometimes blinding her to reality), she is also quick to become the household disciplinarian when necessary. Strong, comedic performer and singer.

### **MANNY HEFFLEY**

Impossibly adorable and spoiled baby brother of Greg and Rodrick. Manny enjoys

exalted status as his parents dote on him and make constant excuses for his behavior. Strong comedic young performer of any gender, to portray a toddler.

### **CHIRAG GUPTA**

Greg's quick-witted and wily classmate, who is enthusiastically engaged in a years-long prank-battle with Greg. Strong, comedic young performer with a powerful unchanged singing voice.

### **PATTY FARRELL**

Ambitious, driven, and overachieving classmate of Greg. Always out to best him at every turn since he poured glitter-glue down her back in second grade, Patty sees success as the only destination. Strong, comedic young performer with a powerful singing voice.

### **FREGLEY**

Greg's deeply odd-ball classmate, who is sensitive to sugar and unapologetically interested in his own boogers. Strong, comedic young performer with a powerful, unchanged singing voice.

### **BRYCE ANDERSON**

Dreamboat classmate of Greg's, who enjoys unfettered adoration and popularity. Infamous for his cutting remarks and cute-butt status, Bryce has hit his growth-spurt early and presents as more mature than many of his peers. Strong, comedic young performer and singer.

### **JOSHIE**

European teen pop star and Rowley's idol. A cross between a boy-band star and KidsBop performer, Joshie is obviously manufactured to make responsibility sound cool to 6-8 year old girls. His motto: follow your dreams and respect your parents! Strong, comedic young performer and singer with pop chops.

### **CHRIS/CHRISTINE HOSEY & LIONEL/LEONA JAMES**

Two of the most unpopular and nerdy kids in Middle School. Strong, comedic young performer and singers.

### **PAULENE & YVETTE**

Patty Farrell's minions. They like what she likes and dislike whatever she dislikes – aka Greg. They are perfect in every way, but always look up to Patty. Strong, comedic young performer and singers.

### **CLAIRE**

A 'Wednesday Addams'-lite, goth-in-training middle schooler. Claire is the keeper of the lore of the Cheese Touch and takes it upon herself to make sure nobody starts the dreaded curse again. Strong, comedic young performer and singer.

### **MR. WINSKY**

Faculty advisor of the school's 'Safety Patrol.' He takes his job super seriously, as though he's head of the FBI or Special Ops.

**BILL WALTER**

35 year-old, unemployed rocker dude who still lives with his folks and plays in Rodrick's high school band, Löded Diper. Strong, comedic performer and singer.

**MRS. CLAYTON**

Greg's no-nonsense English teacher. Loves to host the Winter Talent Show every year.

**FREGLEY'S MOM**

A creepy, frail, and occasionally terrifying elderly woman. She could be a ghost. Strong, comedic performer and singer.