



Disney's

# THE LITTLE MERMAID

SUMMER SCHOOL

**INFORMATION PACK**

# THE LITTLE MERMAID SUMMER SCHOOL 2019

Thank you for your interest in CTC's Summer School: *Disney's The Little Mermaid*.

Even if you have been in our shows before, we politely request that you read this document very carefully.

Following the success of our first ever Summer School, *Matilda the Musical* in 2018, we felt the need to continue with the Summer School for 2019 due to the positive feedback we received from parents and audiences. This year we are keen to develop the talents of the younger generation between the ages of 8-13 years old, and we will be performing *Disney's The Little Mermaid*.

This year we are looking to secure 2 teams of young people and each team will perform 2 shows. These performances will be ticketed to the public, as well as to families and friends of the participants.

We are now looking for a cast of enthusiastic, talented and committed young people to take part in this unique show.

Participants must be at least 8 and no older than 13 years of age on Thursday 25th July 2019.

Proof of ID may be requested. Unfortunately, we are unable to make any exceptions to these age restrictions.



CTC's *Peter Pan*



CTC's *Les Misérables School Edition*

# **THE INFORMATION PACK**

This information pack is made up of the following documents:

**Information Pack**

**Audition Form**

The participants and their parents/guardians must read through the pack.

# OFFICIAL OVERVIEW

ctc

CAMBRIDGE  
THEATRE  
COMPANY

Journey “under the sea” with Ariel and her aquatic friends in *Disney’s The Little Mermaid JR.*, adapted from Disney’s Broadway production and the motion picture (featuring the enormously popular Academy Award-winning music and delightfully charming book and lyrics). Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen’s most beloved stories, *Disney’s The Little Mermaid JR.* is a tender tale about the sacrifices we make for love and acceptance.

In a magical underwater kingdom, the beautiful young mermaid princess, Ariel, longs to leave her ocean home – and her fins – behind and live in the world above. But first, she’ll have to defy her father, King Triton, make a deal with the evil sea witch, Ursula, and convince the handsome Prince Eric that she’s the girl whose enchanting voice he’s been seeking.

Written to flow seamlessly between land and sea, *Disney’s The Little Mermaid JR.* provides plenty of opportunities to bring these locations to life through creative movement and configurations. The fantasy of being underwater means the entire cast can let their imaginations run wild.

## SUMMER SCHOOL

The Summer School Project aims to bring 2 teams of young people together working to create our version of the show with two performances by each team at the end of the second week. The friendships, experiences and memories that are formed during projects like these are wonderful, unique and can last a lifetime. The project is the product of a lot of time and hard work, and it is only through the commitment of everyone involved that the final result is so spectacular.

## DISNEY’S THE LITTLE MERMAID CREATIVE TEAM

Director

**Emily Starr**

Choreographer

**Chris Whittaker**

Musical Director

**Graham Brown**

Produced by

**Louis Ling**

for Cambridge Theatre Company

# DIRECTOR'S VISION

**Emily Starr, Director**

*The Little Mermaid* was my favourite Disney film growing up. I even used to wear a red pillow case on my head around the house, pretending I was Ariel! So, I am thrilled to be directing *Disney's The Little Mermaid* for CTC's 2019 Summer School. As a show set predominantly underwater, we will be spending our rehearsal week exploring movement and body energies through the text in order to be able to immerse the audience in our underwater world.

It will be an intensive week of singing, dance and acting to get the show ready for the performances the following week so we are looking for hard-working, dedicated youngsters who aren't afraid to dive in at the deep end. Our *Matilda* Summer School was a lot of fun last year and we hope you can join us for a new adventure this summer.



CTC's *Goodnight Mister Tom*



CTC's *Peter Pan*

# THE AUDITION PROCESS

The auditions will take place on **Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 May 2019** at Netherhall School, Queen Edith's Way, Cambridge CB1 8NN. There is car parking at this venue.

All participants should arrive promptly in order to register and sign in. In the interests of security, the doors will be locked at the start of the workshop once all participants have signed in. Anyone wishing to audition after this time will not be admitted.

## SATURDAY 11 MAY

9.30am - Registration  
9.45am-11.30am - Workshop 1  
  
11.45am - Registration  
12pm-13.45pm - Workshop 2  
  
2.30pm-5pm - Recalls\*

## SUNDAY 12 MAY

9.30am - Registration  
9.45am-11.30am - Workshop 3  
  
11.45am - Registration  
12pm-13.45pm - Workshop 4  
  
2.30pm-5pm - Recalls\*

\*We may request to see you for recalls on the day you have auditioned, so please ensure you have availability between 2.30pm-5pm.

The audition form at the end of this pack must be completed. Please bring this along to your audition with a passport-sized photo of the participant attached to it.

## HOW TO BOOK YOUR AUDITION SLOT

Please request your audition by email to [auditions@camtheatrecompany.co.uk](mailto:auditions@camtheatrecompany.co.uk) with your name, preferred workshop date/time, age and LITTLE MERMAID in the subject line of the email.

## CLOTHING

Participants will be required to wear sensible clothing and footwear (soft-soled, no heels). All participants will take part in a physical warm up, so please come in comfortable, loose clothing. Please do not wear jewelry or anything that might prohibit your movement or cause an injury whilst dancing.

You will not be allowed to audition either barefoot or in socks.

# HOW THE AUDITION DAY WORKS

Once everyone is signed in, the members of the Production Team will introduce themselves and explain how the audition workshop will be run.

Participants do not need to prepare anything for the audition workshop. Participants will be taught a verse and chorus of a song from the show, and they will be taught a short dance piece on the day. It's important to highlight that we don't just expect the 'best' singers, dancers and actors; we like to recognise potential and work with individuals throughout the process.

At the end of the audition workshop **all participants** will be given a coloured slip regarding the next stage. It's not possible to see everyone for recalls in the afternoon but that doesn't mean anything at this point.

We will select individuals to come back for recalls later on the same day from 2.30-5pm, so it's vital that you are available for this. If you are asked to stay on you can wait in the waiting area until you have been seen or leave the site, but it is your responsibility to be back on time, so please bring plenty to eat and drink.

We would recommend bringing a mobile phone so that parents can be contacted regarding the pick up at the end of the audition.

Expect there to be a lot of waiting around, as we will be auditioning over 200 people over 2 days. Bring quiet things to do to keep you occupied; CTC will not take any responsibility for personal belongings that may get lost.

Once everyone is signed into the building and the auditions are under way the main doors will be locked. This is to enable us to keep the building secure whilst the auditions are going on.

Parents/guardians wishing to stay and wait for their children may wait in the waiting area. Parents/guardians will not be allowed to watch the audition workshop.

**To request your audition please email [auditions@camtheatrecompany.co.uk](mailto:auditions@camtheatrecompany.co.uk) with your name, preferred workshop date/time, age and LITTLE MERMAID in the subject line of the email.**

# CHARACTERS

## **ARIEL** Female, Vocal range top: Eb5, Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Ariel, the heroine of our story, is a little mermaid who longs to be human. A strong singer and dynamic performer is needed in this role. Ariel has some beautiful solos but must be able to convey meaning through gesture once she loses her voice.

## **PRINCE ERIC** Male, Vocal range top: D5, Vocal range bottom: B3

Prince Eric is the adventurous prince who captures Ariel's heart. A charming performer with a sensitive nature is needed in this role. Prince Eric has a few small solos, but it is more important to cast a strong actor in this role.

## **SEBASTIAN** Any gender, Vocal range top: D5, Vocal range bottom: A3

Sebastian is the meticulous and anxious crab who tries to keep Ariel safe while getting to lead some of the most memorable songs in the show. A strong singer who can also handle Sebastian's emotional range is needed in this role. Sebastian can be played by a boy or a girl.

## **FLOUNDER** Any gender, Vocal range top: Db5, Vocal range bottom: G3

Flounder is Ariel's sincere and sensitive best friend who is loyal to the end. This spunky fish also has a show-stopping solo in "She's in Love." Flounder can be cast with a girl or a boy with an unchanged voice. This may be a wonderful role for a younger performer who is ready to take the next step into the spotlight.

## **KING TRITON** Male

King Triton rules the sea and is a force to be reckoned with. This non-singer needs to command the stage as a strong leader but also show the tenderness of a parent. Cast a mature performer who feels comfortable playing father to Ariel and the Mersisters.

## **MERSISTERS (6 CHARACTERS)** Female, Vocal range top: G5, Vocal range bottom: G3

The Mersisters (Aquata, Andrina, Arista, Atina, Adella, Allana) are Ariel's siblings and are full of personality and sass. These are great roles to showcase talented singers and dancers who can create and play six distinctive characters.

## **URSULA** Female, Vocal range top: C#5, Vocal range bottom: F3

Ursula is the manipulative sea witch who tries to overthrow King Triton. She is cunning and devious and will stop at nothing to get what she wants. A mature performer who can bring out this villain's humour while finding texture in Ursula's complexity is needed in this role. Ursula's songs can be challenging, and the singer will need to feel comfortable with these solos.

## **TENTACLES (6-8 CHARACTERS)** Any gender, Vocal range top: C#5, Vocal range bottom: C4

The Tentacles are extensions of Ursula, perhaps the poor unfortunate souls who are now trapped in her lair. Six to eight performers are needed who work well together and can move as a unit.

**FLOTSAM AND JETSAM (2 CHARACTERS)** Any gender, Vocal range top: C#5, Vocal range bottom: C4

Flotsam and Jetsam are Ursula's slippery spies. These two electric eels are sinister and sneaky, so performers are needed who can be underhanded and devious while still being heard on stage. Flotsam and Jetsam can be played by boys or girls.

**SCUTTLE** Any gender, Vocal range top: E5, Vocal range bottom: B3

Scuttle is the know-it-all seagull who serves as Ariel's expert on humans. He is funny and off-beat. While a good singer will rock "Human Stuff," this song can easily be spoken in rhythm. This requires a performer with good comedic timing who is willing to have fun with Scuttle's eccentricities.

**GULLS (3 OR MORE CHARACTERS)** Any gender, Vocal range top: G5, Vocal range bottom: B3

The Gulls are Scuttle's flock of zany "back-up singers" who help explain human stuff to Ariel. While there are three principal gulls written in the score, more can be added to best serve your production. The Gulls' solos can be spoken if necessary.

**GRIMSBY** Male, Vocal range top: C5, Vocal range bottom: E4

Grimsby is Prince Eric's prim and proper valet. He is rigid in personality and constantly trying to guide Prince Eric towards the throne. While Grimsby does have some singing to do, strong acting trumps singing ability for this role.

**CHEF LOUIS** Male, Vocal range top: C5, Vocal range bottom: A3=

Chef Louis is the over-the-top head chef in the palace, who is always wild and frenetic. This is an excellent role for a comedic performer.

**CHEFS (SEVERAL CHARACTERS)** Any gender

The Chefs are Chef Louis's assistants. The music in "Les Poissons" can be challenging, so good choral singers are a plus for this group. Chefs can also double as members of the Sea Chorus.

**CARLOTTA** Female

Carlotta is the headmistress in Prince Eric's palace and Ariel's greatest human ally. This non-singing role needs to be warm and maternal to make Ariel feel welcome.

**PRINCESSES (6 CHARACTERS)** Female, Vocal range top: G5, Vocal range bottom: E4

The six Princesses try everything they can to win the heart of Prince Eric. Since none of them possesses the voice Prince Eric is searching for, actresses who can create an exaggerated and comedic personality through song are needed. The six Princesses can double as the six Mersisters.

**THE PILOT** Male, Vocal range top: C5, Vocal range bottom: Bb3

The Pilot is the head sailor on Prince Eric's ship. This nautical expert who entertains the sailors with wild tales of the sea presents an opportunity to highlight a developing performer. The Pilot has a few speaking lines, but his singing voice is most important.

**SAILORS (SEVERAL CHARACTERS)** Any gender

The Sailors are the crew of Prince Eric's ship. They are eager for adventure and ready to tackle a storm. The Sailors can be played by boys or girls and can double as Sea Chorus.

**SEAHORSE** Any gender

The Seahorse is the court herald for King Triton. This non-singing part is a good role for a young performer with a clear speaking voice.

### **SEA CHORUS (SEVERAL CHARACTERS) Any gender**

The Sea Chorus is responsible for creating each world within the show. This requires performers who can move gracefully and are capable of being part of a scene without drawing focus. This can also be an opportunity to showcase some skilled dancers. The Sea Chorus can double as Merfolk, Sea Creatures and Lagoon Animals.

### **SEA CREATURES (SEVERAL CHARACTERS) Any gender**

The Sea Creatures are the ensemble under water animals in King Triton's court. They can include as few or as many performers as the production permits. There are several moments to showcase both dancers and singers in "Under the Sea."

### **MERFOLK (SEVERAL CHARACTERS) Any gender**

The Merfolk of King Triton's Court can double as Sea Creatures.

### **LAGOON ANIMALS (SEVERAL CHARACTERS) Any gender**

The Lagoon Animals try to convince Prince Eric to kiss Ariel. This ensemble can double as the Sea Creatures.

*All roles are subject to change*

# REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

Participants must be available for the entire run of project dates, both rehearsals and productions. Please note that there is a rest day with no rehearsals on Wednesday 31 July.

All rehearsals will be held in Cambridge. The rehearsal venues have not been confirmed yet.

The performances will take place during the production week at The Great Hall at The Leys School at the start of August. During the production week the times vary and are subject to change so please check below for the provisional schedule.

We ask parents/guardians to ensure that their children attend with a packed lunch and refillable water bottle.

## REHEARSAL DATES

**Thursday 25 July** (5pm-9pm)

**Friday 26 July** (10am-5pm)

**Saturday 27 July** (10am-5pm)

**Sunday 28 July** (10am-5pm)

**Monday 29 July** (10am-5pm)

**Tuesday 30 July** (10am-5pm)

**Wednesday 31 July** (no rehearsal/rest day)

## PRODUCTION DATES

### THURSDAY 1 AUGUST

**4pm-9.30pm**, Technical Rehearsal, precise timings to be confirmed closer to the time

### FRIDAY 2 AUGUST

**12-9pm**, Technical Rehearsal and Dress Rehearsal, precise timings to be confirmed closer to the time

### SATURDAY 3 AUGUST

**3pm** Performance Team A **6pm** Performance Team B

### SUNDAY 4 AUGUST

**3pm** Performance Team B **6pm** Performance Team A

Full commitment is expected throughout the rehearsal period. The breakdown of the rehearsal schedule will be made available to the successful cast members before the project begins.

## MEMBERSHIP FEE

**£185.00 per participant**

If a family has more than one sibling in the project, each additional sibling will be charged £160.00.

The fee does not include meals or transportation, which remain the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

We endeavour to keep project membership fees as low as possible but unfortunately, we do have to cover increasing costs for venue hire, pastoral care and tuition fees during the project period.

The membership fee is per project and will be eligible for the Gift Aid scheme since we are now a registered charity. This means we will be able to secure 25p for each £1 paid to support Cambridge Theatre Company.

If you are successful on the project, then we will forward you a Gift Aid declaration which we very much hope you will complete.

**The membership fee must be paid by Sunday 30 June 2019.**

If you decide to withdraw from the project then the membership fee is non-refundable.

Failure to pay by the deadline above will result in the participant being excluded from the project.

## SUBSIDISED PLACES

There are a limited number of subsidised places on offer for those who genuinely cannot afford the fees. Please contact Louis Ling, [office@camtheatrecompany.co.uk](mailto:office@camtheatrecompany.co.uk) for a subsidised place application form. You may be asked to supply proof of household earnings.

## COSTUMES AND PROPS

Although we are providing costumes and props, participants will be asked to provide some elements of clothing that hopefully can be found easily at home or from a charity shop etc. We will also create a props list for participants to ask family and friends to look in attics and garages for items that we can use in the production.

## NOTE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

We rely on good communication with parents to ensure that the project runs smoothly, therefore please ensure that all the forms are filled out correctly. We will endeavour to email any information to you as well as your child to keep you informed of rehearsal times and schedules. Please don't hesitate to contact us should you need to discuss further any information regarding your child and their involvement in *The Little Mermaid*.

## DECISIONS

You will be notified of the result of the audition by email no later than **Sunday 19 May 2019**. The full cast list will be posted on the CTC website once all the emails have gone out and the roles have been accepted. The decision of the production team is final and correspondence regarding casting will not be entered into.

## ENQUIRIES

We look forward to seeing you at auditions and please tell your friends about this fantastic opportunity. It is going to be a wonderful experience that we would love to share with you all.

If you have any questions concerning the Summer School project, please email [auditions@camtheatrecompany.co.uk](mailto:auditions@camtheatrecompany.co.uk)