

James & the Giant Peach: Audition Packet

January 29: 6-9pm, January 31: 9am-3pm. Open Space Park Shelter House: 1270 7th St NE, Sioux Center

Come any time within the timeframes listed above. Auditionees will be seen in order of arrival.

Hello, auditionees! I'm **thrilled** at your intention to audition for *James and the Giant Peach*! My hope for auditions is that it'll be a time full of creativity, imagination, and FUN! Because of that, I wanted the audition material to be something quite simple that you could make your own *and* feel confident in! So for auditions, I need you to prepare only **TWO things**:

- **A small cut of a song of your choice** (prepare to sing for about 40 seconds to a minute; the song can be Musical Theatre, Disney, or even a worship song – anything that you feel confident with!). This will be sung acapella (without music). But if you really really *really* would feel better with music, come ready with a karaoke track on a device.
- **A monologue from below.** These monologues don't need to be memorized, but they should be prepared. This means that you can perform confidently without your eyes being glued to a page! Also, just picking a specific monologue does not mean that you are confined to being considered for that character. For example, if you audition with the Ladahlord monologue, we might consider casting you as Spiker or Sponge! Similarly, even though each character below has a suggested age range, age won't necessarily keep you from being cast in that role.

One more thing... After we've seen everyone's monologues and songs, we'll pull different pairs/groups of people to read scenes. This will give us an idea of what actors may fit in certain roles and play well with other characters. You do NOT need to prepare anything for that! But be ready to have an open mind and play with new characters that maybe you never imagined you'd audition for!

-Marissa Leraas, Director

List of Characters:

- Ladahlord (Man or Woman; Age: 18+)
 - mysterious, magical trickster who guides the story's events.
- James (Boy, age: 10-13 OR girl, age: 10-15)
 - a gentle, imaginative boy who starts out lonely and uncertain but grows brave and resourceful as his journey unfolds
- Spiker (Man or Woman; Age: 20+)
 - James's cruel, selfish aunts—spiteful, greedy, and lazy
- Sponge (Man or Woman; Age: 20+)
 - James's cruel, selfish aunts—spiteful, greedy, and lazy
- Earthworm (Man or Boy)
 - a nervous, pessimistic creature who often doubts himself, but he's loyal and kind-hearted, providing humor and unexpected bravery
- Spider (Anyone)
 - graceful, clever, and caring—protective of James and confident in her abilities
- Centipede (Anyone)
 - bold, loud, and mischievous—full of swagger and a little angst
- Grasshopper (Man or Boy)
 - wise, dignified, and musical—often calm and encouraging—using his violin-like legs and steady optimism to guide and uplift the group.
- Ladybug (Woman or Girl)
 - warm, gentle, and nurturing—often acting like a motherly figure—bringing kindness, patience, and steady support to James and the whole group
- Matron Nurse (Woman; Age: 30+)
- Mr. Trotter (Man; Age: 20+)
- Mrs. Trotter (Woman; Age: 20+)
- Garden Ensemble
- Insect Ensemble
- Reporters
- Willy Wonka/Oompa Loompas
- Porter/Cruise Staff
- Buzz/Hollywood Agent Ensemble
- Seagull Ensemble
- New Yorker Ensemble

Choose and prepare one monologue from down below:

JAMES: "Who's there? Come here, little Ladybug. Don't be afraid. I promise I won't hurt you. Come on. I see you too, Mr. Grasshopper. Join us. But we must be very quiet or we'll wake the other children and the matron will be very angry. You see these? (*Shows the bugs glasses and scarf*). These are the only things left of my parents. I must keep these very safe. This is no place for the two of you. You can leave any time you want. I can't leave, because... I have no place to go."

SPIKER/SPONGE: "You see that cottage up on the top of the hill? That's where me and Sponge live. You see that door? The one at the bottom of those stairs? The ones that lead down and into the dirt cellar? That's where you'll live with the rest of the creepy-crawlies. Whatcha got in that suitcase? I'd like to see what's inside, wouldn't you Spongers? Show us what's in the case! That's all you've got? A pair of glasses and a scarf? I rather like this scarf. Do these glasses make me look smart?"

LADAHLORD: "And there it is! The very first primordial ooze of an inkling that has the potential to lead to so many other fan-tas-ma-rific things! Ha! James Henry Trotter it's time we raised your expectations! That bag right over there contains something remark-u-lous, take a look. Well, its most certainly not a Ferris Wheel since that wouldn't fit in the bag. And I suppose it's not a kitten since the bag is air tight oh, dear! What if it is a kitten? You should really find out for yourself, and soon. James! Are you willing to reach into the great unknown and see what bizarre adventures the universe may have in store for you?"

CENTIPEDE: "Oh, but there is a problem which each of you continues to ignore. Are you forgetting what happened to your fiancé, Spider? Or your family Ladybug? Or yours or yours or mine? They were all killed by humans. Oh, sure the human saved the day and aren't we all lucky for that? But you listen to me. One day soon, the human's gonna get tired of playin' with the bugs and that'll be that. Squish! Splat! Zap!"