

Audition and Welcome Packet

Welcome to the French Creek Community Theatre! Our mission is to provide performing arts opportunities in a creative and *positive* environment that is inclusive of all members of the community, creating an intergenerational theatrical experience in Northwest Pennsylvania.

We consider our organization a people-focused community theater, which values the importance of growing good and kind human beings, as well as providing a safe place where everyone is welcome and has a part to play. The FCCT differs from other theaters in our region in that everyone who auditions will be welcomed into the cast, and with the exception of Tech Weeks, will typically only rehearse 1-2 nights per week. We are continually astounded by the "magic" that our performers bring to the stage. As a result, our organization has been together for over 40 years and continues to grow.

The FCCT appreciates and values the importance of every performer in our production, and the impact they make on our audiences. Typically, our newer performers are given the opportunity to become comfortable and develop confidence on stage by sharing their talents in the ensemble, which is ultimately the foundation for an amazing show. We truly believe that a show is only as strong as its ensemble! Our older performers, who have supported their peers, as well as grown their confidence and talents in the ensemble, are given casting priority for the principal roles. We recognize and value their essential contributions by inviting them to participate in our discussions regarding upcoming shows and attempt to make sure that they have at least one significant role at some point during their time at FCCT.

We wish to thank you all for auditioning for our production of *Annie the Musical*. and look forward to working with all of you to bring the production to the stage.

The French Creek Community Theatre Board of Directors Tabitha Manross, Director

Audition Information

Age Requirements: All ages – 4 years old through college-age

Audition Dates:

Sunday, November 2nd: 1:00 (11 & under), 2:30 (12 & up) Thursday, November 6th: 6:00 PM (11 & under), 7:30 (12 & up)

*We hold open auditions, so that our performers will become accustomed to sharing their talents in front of others, as well as demonstrate that they are ready to perform for an audience. Accommodations for a closed audition may be considered for those who might struggle with the open audition process. We would

ask that requests for a closed audition be submitted to us via email at fcctheater@gmail.com, along with the reasons why such a request is being submitted for our consideration. Since we hold open auditions, parents and guardians are welcome to watch, although sometimes performers feel more comfortable if their parents/guardians are not present. (We do have an adjacent room in which parents/guardians can wait.) If you cannot attend an audition date, and wish to audition for a role, please email us at fcctheater@gmail.com, to set up a virtual audition. Additionally, if you cannot attend auditions, and are not interested in a particular role, you can still be added to the ensemble.

Location for Auditions: 118 Cussewago Square Theatre Complex, Meadville, PA 16335 - Off Spring Street, in the 5th Ward Community

Show Dates: Friday, March 13th and Saturday, March 14th at 7 PM, and Sunday, March 15th at 2 PM

Tech Week(s): Please review these dates and note any conflicts on your Rehearsal and Planned Conflict Form. Please also see our Frequently Asked Questions included in this packet for more information about what to expect from Tech Weeks.

- Week #1: Sunday, March, 1st Thursday, March 5th; 6-9 PM at the Cussewago Square Rehearsal Building
- Week #2: Sunday, March 8th Thursday, March 12th; 6-9 PM (Saegertown High School Auditorium)

Participation Fee: There is no fee to participate, however there may be some individual costume expenses. All parents/guardians are expected to volunteer to help with the production. Please see our Frequently Asked Questions included in this packet for more information.

Rehearsal Schedule: We will hold rehearsals for the entire cast on Sundays, with the first rehearsal being Sunday, January 4th from 5-8 PM (principal roles will rehearse from 5-8 PM). Additionally, those cast in principal roles will will rehearse on either Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 6-9 PM. *Please note these times/dates are subject to change based on casting needs. Additionally, some "orphan" roles may have early rehearsals scheduled in December.

Audition Requirements:

- Complete and sign the following forms contained in this packet and turn them in at your audition.
 (Please bring pages ______ which include all forms (single sided). Please also bring a copy of the music selection contained in this packet that you will be singing.)
 - 1. Audition Form
 - 2. Contact/Medical Form
 - 3. Parent Volunteer Sign Up Form
 - 4. Rehearsal and Planned Conflict Form
 - 5. Code of Conduct Form
- No experience is necessary. *Everyone* who auditions for the show will be part of the cast. If you cannot attend an audition date, and wish to audition for a role, please email us at fcctheater@gmail.com, to set up a virtual audition. If you cannot attend auditions, and are *not* interested in a particular role, you can still be added to the ensemble.
- If you DO NOT want a singing or speaking role, please note "chorus only" on your audition form. If you are comfortable with "singing only" OR "speaking only," please note that as well. This, however, does not guarantee the opportunity for a solo role.
- If you are interested in a particular role, be prepared to sing, and/or act.
 - o If you are interested in a speaking role, you will be asked to read a script selection.

- o If you are interested in a role that involves singing, you will need to sing a solo. Please be prepared to sing one of the songs included in this packet. Singing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" is absolutely fine especially for our younger performers (9 and under). We want all our auditioners to feel comfortable.
- o Following is a show synopsis and character breakdown. Please indicate the role(s) that you are interested in on your audition form.

Show Synopsis:

Based on *Little Orphan Annie*, the popular comic strip by Harold Gray, *Annie* has become a worldwide sensation. Winner of seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical, the beloved show features a wonderful score written by Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin, including the Broadway smash hit "Tomorrow".

With a perfect combination of street-smarts and optimism, Annie warms the hearts of the audience as we witness her rise from next to nothing in New York City. She is determined to find her parents, who left her at the orphanage years ago. Though things don't quite work out the way she has planned, she does manage to thwart the plans of the evil Miss Hannigan and find a new family with billionaire Oliver Warbucks, his secretary Grace Farrell, and her lovable pooch, Sandy.

Character Breakdown:

Annie

Annie is a complex, tough, streetwise urchin who is surprisingly vulnerable when she thinks she might lose what has become most important to her: her newfound "family."

Gender: female Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: A3

The Orphans: These girls are gritty, neglected, vulnerable, yet basically honest, and potentially lovable. They have mischievous fun with each other and also have "sibling-style" fights.

- Molly—The littlest orphan; appears to be 6 or 7 years old.
- **Pepper**—The toughest girl in the orphanage; appears to be 12 years old.
- **Duffy—**The oldest girl in the orphanage; appears to be 13 years old.
- Kate—The next to littlest orphan; appears to be 6 or 7 years old but slightly older than Molly.
- **Tessie—**The crybaby in the orphanage; appears to be 10 years old.
- July—The quietest orphan; appears to be 13 years old.

• **Orphan Ensemble—**Up to 6 more orphans to round out the group. They will sing and dance in all the orphan numbers and sing in support from the wings for group numbers.

Miss Hannigan

Female; appears to be in her 40s (or older) with some mileage. She is the orphanage matron. Her distaste for her job and the children is obvious in every move she makes and every line she delivers. She is predictable and funny, in her ridiculous, cruel ways.

Gender: female

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Grace Farrell

Grace Farrell is Oliver Warbucks's calm, cool and classy secretary. She appears businesslike when dealing with Miss Hannigan and Warbucks, yet maternal toward Annie.

Gender: female Vocal range top: C5 Vocal range bottom: D4

Rooster Hannigan

Male; appears to be mid-30s (or older). Miss Hannigan's despicable brother. Rooster is flashy and self-assured. His "moves" are as smooth as a gambler's: sly, and deceiving. The actor playing this role should bring a sense of fun to the character and have a good sense of comic timing. Rooster Hannigan and Lily St. Regis are the comic team who claim to be Annie's parents but are revealed to be Miss Hannigan's swindling brother and his sleazy girlfriend in disguise.

Gender: male

Vocal range top: Bb4
Vocal range bottom: G3

Lily St. Regis

Female; appears to be similar in age to Rooster. Lily is Rooster's airhead girlfriend. She is always distracted, although she manages to pick up on any conversation involving money. Like Rooster, the actress playing this role should bring a sense of fun to the character and have a good sense of comic timing.

Gender: female Vocal range top: Bb4 Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Oliver Warbucks

Oliver Warbucks is the daunting millionaire who made his fortune during World War I as an industrialist. In the beginning, Warbucks is awkwardly affectionate toward Annie and then finds himself completely charmed by her.

Gender: male

Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Sandy

Sandy is the stray dog that Annie adopts.

Gender: any

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: F4

Drake And Servants

Drake and the Servants are the loyal domestic help of Oliver Warbucks.

Gender: any

Apple Seller

Gender: any

Lt. Ward

Lt. Ward is the policeman who questions Annie about Sandy, the stray dog.

Gender: male

Bert Healy

Bert Healy is the classic announcer on a radio show of the era.

Gender: male

Bundles

Bundles is the laundryman for the orphanage.

Gender: male

President Franklin D. Roosevelt

President Franklin D. Roosevelt is enlisted by Oliver Warbucks to help locate Annie's parents.

Gender: male

Louis Howe

Louis Howe is President Roosevelt's trustworthy aide.

Gender: male

Star(s)-to-be

Star(s)-To-Be is a glamorous diva in the number "N.Y.C."

Gender: female Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: Ab3

Usherette

The Usherette ushers Warbucks, Annie and Grace to their seats in the Roxy at the end of "N.Y.C."

Hooverville & New Yorkers (Ensemble)

The Ensemble is comprised of a wonderfully colorful collection of characters, usually identified by their occupation including: street vendors, homeless people, tourists, taxi drivers, newsboys, pickpockets, street cleaners, mothers and children, additional stars-to-be, and news reporters.

French Creek Community Theatre

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CASTING FAQS:

Who makes the casting decisions?

Casting is decided by the director(s) with input from the Board of Directors. We work together as a collaborative team to make our casting as fair as possible. Roles are given based on past experience with FCCT, ability, and availability.

How are casting decisions made?

Casting priority is given to students who have performed with FCCT in the past, especially those who are close to graduating from high school. We attempt to make sure that our performers get a significant role at some point in their time with the FCCT and often the shows themselves are chosen with valuable input by our older performers.

When will the cast list be released?

The casting meeting is held after all auditions have been completed. Since this is a volunteer organization, and we do not have full-time employees, it takes some time before we are able to meet. You can expect to hear about casting within 3-4 weeks of auditions.

Why is there delay in auditions and when the cast list is announced?

We do our best to get the cast list out as soon as possible but sometimes it can take longer. Since this is a volunteer organization, and we do not have full-time employees, it takes some time before we are able to meet. Sometimes we are still finishing another show while auditions for the next show take place.

Who is in the room during auditions?

We have open auditions, so parents and guardians are welcome to watch auditions, although sometimes performers feel more comfortable if their parents/guardians are not present. (We do have an adjacent room in which parents/guardians can wait.) Open auditions are held so that that our performers will become accustomed to sharing their talents in front of others, as well as demonstrate that they are ready to perform for an audience.

Do you have callbacks?

We do our best not to need callbacks. We may video an audition and take pictures so we can go back and review if necessary. On rare occasions if you are needed for a callback, you will be contacted.

GENERAL INFORMATION FAQS:

How much money can I expect this commitment to cost me?

There is no fee to be a part of a FCCT production, although you may need to purchase costume items (we usually recommend just buying things at local thrift stores). Other potential costs may include rehearsal space supplies (paper towels, toilet paper, etc.), show t-shirt/hoodie, photographs, cast party, and donations of candy, baked goods, and batteries.

When are rehearsals and how often are they scheduled?

Rehearsals are typically scheduled Sunday night and one weeknight. There may be optional workshops or cast bonding activities added. Not all cast members may be scheduled to rehearse the entire practice, with the exception of Tech Week. Official rehearsal schedules will be distributed at the Parent Meeting.

What can I expect of rehearsals?

We attempt to keep the rehearsals organized and structured, but often with so many kids involved, it can seem noisy and raucous! We have open rehearsals, so parents are always welcome to sit and watch the rehearsals, and also to offer an extra set of hands when needed. Parents of performers 11 or younger must remain with their children at rehearsals.

What can I expect during tech weeks?

Tech weeks normally run from Sunday through Thursday for two weeks prior to our performance dates. The first tech week will take place at our rehearsal space and the second will take place at our venue. The main purpose of tech week is to run the show as we would during a performance, as well as incorporate all of the technical elements of the show (set, props, costumes, lights, and sound). Tech weeks do require an increased time commitment from our performers and parents, as all members of the cast will be requested to be at every rehearsal.

What if I have a conflict?

All known conflicts should be noted on the conflict sheet, which is provided with the audition packet. If you have a potential conflict during Tech Week or during a performance, you must let the director know immediately.

Who will my contact be if I have any questions about the production?

One of the parent coordinators/producers will be your main point of contact. Followed by any board member, committee heads, or director. If you have any questions, please email fcctheater@gmail.com.

How am I expected to participate as a parent/guardian?

Volunteers are an essential part of our shows. They are depended upon to accomplish the production workload. Each family is strongly encouraged to volunteer at least 10 hours. There are several areas to volunteer your time. All families are expected to help with moving to our performance space (usually one week before the performance) and with strike (tear down after the final performance).

Audition Information Important Notes and Tips!

Scene Information:

At the auditions we will have cold reads where you will read from chosen selections from the script. Your directors are looking for expression, creativity, preparedness, and a commanding speaking voice from the stage! Have fun with these! Do not be afraid to try something different and act them out! Stage presence is key!

Singing Information:

Please choose one of these selections included in this packet to sing at your audition. Pick a song you feel shows your range and fits best with the character you are most interested in. You will sing with a vocal track. Please prepare the complete selections as indicated by part, however, the directors reserve the right to start, stop or repeat as desired. In addition, the music director may check for pitch and vocal range. If you are auditioning for more than one part, we may ask if you know any of the other selections if we wish to hear it. Singing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" is an option for our younger performers, age 9 and under.

*If you are auditioning for a lead role (Annie, Miss Hannigan, Oliver Warbucks, etc.) you may choose to sing a song that the character sings in the show.

Songs to Choose From:

Performers Age 4-11:

Tomorrow - Measures 50 - End Hard Knock Life - Measures 16-35

Performers Age 12 - College Age

Little Girls - Measures 30 - 62

You Won't Be An Orphan for Long - Measures Beginning - 32 (after "long")

Why Should I Change a Thing? - Measures 7 - 37

We are LOOKING for ACTING skills in EVERYONE's Audition Song:

- In singing your song you are not just auditioning for the ensemble you are auditioning for any and every role.
- Try your best and actually practice this.
- As you learn the song, put actions to it, act, smile, and above all breathe.

General Audition Notes and Tips:

What we are looking for:

- Energy and smiles
- Acting ability
- If your character has a funny voice, use it.
- ACTING, ACTING, ACTING!
- Connection and understanding of the words being sung
- Confidence!
- Did we mention acting yet?

What we do not want to hear:

- I just got the audition packet
- I'm sick today
- I haven't practiced

Audition Form

(Please print legibly and give this form to the Director at Auditions.)

Actor's Name			Age			Female Prefer Not T	
Height Hair Color		Are you	willing to o		hair or wear		Yes No
Reading Ability (circle):	I can't read	I can rea	d, but canr	not read r	nusic I car	read and rea	ad music
Vocal Skill Level (circle):	eginner Interm	ediate A	dvanced	C1	C2 C3	C4 C5	C6 C7 C8
Vocal Range *use charge below* (cir	cle): Sopr Ten Ba	ior	Alto Bari n't Know			BASS	SOPRANO ALTO :NOR
Dance Movement Skills (circle)							
Ballet Hip Hop Jazz	Gymnastics	Тар	Contemp	orary	Ballroom	Other:	
Special Skills (circle)							
	crobatics Circu	us Che	erleading	Mus	ical Instrum	ent Other:	
Part Selection Do you have a specific part in mind "any" If you want a specific type of	•						
"any." If you want a specific type of the chorus, and DO NOT want a part			_	-		•	r want to be in
1 st choice	2 nd choice			3 ^{rc}	choice		
Would you accept any role given to y Would you accept an ensemble role? Are you willing to play a double cast Would you play a role of the opposit What gender would you be willing to I give my permission to be videota	? part? e sex? o play?	Yes Yes Yes Yes Male	No No No No Female	Either] for purposes	s of audition	and review of
casting, and for advertisement of th date.		-					
Name	Signatu	ire				Date	
I give my permission to be photogra of casting, and for advertisement of and date. Name	aphed (or to have f the organization	my mino . <i>If under</i>	r child pho the age o	otographe of 18 plea	ed) for purpo ase have a p	oses of auditi parent/guard	ion and review ian print, sign,

Contact/Medical Form

(Please print legibly and give this form to the Production Coordinator at Auditions.)

Actor's First Name:	Birthdate:
age 11 and under need a parent or guardian	present at all rehearsals*
Secondary Phone:	
Secondary Email:	
Actor's Email:	
Phone:	
Phone:	
any phobias we should be aware of:)	
	Date:
	age 11 and under need a parent or guardian Secondary Phone: Actor's Email: Phone: Phone: One is a parent or guardian and gua

Volunteer Sign Up

(Please print legibly and give this form to the Production Coordinator at Auditions.)

Volunteers are an essential part of our shows, and the only way we can continue to make this a low-cost organization. We rely heavily on our wonderful parent base, but this would also be a perfect opportunity for adults or kids that need community service hours, are in vo-tech, or are looking for a hobby that doesn't involve being on stage! We are always open to others outside with interests in things like:

Rehearsal Assistants – Help with lines/choreography/music. We usually rehearse up to 3 groups at once.

Set Construction – Build and paint set pieces. No experience required.

Costuming – Create, organize, or assist with sewing projects and accessory construction.

Props – Create or gather required props from the provided props list.

Greenroom Display – Create a welcoming display in lobby using rehearsal photos, etc.

Backstage Supervision – Assist with cast member preparations, such as costume and makeup, monitor behavior and noise control, meeting cues at the proper times.

Name(s):		

Behind the Scenes Preference (circle any areas of interest)

Management/Administrative	Sewing/Costumes	Set Building	Set Painting	Props
Public Relations/Marketing	Photography	Choreography	Music	Other:

Show Preference (circle any areas of interest)

Ticket Sales Candy Grams Chaper	roning Stage Crew Tech Crew (L	ights Sound/Spotlight) Other:
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FCCT's Rehearsal and Conflict Guidelines

It is very difficult to plan rehearsals without an accurate understanding of who is available at any given rehearsal. We know that our performers are often very busy, and we encourage our participants to be well-rounded and active individuals, but we also need to be aware of their other obligations. We try our absolute best to be lenient but ask for communication in return. Rehearsals are typically on Sunday evenings, and one night a week for performers with principal roles. With this in mind, we ask that you:

- Turn in the Planned Conflict Form at auditions (detach the bottom of this sheet). This helps us in casting and helps set our schedule.
- Please rank your preferred days for rehearsals, as well as indicate days that you are unavailable. This is very important as we develop a rehearsal schedule.
- We strive to start rehearsals on time each night and it is difficult to do so when people arrive late. If you know you will be late or must leave early, please note this below.
- If a conflict arises, please let the Production Coordinator(s), or Director know, preferably 24 hours in advance.
- In the case of an emergency or illness, please contact the Production Coordinator(s) or Director as soon as possible. If you are sick please stay home and rest, but please let us know!
- Each cast member is expected to be at every rehearsal during Tech Weeks and at all performances. If you know you may have a conflict, please let the Director know at the time of auditions.
- Cast members who miss three or more unexcused rehearsals may be asked to meet with the Production Coordinator(s), Director and/or Board Member(s) to discuss concerns and expectations.

	(Pla	ease print legibl		als and Planned of form to the Pro-		ator at Auditi	ions.)	
Ac	tor's Name:							
				erred Rehearsal				
(1	Please rank you	ır preferred reh	earsal days [15	st , 2 nd , 3 rd , etc., Pl	ease mark an ")	<" on days yοι	ı are unavailab	le.)
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	7
Are you	involved in act	civities that MA	/ present a coi	ilable? nflict (even if you d/or the Director	ı do not know s			t does
Activity	:		[Begin Date:	An	ticipated End	Date:	
Activity	Activity:Be		Begin Date:		_ Anticipated End Date:			
Please p	orovide ANY ot	her pertinent in	formation tha	t may create a co	onflict			
reviewe	d these togetl	ner and agree t	o adhere to th	read and unders nese expectation our knowledge.				
Cast Me	ember Signatur	e:				_		
Parent/	Guardian Signa	ture:						

French Creek Community Theatre's Code of Conduct

To provide the best possible performance experience for everyone, the FCCT Board of Directors has developed a "Code of Conduct" for anyone associated with FCCT productions. We request that parents/ guardians review this form together with their youth and sign where designated. Failure to comply with these expectations will result in consequences as determined by the production director, including conference with parents, mandatory supervision of children by parents at all rehearsals or possible dismissal from the production.

- 1. Participants are expected to display appropriate behavior while at rehearsal and performances. Remember, FCCT participants are role models for others. This includes no smoking, no alcohol, no illicit drugs, no swearing, etc.
- 2. Participants are expected to treat each other with respect. Rumors, mean-spirited comments, and touching/moving others' belongings are examples of disrespectful behavior that will not be tolerated.
- 3. It is the responsibility of parents and cast members to ensure that cast members attend every rehearsal or notify the Director in case of illness or other legitimate reason.
- 4. During rehearsals/productions, participants are expected to be inside the assigned building at all times unless given permission to leave by the director.
- 5. Cell phones are absolutely banned during rehearsals and performances. They may be used after rehearsal/performance to call for ride.
- 6. Personal problems/family issues should not be shared with other youth. If a personal issue arises, please discuss it with a responsible adult.
- 7. Participants are expected to utilize gender specific areas for dressing. There should be no dressing in mixed company.
- 8. We need adults to volunteer during shows. If your child is involved in a production, we ask you to volunteer in some capacity.
- 10. All children ages 11 and under must be supervised by a parent or designated adult at all rehearsals.
- 11. We expect that all participants will take responsibility for themselves and their actions, will listen to and respect all adult volunteers and will come to rehearsals with a good attitude and ready to put forth their best effort.

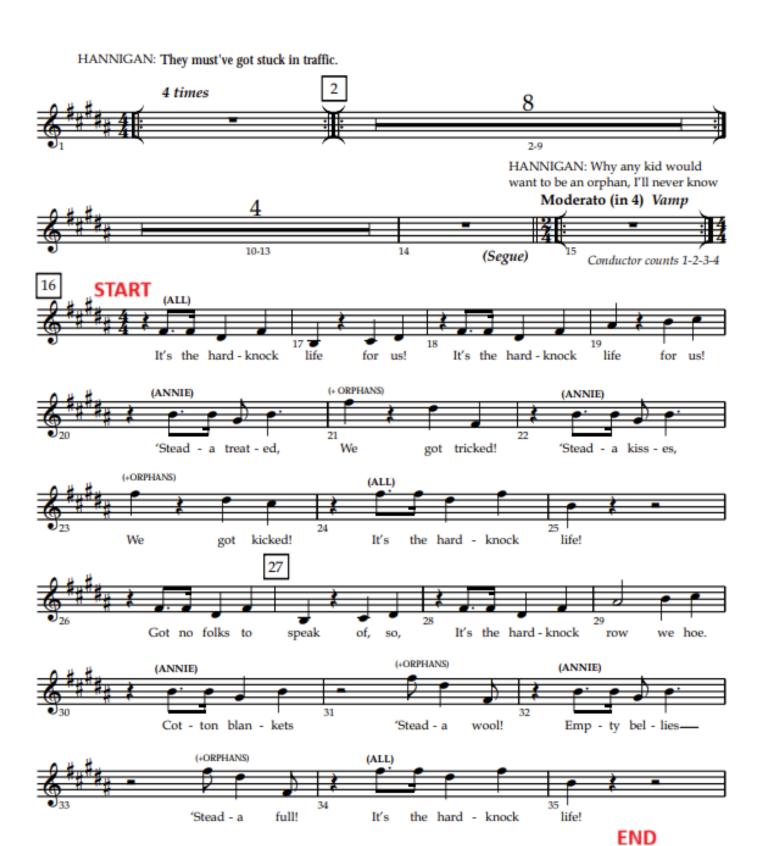
As a participant and as a parent/guardian, we have read and understand the FCCT Code of Conduct. We have reviewed these together and agree to adhere to these expectations.

Cast Member Signature:		
Parent/Guardian Signature:	 	

FCCT Mission

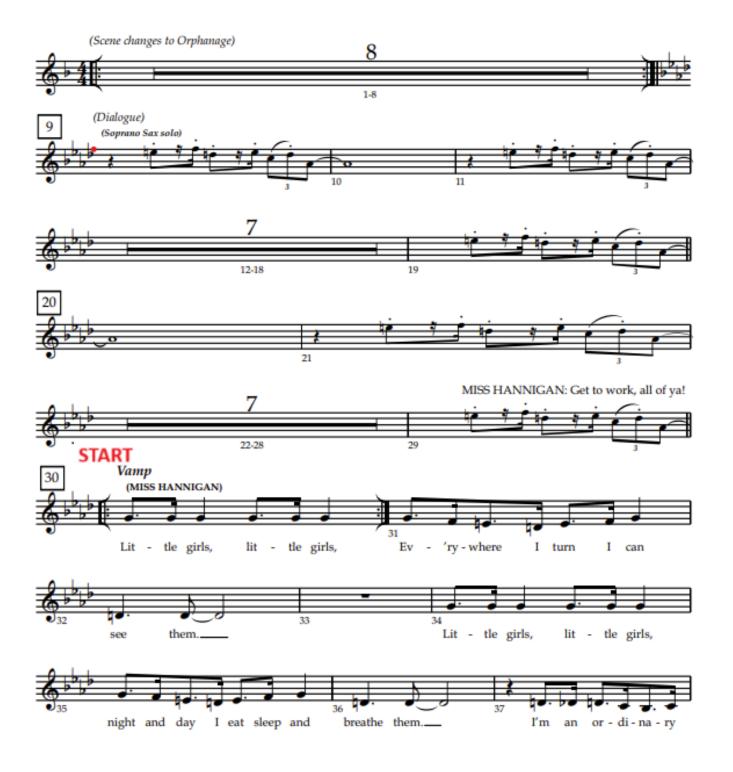
To provide performing arts opportunities in a creative and positive environment that is inclusive of all members of the community, creating and intergenerational theatrical experience in Northwest PA

#4-HARD-KNOCK LIFE





#9-LITTLE GIRLS





#15 - You Won't Be an Orphan for Long



#14 - Why Should I Change a Thing?

