



## Mudpie 2017 PACKET

### CHECKLIST FOR Mudpie 2017

Please be sure to bring the following materials from this packet, completed and signed, to the initial rehearsal OR to the front office at Highcrest Middle School by 4 pm on September 13th:

1. Participant Agreement (both pages), completed and signed;
2. Signed Photo Release; and
3. Payment online at [www.youthconnectionwilmette.org](http://www.youthconnectionwilmette.org). (See information about Refunds on page. 2)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Executive Director Cristina Castro at [cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org](mailto:cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org) or April Cesaretti at [aat33@yahoo.com](mailto:aat33@yahoo.com).

# Mudpie

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Youth Connection is excited to offer this year's theater experience at Highcrest Middle School (HMS). This program provides Wilmette 5th to 8th grade students who are interested in writing for and/or performing on the stage with an opportunity to do meaningful, creative work.

Youth Connection will partner with Evanston-based Mudlark Theater to create a "**Mudpie**," a student-written, student-performed production. The **Mudpie** shows will be performed on Friday, December 8th and Saturday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m., and on Sunday, December 10th at 2:30 p.m. in the Highcrest auditorium.

Students can participate as writers; as cast members; in a COMBO role as writer *and* cast member; or as crew.

Youth Connection is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to offer social, service and educational opportunities to Wilmette-area 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and to provide experiences that encourage kids to participate, grow and have fun in a safe, inclusive environment.

## AUDITIONS/CREW SIGN-UP

Sign -up will be via Youth Connection's website, [www.youthconnectionwilmette.org](http://www.youthconnectionwilmette.org), from Aug. 29-Sep. 13. **Only 7th and 8th graders may register as crew.** All other spots are offered on a "first come, first served" registration basis, and a wait list will be maintained.

All participants must be registered and must pay the participation fee no later than Sep. 13. If a minimum number of participants have not registered and paid by Sep. 13, Youth Connection reserves the right to cancel the production, with full refunds offered to those who have paid. This decision will be made no later than Sep. 14.

No prior experience is needed to participate as writer, cast or crew!

## WRITING SESSIONS & REHEARSALS

All writing sessions and rehearsals will take place after school at HMS. **Participants should commit to attending *all* of their scheduled rehearsals.** We will try to work around important conflicts, to the extent feasible. Please be aware that students having more than three (3) unexcused absences from scheduled rehearsals may lose their spot to someone on the waitlist.

Writing Sessions and Rehearsals are scheduled as follows:

**Writers ONLY\*:** Sept. 13 – Oct. 4; M, W (3:45-5pm)

**Cast\*:** Oct. 5 – Dec. 10; M, W, Th (3:45-6pm)

**Crew:** Nov. 8 – Dec. 10; M, W, Th (3:45-6pm)

**All:** Dec. 8, 9, 10th – PERFORMANCES!

*\* Writers who also wish to be in the Cast should combine the Writer and Cast dates for scheduling purposes. Register and pay the COMBO fee if this is your preferred option.*

## **PARTICIPATION FEES**

The budget for this production of **Mudpie** comes in part from student participation fees. The fees for participating in the show are:

**Writers:** \$150

**Cast:** \$275

**Combo (Writers who also want to be in the cast):** \$290

**Crew:** \$175

Fees are due at registration. *Please pay online.* The cost of the production T-shirt is included in the participation fee.

If payment of the participation fee creates any kind of problem/issue, please e-mail Youth Connection's Executive Director at [cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org](mailto:cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org), or phone her at (847) 254-2224. Youth Connection does not want financial circumstances to prohibit any student from participating.

## **REFUNDS**

If a child decides not, or is unable, to participate in the show and provides email notice of this decision to Cristina Castro at [cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org](mailto:cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org) **on or before 8 pm, September 13**, then the family of the child will be entitled to a refund of 100% of the participation fee paid. Please be aware that, if a child decides not, or is unable, to participate in the show after Sep. 13, the participation fee will not be refunded.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

1. During rehearsals and performances, all students are expected to comply with, and will be bound by, the terms of the HMS Student Handbook.

2. Students are expected to be on time and prepared to work.
3. If a student has a break during rehearsal and is not required onstage or in discussion with the directors, the student must be in the auditorium or attend RAD or Homework Club. If a student remains in the auditorium, they must not be disruptive to those rehearsing.
4. No food or drinks (other than water) are permitted in the auditorium.
5. Students may not use their cell phones while they are rehearsing. Students may use their cell phones while they are not rehearsing, provided that they do not talk on their phones while inside the auditorium.
6. We must respect each other. Civility to all is required of all participants.

### **REMOVAL FROM THE SHOW**

A student participant may be removed from the show for any of the following reasons:

1. Continued failure to stop disruptive behavior.
2. A violation of the school's policies with respect to drugs, alcohol and/or violence.
3. Endangering another participant or a professional.
4. Unscheduled absence from more than three (3) rehearsals for which he/she is scheduled, in the absence of illness or a family emergency (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

If you have any questions about the production or this programming, please feel free to contact Cristina Castro at [cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org](mailto:cristina@youthconnectionwilmette.org).

A fall or spring theater experience is a time-honored tradition at District 39's middle schools, and this year's Mudpie is sure to be special.

Youth Connection's **"Mudpie 2017,"** a collaboration with Mudlark Theater

**PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent (s)/ Guardian(s) Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, would like to participate in the Theatre Experience at Highcrest Middle School for the 2017-2018 school year. I agree to the time commitment, including all of the dates and times listed previously, that this production rehearses and performs. I have reviewed and understand the list of expectations and the information about the availability of refunds listed in the preceding pages.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENTS:** Are you interested in volunteering to work on the show (make-up crew, sewing costume pieces, box office, usher, cast party chaperone, etc.)? If so, please let us know what you'd like to do below:

**AGREEMENT page 2**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOU DO NOT NEED ANY EXPERIENCE TO PARTICIPATE!**

But, if you do have some experience performing, we'd like to know about it. If you've been in a play before (whether or not it was a musical), please list it below:

<u>Name of show</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Where (if you recall)</u>
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Please also list any other performing experience, of any kind, that you have (including, for example, theatre classes, theatre camp, chorus, choir, dance classes, dance team, gymnastics, cheerleading, tumbling, etc.):

Do you play any musical instruments? If so, which ones and for how long?

Do you have any other special skills that you haven't told us about (juggling, unicycle, martial arts, etc.)?

**GENERAL REHEARSAL SCHEDULE/CONFLICT DISCLOSURE**

Please indicate below any known conflicts with the Mudpie Schedule detailed on the previous pages. **Note: Tech Week rehearsals (Dec. 4-7) will go until 6 pm or LATER.**

**Mudpie 2017**

**PHOTO RELEASE**

I, being the parent or legal guardian of a \_\_\_\_\_ (“Child”) who is participating as a writer, a cast or crew member in the 2017 production of “Mudpie” sponsored by Youth Connection (“YC”) at Highcrest Middle School (the “Play”), do hereby give the following waiver with respect to Child.

I hereby give each of YC, their photographer, and the director of the Play, Mudlark Theater (collectively, “Producers”), permission to use and publish (in any medium) photographs, video and/or audio of Child taken in connection with the rehearsal and/or performance of the Play, including all rights of every kind and character whatsoever in and to all work done by Child and poses, acts, performances and appearances made by Child in rehearsal or performance, photography and videotaping of or in connection with the Play, as well as the right to use Child’s name and/or image, either still or moving, for commercial, advertising and professional purposes, in connection with the Play or for the benefit of YC (including, without limitation, in photographs which may be included in District 39 yearbooks and on the YC, Mudlark Theater, and District 39 websites). I further give Producers the right to reproduce, in any manner whatsoever, video and/or audio recordings made by or on behalf of Producers of Child’s image and voice and all instrumental, musical or other sound effects produced by Child in connection with the Play.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_