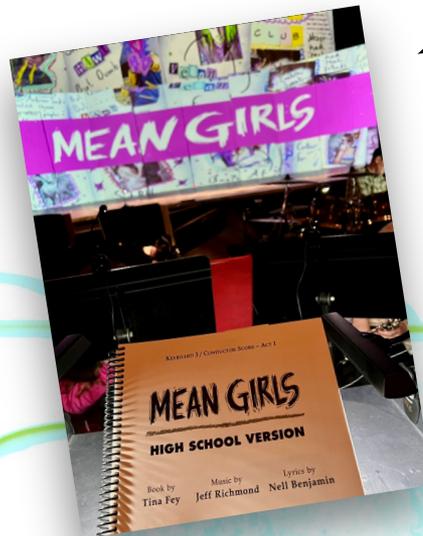


NYSSMA Winter Conference 2023

Putting The Pieces Together: Using Your Best Resources



Ann Mosner, Keith Ersing &

John Blickwedehl

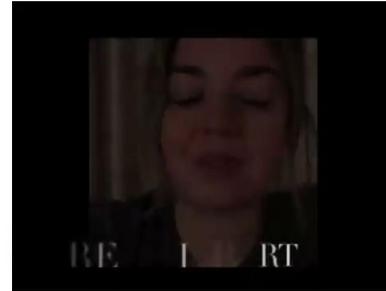
Show Discussions



- **Vocal / Acting/ Dance**
 - Do you have the singers for Newsies or Les Miserables?
 - Can your singers handle the vocal challenges of Mean Girls?
 - Do you have tap dancers for 42nd Street?
 - What are the strengths/weaknesses of the possible auditionees?
- **Band & String Teachers**
 - Do you have the trumpets and saxophones for Guys and Dolls?
 - Do you have the French horn students for Beauty and the Beast?
 - Do you have a lot of interested instrumentalists, but Mamma Mia is a likely show?
- **Kids weigh in?**
 - Do you allow the students an opportunity to contribute to the musical selection/announcement process?
 - Social Media - Do you have a Drama Club/Musical Instagram account, where your trustworthy students can post and drum up audition interest?

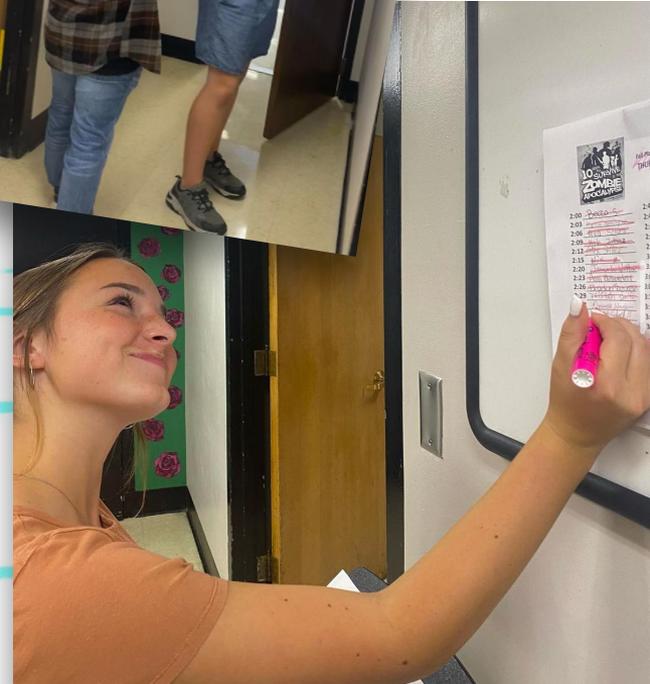
Show Announcement

- Have your stuff ready, both vocal and instrumental.
- Build antici..... ..pation!
- How can you make it fun? What about Broadway's Barrett Wilbert Weed?



Auditions

- How do you hold auditions?
 - Vocal call, dance call and invited callback.
 - Vocal audition music introduced in chorus classes
 - Audition cuts 12-24 measures
 - Signup Options
- Posting the cast list
 - Old school or new school?
 - Google Classroom or Remind
- Pit Orchestra
 - Auditions or Open Rehearsals
 - What works for you? This can change!



Photos courtesy [wswdramaclub](https://www.instagram.com/wswdramaclub) on Instagram
<https://instagram.com/wswdramaclub> - Student Run!

Budget and Fundraising ideas

- Program Ads
- Candy Grams
- Producer/ Actor/ Director
- Faculty Patrons
- Intermission



WEST SENECA WEST PRESENTS: **MEAN GIRLS**

February 8-11, 2023

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Dear Valued Local Business, We **thank you** for your past support, and look forward to collaborating together again. We rely **solely** on ticket sales and ad revenue as our sources of income. Our program is viewed by thousands of local residents.

If you are purchasing an ad in the program, please send a print ready copy (.pdf) or digital format to: cersing@wscschools.org. Please be sure to specify which size ad you would like. **Payment should be mailed to:** West Seneca West HS, 3330 Seneca Street, West Seneca, NY 14224, c/o: C. Ersing, checks payable to: WSCSD

AD RATES:

Full Page 8" x 12"	Half Page 5" x 3.75"	Quarter Page 2.5" x 3.75"	Eighth Page 2.5" x 1.875"
\$125	\$60	\$40	\$25

How can you help?

- Purchase an ad in our program or...
- Purchase a patron listing (see below)

Your name or business name is listed by level of support in our program:

- **Supporting Actor**
 - Any donation up to \$24.99
- **Actor**
 - \$25.00 - \$49.99
- **Director**
 - \$50.00 - \$99.99
- **Producer**
 - \$100 and above

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ADS: FRIDAY 12/30/22

Creating a Sense of Team

- Production staff members that are in it for the kids.
- Team meetings - emails/ texts/ zoom
- Business managers/ producers
- District Tech Staff AV and Computers
- Utilize resources that may be available. BOCES
- Fellow Teachers - in pit orchestra, on sound board, lights, etc.
- Projections instead of drops, borrow from other schools/local theaters
- Sense of Community



Parents on the team

- Music friendly people
- Costumes
- Props
- Saturday lunches

Kids on the team

- Stage Managers
- Stage Crew
- Helping with audio
- Lights



Parent Name

Feb 1

Just a reminder

Tonight, is costumes, hair and makeup.

Costumes, hair and makeup allow actors to truly transform on stage into the complete character.

Backstage tip: curling your hair at home is a huge time saver.

Everyone is respectful of each other's stuff

- Collaborate - all the time

- Rehearsal times
- Notes for each other
- Schedule the tech stuff way ahead of time
- Sitzprobe is KEY (and fun to say)

15	Something There	(Potts, Chip) Beast, Cogs, Lumiere, Belle & Beast	m. 1-35... a little, m. 36-81 BCL, Belle & Beast, m. 97 B&B & thru rest of the number	m. 36 = 1:05, m. 97 @ 3:10
16	Human Again	Belle & Beast	m. 165	m. 165 @ 9:02

- **Underscoring** - LET'S TALK - it's a collaborative process! (listening example)

- Use tech for communication, collaboration and rehearsal purposes.

- Google Drive/ Dropbox
- Tracks - the same ones (more on that)

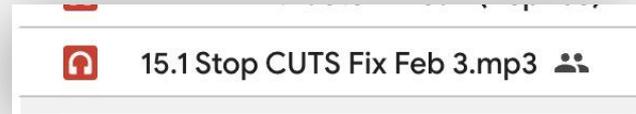
- Keep Collaborating to the End!

- We rehearse things until the last show.
- Create an atmosphere that is fun, respectful, professional, positive
- The show's stresses are the production staff's responsibility



Tracks, Cuts, Dancers, Musicians

- When you make cuts with kids... keep track in a file for adult professionals.
- TRACKS - use THE TRACKS - not choreographing with YouTube or Broadway
- Not spending time on things that are cuts
- What version, etc.
 - Google Drive
 - Dropbox
- When we make a cut:
 - Update it
 - Track it
 - Share it
 - Use it



#	Title	Description of Cuts
3	Where do you belong	m. 50 - cut
9	Sexy	Finish m. 60 (pit only plays downbeat note, then silence) ... (some play picture to 80)
13	Fearless	Finish m. 83, cut to overlapping/ dovetail done with the pit.
	Change Party	m. 46, 47, 48, 49 c
New 1/30		
15	Stop!	Cut 129-138 (play 129 and then "& of 1" in
	Tender	
15B	Cady Thinks	Jump after 35 to 4-
New 2/2		
12	Social Media Ethics	CHANGE After vamp in m13, jump to 31, fermata on beat 4 of m32, no & of 4, no caesura just fermata and on to m. 33 following
15	Stop!	CHANGE Cut 146-149 (play 145, jump to 150) with some special things to change - SEE Mr. B
11B	Kissing in the Rain	NEW Play 2X

New 1/30

15 Stop!

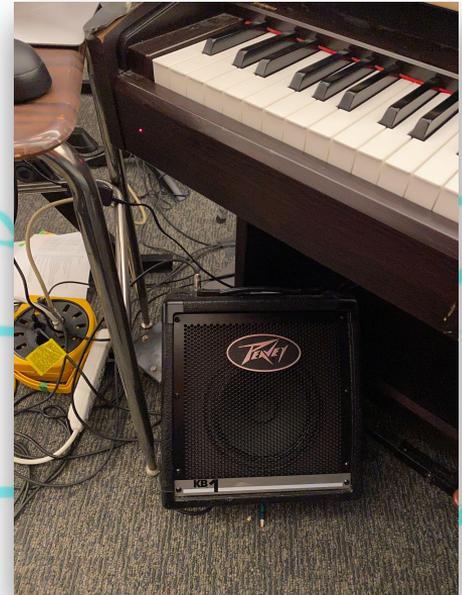
Cut 129-138 (play 128, n
129 and then "& of 1" in

Keyboards

- Why? It's all about the sounds
- Authenticity and combinations of sounds
- Switch fast between, all set for you
- Sounds you won't find elsewhere
 - Growling & Howling
 - Timpani
 - Electronics - Mamma Mia Example
- Companies
 - Keyboard Tek - <https://keyboardtek.com> - [Playbill Article \(2021\)](#)
 - RMS Keyboards - <https://www.rms.biz/products/rms-keyboards>

 **KEYBOARDTEK**

 *Realtime*
Music Solutions



Stuff you also need

- Computers - good ones (fast)
 - KeyboardTek = Mainstage = Apple
 - RMS Keyboards = Windows or Apple
 - Beg, Borrow, Return
- Optional
 - Footswitch/ pedals
- MIDI Cables
- Speakers - Mains and Monitors
- Soundboard
- Cables, 1/4" XLR
- Audio Interface



Audio Interfaces

- Helps reduce/ eliminate latency helping computers process
- Recommend one per keyboard/ per computer
- M-Audio - 2x2 useful for more beyond musical
 - <https://m-audio.com/m-tracks/2x2>
 - [\\$149 on Amazon](#)
- M-Audio Solo
 - <https://www.m-audio.com/m-track-solo>
 - [\\$49 on Amazon](#)



Pit Tips and Tricks that have worked for us

- Take it DOWN an octave
 - Trumpet parts are HIGH, drop it (add a clarinet at the right octave?)
- Alternative instrumentation
- SM57 in a sock in a tuba = bass
- Cover a part on a keyboard
- Keyboard Book with a lot of strings? Add real strings!
- Add percussive effects. Have a smart drummer.
- Swaps/ Subs
 - Bassoon - Bari Sax (add 3 flats)
 - Oboe - flute, piccolo, violin, keyboard “support”
 - No French Horns? Let’s learn to transpose!
 - Tenor Sax/ Alto Sax/ Trombone/ Flugelhorn
 - Harp on Marimba (2 mics)



● Post it notes!

Tips and Tricks - Camera and Monitor

- Camera on conductor to video monitor off stage/ Mic to the main board
 - This year we are going to try from back wall of auditorium too for onstage



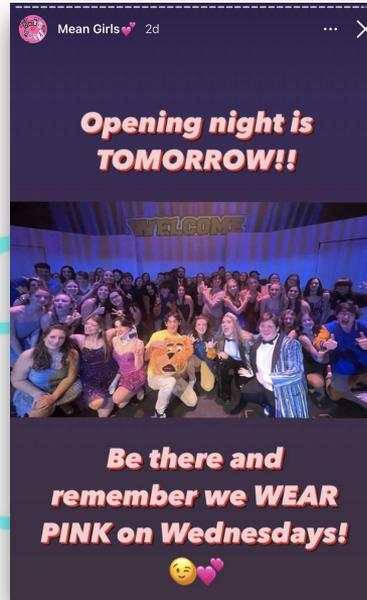
Lipstick on a Pig

- Leaking roof on the stage
- Things being held together by duct tape
- Mary Poppins didn't pay the electric bill
- Old Wireless Mics
 - used to get Oldies 104 better than kids singing on stage
 - Sometimes just cut out - pianissimo pit



Do the EXTRA Stuff

- Spend time creating rehearsal schedule
- T-shirts/hoodies
- Kenny's/Shea's Musical Theatre Awards
 - The mixer / social day
 - Nomination Announcement
 - Chef's
- Show stress is not students'
- Middle School Preview
- Alumni Night
 - Reception
 - Pre-show Acknowledgement
- Debrief



Mean Girls hoodie order form

The hoodies will be dark pink. You must order your hoodie by **MONDAY 12/12 at 11:59 pm!** They will cost \$25. You are responsible for paying for them and picking them up upon arrival. Thank you! Mrs. Jurek, room 308.

Email *

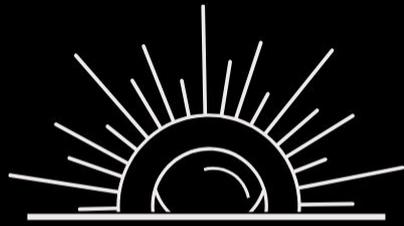
Valid email

This form is collecting emails. [Change settings](#)

First and Last Name *

Short answer text

Please select your size: *



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NOW BOOKING!

PROJECTION RENTALS & SUPPORT
FOR THEATRE PERFORMANCES IN
THE WNY REGION.



MEAN GIRLS



THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

Gonna tell my kids this was Rogers and Hammerstein.



Drop us a line!

Keith Ersing - kersing@wscschools.org

John Blickwedehl - jblickwedehl@wscschools.org

The older I get, the more I realize he wasn't that crazy

