



## Four Seasons Youth Theatre

# FOOTLOOSE

### Information and Audition Guidelines

Four Seasons Youth Theatre's *Footloose* is a city wide production open to all students ages 12 – 20. One of the most explosive movie musicals in recent memory now bursts onto the live stage. When Ren and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town, Ren is prepared for the inevitable adjustment period at his new high school. What he isn't prepared for are the rigorous local laws, including a ban on dancing. The ban is the brainchild of a preacher determined to exercise the control over the town youth that he cannot command in his own home. When the reverend's rebellious daughter sets her cap for Ren, her roughneck boyfriend tries to sabotage Ren's reputation, with many of the locals eager to believe the worst about the new kid. To the rockin' rhythm of its Oscar-nominated top 40 score to which new, dynamic songs have been added, *Footloose* celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people, guiding them with a warm heart and an open mind.

Four Seasons Youth Theatre offers youth-only musical theatre productions with emphasis on the learning process, providing a community based program that combines performance with education, highlighting historical context, performance skills, and behind the scenes training. This edition of *Footloose* will feature a student cast, while the orchestra and production staff will consist of professionals from the Madison area.

#### **Directors:**

Joe Dahl, Stage Director; Jamie Pitt; Musical Director; Amanda Poulson, Choreographer

#### **Tuition Information:**

Tuition for all *Footloose* cast members is \$105.00, and includes professional training and workshops, participation in the production, a photo cd, and the *Footloose* t-shirt. For need-based scholarship information, please email [jpitt@fourseasonstheatre.com](mailto:jpitt@fourseasonstheatre.com). Full payment is due at the first rehearsal on July 11.

#### **Important Dates:**

**Auditions:** April 21 & 22 **Callbacks:** April 24

**Cast List Posted:** May 4 (by 4:00 PM) on our website: [www.fourseasonstheatre.com](http://www.fourseasonstheatre.com)

**Rehearsal Information:** Rehearsals will be held on Monday through Friday evenings and some Saturdays during the day. Cast members are expected to be at all rehearsals that are not marked as conflicts at the time of auditions, and must be available each evening of tech week (September 22 - 25) and for all performances.

**First Rehearsal/Meeting:** July 11 (parents/guardians are encouraged to attend on this date)

**Performances:** September 26, 27, & 28, 2008 at the Mitby Theater, MATC

#### **How to sign up for an audition:**

Email Amanda Poulson at [apoulson@fourseasonstheatre](mailto:apoulson@fourseasonstheatre) with your request for an audition day and time. It is best to offer a block of time during which you are available in case the exact time you would prefer is already filled. You will receive a confirmation email once your request is received.

#### **What to prepare:**

Look through the character breakdown and synopsis in this packet to become familiar with the roles and, if possible, listen to recordings. Be ready to perform one minute of a contemporary musical theatre song (do not sing music from *Footloose*), but prepare the entire song in case you are asked to sing more. Selections should appropriately show off your vocal range and versatility. Singing a cappella is not recommended. Auditioners must bring their own sheet music in the key of their choice; an accompanist will be provided. Please do not use pre-recorded accompaniment during your audition; audio equipment will not be available. Bring comfortable clothing and jazz or tennis shoes for the movement portion of the audition.

## **What to bring:**

- ♦ Your completed audition form (available online at [www.fourseasonstheatre.com](http://www.fourseasonstheatre.com)) with a recent photo attached with a paper clip
- ♦ Your own sheet music in the key of your choice (an accompanist will be provided). It is best to bring your music on back-to-back pages in a three ring binder.
- ♦ Your August - September calendar so that you are able to mark any potential rehearsal schedule conflicts
- ♦ Water bottle

## **What to wear:**

Look nice. Don't wear a 'costume,' but do your best to present yourself in a way that will allow the directors to envision you as part of the show.

## **What to expect:**

- ♦ Arrive at least twenty minutes prior to your audition time.
- ♦ You will turn in your completed audition form with your photograph to the audition staff.
- ♦ When you are called in for your audition, you will be greeted by the directors. Take your music to the accompanist and give him/her an idea of your tempo. Also point out and explain any changes or cuts that you have made in your music (these should be clearly marked ahead of time).
- ♦ You will be asked to introduce yourself and your song. Speak audibly and clearly.
- ♦ During your audition, the directors may stop you before you finish the entire segment of music that you have prepared; this does not mean that you are doing poorly. This is a common practice that indicates that the directors feel they have heard and seen enough to accurately assess your performance skills.
- ♦ If you miss an entrance or forget the lyrics, it is best to keep going and do your best with the remainder of the piece. Do not stop and start over unless you are asked to do so.
- ♦ After you sing your prepared piece, the directors may ask to hear you vocalize in your high and/or low register. Do as much as you can, even if you feel that you are leaving your vocal 'comfort zone.'
- ♦ When you are finished singing, remember to go back to the accompanist to collect your music before you leave the room. Always thank your accompanist!
- ♦ Be prepared to learn and perform a short dance combination in small groups.

## **After the audition:**

Callbacks will be held on Thursday, April 24. If the directors would like to see you again for callbacks, you will receive music to prepare before you leave the initial audition. If you are not called back, it does not necessarily mean that you will not be cast.

Students who are cast in the show will receive a phone call by 4:00 PM on Saturday, May 3, and the final cast list will be posted on the Four Seasons Theatre website on Sunday, May 4. If you are cast, you will then receive information regarding the first rehearsal. Please note that we will not be calling students who are not selected for this production. If you have any questions about whether or not you have been cast in *Footloose*, please refer to the cast list on the website for verification.

If you are not cast in this musical, try not to be discouraged from auditioning for future productions. Remember that being cast is only partly about your talent and audition; it's also about whether or not you are an *appropriate fit* for the roles that the directors need to fill. Please also consider working on *Footloose* as part of our technical or backstage crew; it takes a large group of people to produce a show of this magnitude!

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have by emailing [jpitt@fourseasonstheatre.com](mailto:jpitt@fourseasonstheatre.com).

# Footloose: The Musical

Stage Adaptation by Dean Pitchford and Walter Bobbie

Based on the original screenplay by Dean Pitchford

Music by Tom Snow, Lyrics by Dean Pitchford

Additional Music by Eric Carmen, Sammy Hagar, Kenny Loggins and Jim Steinman

## Footloose Cast Descriptions

<b>Name</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Role Type</b>
Ren McCormack	male	A teenager from Chicago who loves to dance	lead
Rev. Shaw Moore	male	The powerful and very traditional local minister	lead
Ariel Moore	female	Reverend Moore's daughter	lead
Vi Moore	female	Reverend Shaw's wife	supporting
Rusty	female	Willard's friend who has a mild crush on him	supporting
Willard Hewitt	male	The kind country yokel who can't dance	supporting
Ethel McCormack	female	Ren's mother	supporting
Chuck Cranston	male	The local bad boy and Ariel's boyfriend	supporting
Wendy Jo	female	Ariel's friend	cameo
Urleen	female	Ariel's friend	cameo
Ensemble	male & female	Singing & Dancing ensemble with numerous small roles	

## Musical Numbers

Footloose

On Any Sunday

The Girl Gets Around

I Can't Stand Still

Somebody's Eyes

Learning to be Silent

Holding Out for a Hero

Somebody's Eyes (Reprise)

I'm Free/Heaven Help Me

Still Rockin'

Let's Hear it For the Boy

Can You Find It In Your Heart?

Dancing Is Not a Crime

Mama Says (You Can't Back Down)

Heaven Help Me (Reprise)

Almost Paradise

Heaven Help Me

Can You Find It In Your Heart? (Reprise)

Footloose (Finale)