



MINI EXPRESS AND THE EXPRESSIONS

2022-2023 Fall Info Package

“Originality” is an original show that follows a group of kids who all struggle at school for different reasons. At one time or another, each of them has felt like an outcast, a weirdo, or a freak. These students come together to celebrate their originality, as they realize everyone is different. Showcasing a variety of musical genres and dance styles, this show highlights the importance of being yourself, and celebrating the differences of those around you!

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 **September 16th, 2022** (link at the bottom of this document). In person auditions will take place on **September 17th, 2022** and **September 18th, 2022**. Self-tape auditions are due **September 16th, 2022**.

TIME COMMITMENT

- Rehearsals take place every **Saturday from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm from September 2022 - June 2023**.
- On occasion, additional rehearsals may be scheduled and will take place on **Sundays from 2:00 pm - 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 24th from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm.**
- **First Intensive Rehearsal - October 2nd from 2:00 pm - 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 **2022-2023 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 director. Out of town performers may be eligible for an exception to this requirement.
- Additional inquiries on dance/vocal training requirements may be directed to
- kaelyn@saskexpress.com
- alora@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 ‘Originality’) – January
- Annual Fundraiser Show– end of February
- Spring Stars Competition – March
- School Tour (To be determined due to Covid-19) – 2 - 3 weekdays in April or May
- Invitational Dance Showcase Competition – April
- Stars of Tomorrow Competition – April
- Annual Studio Recital – June

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

- **\$125.00/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 **studio@saskexpress.com** no later than **Friday, September 16th, 2022**.
- 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 kaelyn@saskexpress.com OR alora@saskexpress.com no later than **Friday, September 16th, 2022**.
- 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**.
 - o *Dance Solo*: 1 minute in length, showcasing your strengths as a dancer.
 - o *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 **September 16th**.
- All families will be contacted via email on **September 14th** with their audition time.
- Auditions will be held at SaskExpress Studio - Regina on **September 17th and September 18th** starting at **2:00 pm**.
- Self-tape auditions are due **September 16th** at **6:00 pm**. Please send self-tapes to kaelyn@saskexpress.com OR alora@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 20th** via email whether their audition was successful or if we would like to have them re-audition.
- Please feel free to contact kaelyn@saskexpress.com OR alora@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](#)