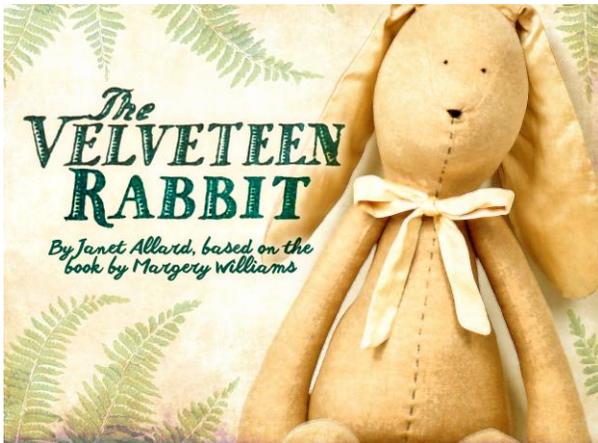


## The Winnepesaukee Playhouse Education Department Presents...



### ***The Velveteen Rabbit***

**Adapted for the Stage by Janet Allard**  
**from Book by Margery Williams**

**Auditions:** February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Callbacks:** February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Performances:** April 7-10, 2022  
Youth Production (Ages 8-13)

**About the Play:** First published nearly a century ago, *The Velveteen Rabbit* has been a gentle light illuminating the path of growing up for countless children. This new adaptation embraces the heart and poignancy of the classic story, but also infuses it with an energetic playfulness that will cause audiences of all ages to wonder if a toy rabbit, if loved enough, can ever truly become Real.

**Creative Team:**

<b>Directed by</b> Patte Sarauský	<b>Stage Manager</b> TBA
<b>Scenic Design by</b> Matthew S. Crane	<b>Lighting Design by</b> Thom Beaulieu
<b>Costume Design by</b> Wendy Davidson	<b>Sound Design by</b> Timothy L'Ecuyer
<b>Puppetry Design by</b> Leanne Brunn	<b>Props Coordinator</b> Jenn Szendre

**Who is Eligible:** Auditions are open to anyone ages 8-13.

<b>Audition Dates:</b>	Thursday, February 17, 2022	4:00PM – 6:00PM
	Friday, February 18, 2022	4:00PM – 6:00PM

You do NOT need to attend both days, nor do you need to stay the entire time on the night you attend. Instead, you will make a 5-10 minute appointment when you register. Those invited to callbacks will be asked to stay for the whole callback.

**How to Register:** Register for an audition appointment at [www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org](http://www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org) under the "Education" tab OR by calling 603-279-0333.

**What to Prepare:** Everyone auditioning should prepare one of the audition pieces included in this packet. (See those pages for details!)

**Callbacks:** **Callbacks will be Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> 1:00PM-3:00PM.** Those called back should plan on staying the entire time. Callbacks are by invitation only. A list of people needed for callbacks will be posted on the website as soon as possible after the final day of auditions. Everyone who auditioned will receive an email when the list is posted. The callback will consist of (provided) **readings from the script and maybe some movement/puppet work.** Please come dressed in comfortable clothing that allows freedom of movement. Bringing a water bottle is also a good idea.

- Parent Meeting:** For students cast in the production, there is a mandatory parent/guardian meeting on **the first day of rehearsal**. This meeting should be attended by the student and at least one parent/guardian. We will cover Education Department policies and procedures, paperwork, and any questions people have. The meeting will take about 30 minutes and rehearsal will begin immediately after the conclusion of the meeting.
- Rehearsals:** This production will rehearse **Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:00PM-6:00PM as well as Sundays 1:00PM-4:00PM. Rehearsals begin Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**. A detailed rehearsal schedule is included at the end of this document.
- Volunteers:** At the parent/guardian meeting, we will discuss opportunities for volunteers to help in various production capacities on this production. Parent, guardian, and family member volunteerism is not required for a student to participate in the production, but it helps us get this show off the ground and is HUGELY appreciated. (It's a great opportunity for siblings who need volunteer hours for school or other programs!)
- Tech Week:** **Tech and Dress Rehearsals** are **Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** and run longer than normal rehearsals.
- Performances:** Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:30PM (tentative 5:30PM call)  
Friday, April 8, 2022 at 7:30PM (tentative 5:30PM call)  
Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 7:30PM (tentative 5:30PM call)  
Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 2:00PM (tentative 12:00 call)
- Commitment:** It is, of course, preferred that each cast member is available for every rehearsal. That said, we acknowledge that people have a lot going on and need to fit this production into already busy schedules.
- Not every student will be called (required to attend) every rehearsal. The theatre will publish a detailed schedule taking students' conflicts into account.
- Students will be asked to put their schedule conflicts on the form at auditions. When a student is cast, the theatre agrees to work with all conflicts indicated on the back of the audition form. Additional conflicts (that were not disclosed at the time of auditions) may lead to dismissal from the production without a refund of tuition.
- There may be instances where a student's availability affects casting decisions.
- All tech and dress rehearsals as well as performances are mandatory and may, therefore, only be missed in the case of the most extreme illness or emergency.**
- Use of Images:** Permission to use students' images in promotional materials (including but not limited to all printed and digital publications in still or video format) is implicit in your agreement to participate in this production. Please note the photograph and/or video using the students' likeness is property of the Winnepesaukee Playhouse and may be edited, altered, exhibited, published, and distributed for the purpose of publicizing this or any other Playhouse program in perpetuity, and that there will be no compensation of any kind for the use of these images.

**Tuition:** **The fee to participate is \$100** and is due at the first rehearsal/meeting. Your tuition helps to cover production costs (set, lights, costumes, props, etc) and the cost of direct instruction by the Playhouse's staff of teaching-artists. In addition, you will receive a production t-shirt, poster, and access to digital photos taken at dress rehearsal. Tuition does NOT include the cost of tickets to the performance.

**Financial Aid:** Financial assistance and payment plans to help with the cost of tuition may be available. Do not let the cost of participation prevent students from auditioning.

**Safety:** As the changing state of the pandemic makes it necessary to constantly re-evaluate the viability of all Playhouse programming, we are dedicated to prioritizing the safety of students and staff. Decisions about safety are ultimately made by the producing artistic director.

**Inquiries:** Please do not hesitate to contact Education Director Timothy L'Ecuyer with any questions and/or concerns you may have by emailing [timothy@winnipplayhouse.org](mailto:timothy@winnipplayhouse.org) or by calling 603-279-0333. Information about this production and everything else at the theatre is always available on the website: [www.winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org](http://www.winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org)

# COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

(REVISED 12/9/2021)

- **All students choosing to participate in this production are required to be fully vaccinated.** “Fully vaccinated” is defined as having received at least two doses of Pfizer or Moderna (plus two weeks) OR one dose of Johnson & Johnson plus (two weeks.) Exemptions to this requirement will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please email [timothy@winnipleyhouse.org](mailto:timothy@winnipleyhouse.org) if you have questions or concerns about this policy.
- All rooms will have hand sanitizer and we will encourage frequent hand washing.
- In rehearsal and performance situations, it is sometimes difficult to strictly maintain 3 foot physical distancing as people move around. Students may sometimes be physically close together.
- **In the midst of the Omicron Wave, everyone is required to wear masks in the building at all times.** We **HOPE** to be able to return to following these guidelines soon:
  - o *During rehearsal, masks will **NOT** be required **when not in the rehearsal room**, but **WILL** be required when moving through the building. (They should, therefore be worn upon entering the building, in the hallways, etc.)*
  - o *In performance, masks will **NOT** be required while actively performing, but **MAY** be required in various backstage spaces. Masks **WILL** be required when interacting with the public after the performance.*
- Staff working directly with students will observe the same protocols. All Winnepesaukee Playhouse staff are fully vaccinated.
- We may adjust masking requirements as factors (including local vaccination and infection rates as well as the guidance of local, state, and federal authorities) change. If things change, we will fully inform students and parents/guardians by email prior to implementing these changes.
- For shows rehearsing during warmer months, we may have some opportunities to rehearse and/or take breaks outside. Masks are **NOT** required outside.
- ***By allow students to attend rehearsal, parents/guardians are attesting to the student's health status each day. STUDENTS SHOULD NOT ATTEND REHEARSAL IF THEY ARE EXPERIENCING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:***
  - Bad Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Chills
  - Repeated shaking with chills
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Diarrhea
  - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
  - Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19
- Cases of students who experience these symptoms will be handled on a case-by-case basis and we **may require documentation of a negative COVID-19 test (rapid test or PCR) before returning to rehearsal.** *In these situations, we want to work with you to do what's best for everyone involved in the production.*
- COVID protocols for audiences are posted the Playhouse's website: <http://www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org/covid-19-protocols.html>

# THE VELVETEEN RABBIT

## Rehearsal Schedule

(Tentative – Subject to Some Minor Changes)

Not every student will necessarily be called (required to attend) every rehearsal. The theatre will provide detailed schedules taking students' conflicts (indicated at the time of auditions) into account.

### Rehearsal

Sunday	Feb 20	1:00-4:00	Tuesday	Mar 15	4:00-6:00
Tuesday	Feb 22	4:00-6:00	Thursday	Mar 17	4:00-6:00
Thursday	Feb 24	4:00-6:00			
			Sunday	Mar 20	1:00-4:00
Sunday	Feb 27	1:00-4:00	Tuesday	Mar 22	4:00-6:00
Tuesday	Mar 1	4:00-6:00	Thursday	Mar 24	4:00-6:00
Thursday	Mar 3	4:00-6:00			
			Sunday	Mar 27	1:00-4:00
Sunday	Mar 6	1:00-4:00	Tuesday	Mar 29	4:00-6:00
Tuesday	Mar 8	4:00-6:00	Thursday	Mar 31	4:00-6:00
Thursday	Mar 10	4:00-6:00			
Sunday	Mar 13	1:00-4:00			

### Tech – These dates may not be missed except in the event of the most extreme emergency

Sunday	April 3	1:00 – 5:00	Preliminary Tech / Run Through
Monday	April 4	4:00 – 7:00	First Tech
Tuesday	April 5	4:00 – 7:00	Tech/Dress
Wednesday	April 6	4:00 – 7:00	Final Dress

### Performances

*Times listed are curtain times. Call times will be set by stage management.*

Thursday	April 7	7:30PM	Performance 1
Friday	April 8	7:30PM	Performance 2
Saturday	April 9	7:30PM	Performance 3
Sunday	April 10	2:00PM	Performance 4

\*\*STRIKE follows Sunday afternoon's performance. EVERYONE is required to stay until everything is done.



# AUDITION MATERIALS

Everyone auditioning for *The Velveteen Rabbit* should read all four of these monologues and then choose ONE to present in the audition. Please feel free to choose any monologue, regardless of the character's gender. Think about what the character wants and what you can do with your voice and body to show us that. You don't need to fully memorize (though you MAY if you want). Just make sure you're VERY familiar with the speech you choose. You will probably be asked to do it more than once in your audition.

**Don't worry if you've never auditioned before—just do your best!**

**Skin Horse:** There once was a velveteen rabbit. In the beginning he was really splendid. He was fat and bunched, as a rabbit should be; his coat was spotted brown and white, he had real thread whiskers, and his ears were lined with pink sateen. On Christmas morning, when he sat wedged in the top of the Boy's stocking, with a sprig of holly between his paws, the effect was charming.

**Skin Horse:** Real. You see, nursery magic is very strange and wonderful, and only those playthings that are old and wise and experienced like a Skin Horse understand all about it. Real isn't how you're made. It's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real.

**Nana:** We'll make three piles. You tell me which pile each goes in. First pile: Keep. Second: Give to charity. Third: Goes in the Trash. We've got to make room for new toys. Out with the old and in with the new. Besides. There are children who don't have any toys. No toys at all. And would it be nice to give them a toy or two to play with? Besides, today's the day we're tidying up!

**Velveteen:** *(To the Boy)* You've got to beat this fever because... today we're going on a treasure hunt. To get there we've got to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. And I need you. Boots. Climb. I can't make it to the top without you. Uh-oh. A Snowstorm. Good thing we brought our snowshoes. Snowshoes on. Trudge through snow. Trudge trudge trudge. You've got to get well because we've got alligators ahead of us and molten lava, piranhas and pythons, sea monster and pirates and I won't make it through unless you're in the lead. Get some rest now. We've got big adventures ahead of us.