



## Audition Information

A Musical Comedy  
Book by Michael Stewart  
Music by Charles Strouse  
Lyrics by Lee Adams  
Originally Produced by Edward Padula

This year's production is going to be so much fun! There are many opportunities to feature many students in lead, supporting and featured roles in this show and we are delighted you are interested in being a part of this production. We're going to have a really BIG show at Northern High School (you will "get" this reference later). **Auditions** are open to any high school student in the Northern York County School District (including home schooled/cyber schooled students). This packet contains much information about auditions, the show, and forms that need to be **completed prior to** auditions and **brought to** auditions in November. [Students interested in helping with **tech crew, stage crew, costumes, make-up, publicity and/or sets** are required to **complete this form** and return to Mrs. Bissell by November 15th, but do not need to attend auditions in November. Please only fill out info marked with \*]. Everyone else auditioning for the show must complete all pages. **All involved with the musical should sign up for REMIND to get updates on Auditions and general/important information about the NHS Musical by text or email. Text @nhsbbb20 to this number: 81010; or Email: nhsbbb20@mail.remind.com**

- ◆ **AUDITIONS** will be held **Monday, November 18th (Singing, Speaking & Choreography for Leads and Supporting Roles) AND Tuesday, November 19th (Singing, Speaking & Choreography for Featured Roles and Ensemble) from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.** Students must attend **ONE** day according to which character they are auditioning for (see **Character Descriptions**). Once you have completed **ALL 3** of your singing, speaking and choreography parts of your audition, you may leave. Call Backs will be on **Tuesday, November 26th at 5:30 p.m.** Not everyone will get a call back and a call back does not necessarily mean you will get a lead role, it simply means that the directors want to see you again. Call Back auditions are interactive. **All Audition Material** can be found on Mrs. Bissell's Teacher Webpage. Go to [www.northernpolarbears.org](http://www.northernpolarbears.org); go to Staff Directory and type "Bissell" and then Search, on Mrs. Bissell's Music Website look at Left column, select "High School Musical", and "Audition Materials".
- ◆ **REHEARSALS** will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 5:30-8:30 PM and Saturdays from 9-Noon beginning in January. Additional rehearsals, if needed, will be announced ASAP (we will add Mondays at the end of January). A Rehearsal Schedule will be available soon with specific information about which scenes, songs and choreography will be rehearsed each day. Rehearsals taking place four to five weeks prior to the performances will be 4 to 5 days a week, longer, and mandatory for full cast and crew. A **mandatory** read-thru and parent meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 18th from 5:30-8 (parent meeting from 8-8:30) AND we will have a Full Cast rehearsal on Thursday, December 19th from 5:30-8:30 p.m.**
- ◆ **PERFORMANCES** are **March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM and March 8<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM, 2020.**
- ◆ "Bye Bye Birdie" is a **MUSICAL PRODUCTION**. Students should be comfortable with being on the stage in front of people and: (1) be able to sing with good melodic and rhythmic accuracy, (2) be able and willing to learn choreography (prior dancing experience is helpful); and (3) be able to act (don't be afraid to move around the stage; Diction is key-speak/sing loudly and clearly, stay in character). If you have difficulty in these areas, then you should speak to one of the Directors to see if there is another way you can participate in the musical without being **ON** the stage. \*\* (see page 5)

**Please read this information carefully. Begin your preparations for auditions early.**

**Please Print and Complete pgs. 2-5 of this form. If you have any questions, please contact a Director.**

# Audition Form

(Students must bring pgs. 2-5 with you to auditions. Please print neatly and legibly)

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ \*Student's Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ \*Texting? (Circle) Y or N

\*Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Relationship (circle one) Mom Dad Grandparent Legal Guardian

\*Email Addresses (Student) \_\_\_\_\_ \*(Parent) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parent Cell Phone (emergency contact) \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Part (S, A, T, B) \_\_\_\_\_

Height (ft. & in.) \_\_\_\_\_ Hair Color \_\_\_\_\_

\*Briefly list any previous experience in...

Plays \_\_\_\_\_

Singing/Choral \_\_\_\_\_

Dance \_\_\_\_\_

Musicals \_\_\_\_\_

List your top THREE Character Preferences. (or, if no preference, write "Any"-Prepare the audition material for your #1 preference).

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Students MUST sign up in  
the Chorus Room by  
November 9th.

Would you prefer (1) \_\_\_ a lead singing role with solos/duets; OR (2) \_\_\_ a supporting singing role with some solo lines/duets; OR (3) \_\_\_ a featured role appearing as a character in one scene and doubling in another ensemble group; OR (4) \_\_\_ a member of ensemble group (Check only one).

Would you accept another role other than the one(s) you prefer above? YES or NO

Do you have any health concerns we should be made aware of (please email Mrs. Bissell)? YES or NO

## \*Musical Contract (for Students and Parents):

Being in a musical is a lot of responsibility. Please read and sign this contract (along with your parent/guardian) so that you know what is expected of you as a cast member. In order to get a part, you must sign this contract.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ and my parent/guardian have read the musical contract and agree to the following (please **initial** ALL):

\_\_\_ I accept that directorial decisions are based not only on talent, but also chemistry with other actors and physical appearance; as well as, previous experience, and personal character and integrity.

\_\_\_ I agree to attend ALL rehearsals in which I am scheduled for.

\_\_\_ I agree to follow all directions and behave in an appropriate manner.

\_\_\_ I agree to keep myself in good academic standing. Refer to the Academic Eligibility Policies in the Student Handbook.

\_\_\_ I agree to abide by the guidelines contained in the student handbook.

\_\_\_ I understand that an absence from rehearsal will only be excused in the case of illness, doctor's appointments,

other director approved school related events, and family emergencies. Any other reason will be counted as unexcused. (See Attendance Policy below)

\_\_\_ If I have more than 3 unexcused absences, I understand that my part will be assigned to another student.

\_\_\_ I understand that leaving early or arriving late (without a director's prior permission) is considered an unexcused absence.

\_\_\_ I understand that I must have my assigned script/libretto at each rehearsal. If I do not have my script, it will be counted as an unexcused absence. I am 100% responsible for keeping track of my rented show materials.

\_\_\_ I understand that all students in the musical must be willing to practice the music, lines and choreography at home on their own time, and that actors are responsible for reading and preparing all the music and lines assigned prior to each respective rehearsal. This is a team effort!

\_\_\_ I agree to memorize all lines, songs and choreography by February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. However, new Choreography may be introduced after this date.

\_\_\_ I agree to attend all dress rehearsals and performances for the full duration of each event.

\_\_\_ With my signature, I am making a commitment to the musical cast/crew for the duration of the season. If I cannot fulfill my commitment to the musical, I will write a letter of resignation explaining my reasons for leaving the musical and submit the letter to the Directors.

\*Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*Musical Contract (for Parents):

- I understand that it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to arrange transportation and supervision to and from Northern High School and/or to give permission for their student(s) (and potential passengers) to drive to and from NHS. (Please confirm consent from other parents/guardians if your student is transporting/riding with other students as permitted by state law).
- I have read the information in this packet and understand the time commitment and the expectations to which my child will be held responsible for with participating in this production.
- I understand that all rehearsals/performances are to be held at Northern HS unless I am notified otherwise.
- I understand that if my student cannot follow through with any part of the Musical Contract or if lack of commitment and responsibility negatively impacts the rest of the cast, my student will be asked to leave the musical and not participate in the performances.
- I understand that a school nurse is not on duty during the after school and Saturday rehearsals. I understand that in the case of any medical emergency, the musical directors will immediately call 911 and then call the parents/guardians emergency contact number.
- I understand that in the case of inclement weather, the directors will use REMIND to notify the cast and parents/guardians that rehearsal is canceled. Information on how to sign up for REMIND is in the opening paragraph.
- I understand that most communication will be via email, handouts, REMIND and/or announcements. Students and Parents are responsible for relaying the information to each other. It's important that students **and** parents know what's going on.
- Parents will not enter the auditorium until performers are dismissed. The only parents permitted in the auditorium are those who have specific duties for the show.
- I understand that all Parents/guardians are expected to help in some way or another during the musical season (ticket sales, snacks, costumes, sets, etc.) There are many areas that we need help with. The more you can help, the better experience we can give the students. We NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE in order to have a SUCCESSFUL SHOW.
- I have reviewed the Director's Philosophy of the HS Musical and discussed with my student(s).

**\*ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL RELEASE** – By my student’s participation in the 2020 HS Musical, I hereby consent to the reproduction and/or use of any photographs, videos or other recordings of my child for advertising, promotional or other purposes by Northern HS without compensation.

\*With my signature, I agree to and accept all of the above:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**Attendance Policy:**

You will receive a monthly calendar of what songs, scenes and choreography we will be working on at each rehearsal. You will also receive a list of Characters by Scene, Songs by Character and Choreography assignments to help you determine which rehearsals you need to attend. If you are not required to be at a rehearsal, enjoy your day off!! During the month of February, there will be more full-cast rehearsals as we get closer to opening night. **Dress Rehearsals and Performances are Mandatory for Full Cast, Pit and Crew.** If you are not sure if you should attend any given rehearsal, please ask a director.

**Missing a Rehearsal**

If you need to miss any part of any rehearsal (excused or unexcused), you must complete an Absence Request form online (on Mrs. Bissell’s teacher webpage) **at least 24 hours in advance.** This will allow us and you to prepare to have someone fill in for you. You will be responsible for finding another cast member to catch you up on what you missed. The **ONLY** reason you do not need to fill out this online form, is if you were absent from school (therefore, you were on the Absentee list).

**Excused Absences**

Any excused absence will not be counted against you. The only reasons for Excused Absences are illness (absent from school), doctor’s appointments (24-hour notice), director-approved school related activity (24-hour notice) or Family Emergency (let us know ASAP).

**Unexcused Absences**

Any other absence is considered unexcused. **Remember:** Arriving late to rehearsal or leaving rehearsal early (without prior approval) is considered unexcused. You only have 3 unexcused absences during the course of the show. After that, your part will be given to a student who has attended all assigned rehearsals. You must bring in a written, signed parental note for unexcused absences as well. This is common courtesy to the directors and the cast.

\*Please check your personal schedule NOW and list any conflicting dates due to school related events, doctor’s appointments or Family events for the months of January, February and the first week of March (please also complete the **Absence \*Request Form** for these absences):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***\*List ANY information that you feel the directors should know on the back of this form.\****

**\*\*I (Student-non-cast member name)** \_\_\_\_\_

**would be interested in helping with:**

**Set Design (building and painting)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Costuming** \_\_\_\_\_ **Publicity** \_\_\_\_\_ **Makeup** \_\_\_\_\_

**Stage Crew (moving sets during show)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tech Crew (lights and audio)** \_\_\_\_\_

Any student non-cast member should return pgs. 2-5 to Mrs. Bissell by November 15th. Be sure to complete all information marked with an asterisk (\*). Thank you!

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**Attention Parents/Guardians:**

**I (Parent) would be interested in helping with (this is not a commitment yet, just a survey):**

**Set Design (building and painting)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Costuming** \_\_\_\_\_ **Publicity** \_\_\_\_\_ **Makeup** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ticket Sales** \_\_\_\_\_ **Printed Program** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent info:**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Cell or Home Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**BEFORE** the auditions, you are encouraged and/or required to do the following:

1. Sign up on Mrs. Bissell's door: Pick which character you are auditioning for (should be your #1 choice on pg. 2) and sign up to audition (Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>) on the appropriate date according to that character and write your name on that particular sheet. Sign up by November 8<sup>th</sup>.
2. Print out the materials needed for auditions from Mrs. Bissell's Music Webpage.
3. Review the Director's Philosophy of the HS Musical found on Mrs. B's webpage.
4. Review the audition material and memorize as much as you can.
5. Use Mrs. Bissell's music webpage and YouTube links to help with learning the songs.
6. Complete all information on the Audition Form including parent and student signatures.
7. Research the show online and be as knowledgeable as you can about the character you are auditioning for.  
**Audition in the character of whomever you are auditioning for.**
8. Practice, Practice, Practice
9. Practice some more (in front of family or friends)
10. Attend the Pre-Audition sessions. Check the website for dates.
11. Practice in front of family, friends, strangers, anyone who will watch and listen.
12. Come to auditions fully prepared.

**ON THE DAY OF** the auditions:

1. Come with a SMILE and the CONFIDENCE that you will give your ABSOLUTE BEST.
2. Bring the completed Audition Form.
3. SING in character as best you can.
4. SPEAK and ACT OUT your monologue loudly and clearly, with appropriate emotion.
5. DANCE to the best of your ability. Be willing to try anything.
6. SING the song(s) to the best of your ability. Project your voice. Enunciate. Use facial expression to help make the song musically expressive!

**Tips for a Successful Audition:**

- Relax and have fun! The Directors **want** you to do well.
- **Practice, Practice, Practice!!**
- Every student is nervous! Even experienced performers get nervous. Do not let your nerves prevent you from trying something new and doing your absolute best.
- Take a RISK. Step outside of your comfort zone.
- Don't be afraid to MOVE AROUND the stage and act out a song.
- Stay in Character from the moment you walk on stage to the moment you leave the stage.
- DICTION is Key!! The Directors must hear every word clearly. (Practice diction by exaggerating the consonants)
- You only have a few minutes to WOW the directors, so speak and sing loudly and clearly! And most importantly HAVE FUN!!

If you have any questions, the **Musical Directors** are:

**Mrs. Laura Bissell, Director** - [lbissell@northernnyork.org](mailto:lbissell@northernnyork.org)

(717) 432-8691 Ext. 2020 OR after you sign up for Remind, you can communicate with Mrs. Bissell through the remind texts.

**Mrs. Chrisanna Rogers, Assistant Director/Choreographer** – [crogers@susumc.org](mailto:crogers@susumc.org)

**Mrs. Amber Shearer, Choreographer/Costume Chair** – [ashearer@northernnyork.org](mailto:ashearer@northernnyork.org)