



MINI EXPRESS AND THE EXPRESSIONS

2020-2021 Fall Info Package

Inspired by *A Chorus Line*, "I Hope I Get It" explores the moment that all performers know far too well: that jittery first step into the audition room. Filled with high energy dance numbers, a range of musical styles, and lots of quirky characters, this show takes you behind the curtain and into the lives of those who will do anything to play that part!

In addition to taking part in this exciting original musical, cast members will also participate in our annual Christmas show, Premiere show, Fundraiser, year-end recital, and a variety of other community events and performances. Spots are open to aspiring performers aged 8-16 living in Regina and surrounding areas. Previous registration at SaskExpress Studio – Regina is not required.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Kindly complete and submit the attached google form by **August 24, 2020** (link at the bottom of this document). In person auditions will take place on **August 31, 2020** and **September 1, 2020**. Self-tape auditions are due **August 31, 2020**.

TIME COMMITMENT

- Rehearsals take place every **Saturday from 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm from September 2020 - June 2021**.
- On occasion, additional rehearsals may be scheduled and will take place on **Sundays from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm**.
- While rehearsals will follow the above time constraints, performers may not be required to attend for the full time.

- A monthly rehearsal schedule will be released at least 2 weeks prior to the beginning of every month. Any additional rehearsals or shows will be scheduled with at least 2 weeks advance notice.
- The Mini Express and the Expressions are a team and as such, **all rehearsals and performances are mandatory, unless approved by the directors.**
- **First Rehearsal - Saturday, September 12 from 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm.**
- **First Intensive Rehearsal - September 13 from 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm.**
 - * Note: Due to Covid-19 and limiting break times at the studio, this is a **REDUCED HOURS INTENSIVE. When appropriate, Sunday Intensives will be held from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm.***

TRAINING

- No prior dance, singing or acting training is required to be a part of the Mini Express and the Expressions. While performers' individual interests and experiences will be taken into account, this is a triple threat program dedicated to building well-rounded performers.
- All performers are required to take at least **two classes through SaskExpress Studio - Regina** during the **2020-2021 dance season.**
- All singers are required to enroll in a **vocal technique class** through **SaskExpress Studio - Regina.** Casted performers will be contacted with vocal technique placement and registration information after auditions have been completed.
- While the two class minimum can include vocal technique, all performers are encouraged to enroll in other styles to diversify their training.
- Due to scheduling conflicts, performers will **NOT** be permitted to register in competitive classes through other dance studios, unless it has been pre-approved by both the Mini Express & The Expressions directors and the SaskExpress Studio - Regina directors. Out of town performers may be eligible for an exception to this requirement.
- Additional inquiries on dance/vocal training requirements may be directed to **ryan@saskexpress.com AND jen@saskexpress.com.**

PERFORMANCES

Please note that all shows are subject to change and/or contain a virtual component depending on the safety recommendations for the performers and audience members.

The current performance list is as follows:

- Annual Christmas Fundraiser – beginning of December
- Premiere Show (Initial performance of “I Hope I Get It”) – January
- Annual Fundraiser Show– end of February
- Spring Stars Competition – March 17 - 21
- School Tour (To be determined due to Covid-19) – 2 - 3 weekdays in April or May
- Invitational Dance Showcase Competition – April 15 - 18
- Stars of Tomorrow Competition – April 21 - 25
- Annual Studio Recital – June 6, 7, 8

Please note that this does not include the majority of November/December Christmas shows or any other bookings we take throughout the season. All families will be notified of these performances with a minimum of two weeks advance notice.

COST

- **\$100.00/month** (this includes choreography, vocals, and extra rehearsals along with performances)
- **\$100.00** costume fee (to be charged November 15)
- **\$20.00** picture fee (to be charged November 15)
- At the discretion of the directors, additional cast attire or costume pieces may be required for purchase.

AUDITIONS

Note: Performers are given the option to audition in person or via self-tape. This choice must be indicated on the attached google form. If auditioning in person, callbacks will also occur in person on the same day as the individual auditions. If auditioning via self-tape, callbacks will occur over Zoom at a later date.

Singers:

- 1) Please **prepare a portion (1-2 minutes each)** of 2 solo songs of contrasting styles (e.g. 1 musical theatre and 1 pop).
- 2) Please **perform to a track** - a karaoke track with NO vocals. Send these to **ryan@saskexpress.com AND jen@saskexpress.com** no later than **Saturday, August 29, 2020.**
- 3) The directors will be assessing each performer's vocal tone and quality, projection and expression/emotion.
- 4) The vocal audition may also include an **"ear assessment."** The singer may be asked to complete some or all of the following: match tones, scales, clap backs, singing harmony.
- 5) **Singers will be asked** to attend a group dance/movement audition. During the callback, performers will learn a group dance routine and perform this routine for the directors. Please wear appropriate dance clothing and footwear.

Dancers:

- 1) Please prepare **two solos** (1-2 minutes in length each) in contrasting styles. Please send your music to ryan@saskexpress.com AND jen@saskexpress.com no later than **Saturday, August 29, 2020.**
- 2) **Dancers will be asked** to attend a group callback. During the callback, performers will learn a combination and perform this combination for the directors.
- 3) The directors will assess dancers' technique, facial expression/emotion, movement quality, and speed of learning.

Singer/Dancers:

- 1) Please prepare **1 vocal solo and 1 dance solo.**
 - *Dance Solo:* 1 minute in length, showcasing your strengths as a dancer.
 - *Vocal Solo:* 1 minute in length, musical theatre or Broadway style.
- 2) **Performers will be asked** to attend a group callback. During the callback, performers will learn a dance combination and perform this combination for the directors.

FINAL NOTES

- The completed form will be due on **August 24**.
- All families will be contacted via email on **August 26** with their audition time.
- Auditions will be held at SaskExpress Studio - Regina on **August 31** and **September 1** starting at **6:00 pm**.
- Self-tape auditions are due **August 31** at **6:00 pm**. Please send self-tapes to **ryan@saskexpress.com AND jen@saskexpress.com**.
- This program serves as a training ground for future endeavours in the performing arts. As auditions are an important part of the professional performance industry, we look forward to seeing **rehearsed, creative, and energetic** auditions. Underprepared performers will be asked to re-audition.
- Families will be notified on **September 3** via email whether their audition was successful or if we would like to have them re-audition.
- Please feel free to contact **ryan@saskexpress.com AND jen@saskexpress.com** with any further inquiries or concerns you may have.
- Thank you for your interest in The Mini Express and the Expressions this year!

GOOGLE FORM

The audition application form can be found [here](#).

<https://forms.gle/v9RL6x4nRyD8FNVGA>