

AUDITION PACKET

Thank you for auditioning for *Willy Wonka Jr.* There are a few things you should know before coming to the audition:

1. Auditions are held in Gurrie Cafeteria at Gurrie on **MONDAY, January 27th** from **3:15-5:00pm** (a bus is available to bring students here from Hodgkins, Ideal, and Seventh Avenue but you must provide your own ride home after 4pm). Students who have a Band or Orchestra rehearsal after school that day must go to their rehearsal first and then come to musical auditions after your Band or Orchestra rehearsal.
2. Performance dates are **Wednesday, May 6th** and **Thursday, May 7th** at 7:00pm in the evening. You **MUST** be available on both of these dates as well as the **Dress Rehearsal on Tuesday, May 5th 3:15-6:00pm, Monday, May 4th 3:15-6:00pm** and **Friday, May 1st 3:15-6:00pm**.
3. Large, group rehearsals will be on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Depending on your role you will be required to come in for additional small group acting rehearsals. These groups will go until 4pm on Fridays and will be arranged ahead of time. Small group singing rehearsals may also be called also, to be arranged ahead of time.
4. Please **COMPLETE** the online audition form **BEFORE** you come to the audition.
5. Attached is the audition form, a description of the roles and selections of music and dialogue from the show. Prepare, as best as you can, the selections **for the part you are auditioning for in the show**. You may prepare more than one part and please list the roles with your first choice listed first and so on. If you would only like to be in the chorus, pick just one song to prepare. Be sure to **ACT** and **MOVE** while you **SING** and **READ**. Show us all you got, **ALL** the time!

6. Please use the list below to pick the song(s) you need to prepare for both auditions and call-backs (if you are asked back).

Audition Songs
Pure Imagination ... Willy Wonka I Want It Now ... Veruca Salt

7. Callback auditions are **Thursday, January 30th 3:15-5:00pm** (You will be contacted if you need to come to callbacks. You may not need to stay for the entire time). The callback list will be posted online on the District Musical website as well as outside of the teacher's room who is the liaison for each building.

Break a leg!

Contact Mrs. Lansford (clansford@d105.net) or Mrs.Noga (mnoga@d105.net)



Character Breakdown

Willy Wonka / Candy Man

Willy Wonka is an enigmatic character; at once mysterious and mischievous but also charismatic. There are a number of directions to take with Wonka, ranging from Gene Wilder's version in the original film, *Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory*, to Johnny Depp's portrayal in the recent film, *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*, and everything in between. Pick a young man (or a young woman) who is charismatic, engaging and has a great voice (in the case of a young man, preferably a changed voice). The actor should be able to be funny and serious and change between the two on a dime. It is preferred that Wonka double as the Candy Man, as it helps reinforce that Wonka has staged the Golden Ticket competition and is somewhat controlling this contest along the way. Cast a fantastic actor and singer in this iconic role.

Gender: Any

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Charlie Bucket

Charlie Bucket is the emotional heart and soul of the musical. The actor performing Charlie should have an unchanged voice and lots of pluck and enthusiasm. Charlie is in nearly every scene, so make sure you select an actor who can handle the demands of a sizable role. Charlie should be a great singer, excellent actor, and hopefully reads as younger onstage.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Grandpa Joe

Grandpa Joe is the grandfather we all wish we had when we were Charlie's age. He is caring, patient, sweet, and always reminds Charlie to look on the bright side. Cast an actor who can be kind, funny, and makes a great duo with Charlie. The role sings a bit, but the singing is secondary to the actor's solid acting skills.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: Eb5

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Mr. Bucket

This is a great role for a young person who has a nice voice, and is a natural nurturer. Mr. Bucket performs the number "Think Positive" with Charlie. Mr. Bucket can double as an Oompa-Loompa in the second half of the show.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: C#5

Vocal range bottom: D4

Mrs. Bucket

This is a great role for a young person who has a nice voice, and is a natural nurturer. Mrs. Bucket sings "Cheer Up, Charlie" with Mr. Bucket and Grandpa Joe. Mrs. Bucket can double as an Oompa-Loompa in the second half of the show.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: Db5

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

The Candy Man Kids

Candy Man Kids sing "The Candy Man," and their numbers may be expanded to include as many performers as you see fit and your program will allow. The names of the characters have been drawn from other Roald Dahl books. Feel free to assign additional names to match the number of performers you cast, like Sophie, Danny, Alfie, and Billy, for example. (All students like to go home and exclaim, "I'm playing Alfie in *Willy Wonka JR.*" versus "I'm Kid 2 in 'The Candy Man.'") You may also cast a single class (say, the sixth grade chorus) to perform these roles, as they appear only in this number unless you choose to double them as Cooks and Oompa-Loompas.

Gender: Any

Grandpa George

Charlie's three grandparents are mainly non-singing character roles. Cast performers that are innately interesting, who have good comic timing and are solid actors. These actors can double as Oompa-Loompas in the second half of the show.

Gender: Male

Grandma Georgina

Charlie's three grandparents are mainly non-singing character roles. Cast performers that are innately interesting, who have good comic timing and are solid actors. These actors can double as Oompa-Loompas in the second half of the show.

Gender: Female

Grandma Josephina

Charlie's three grandparents are mainly non-singing character roles. Cast performers that are innately interesting, who have good comic timing and are solid actors. These actors can double as Oompa-Loompas in the second half of the show.

Gender: Female

Phineous Trout

Phineous is the reporter who announces the winners of the Golden Ticket contest throughout the show. The role requires some singing, so cast a boy or a girl with a great announcer's voice and good stage presence.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Oompa-Loompa Chorus

The Oompa-Loompa Chorus, including Oompa-Loompas 1-5, can be as small as a handful of performers or as large as your stage and theater can accommodate. Consider casting your youngest performers as Oompa-Loompas (like the sixth grade chorus) and augment them with a handful of older students who can take the lead and serve as Oompa-Loompa wranglers.

Gender: Any

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: A3

Mrs. Gloop

Mrs. Gloop is Augustus' mother who has overindulged her son with food. She accompanies Augustus on the tour of the factory, and sings "I Eat More!" which is one of the more difficult songs in the score for young people. The role requires a character actress who isn't afraid to take positive risks both in her acting and her singing.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Mrs. Beauregarde

Mrs. Beauregard is a teacher of geography and has invested a great deal of hard-earned money on therapy for her gum-chewing daughter, with less than stellar results. The role is virtually non-singing. Her accent should match Violet's and the two should make a good pair onstage.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: G4

Vocal range bottom: C4

Mr. Salt

Mr. Salt's solution to most problems is to buy his way out. He is upper class, and usually portrayed with a high British accent. (But this accent is not necessary-just make sure Veruca and Mr. Salt sound like they hail from the same place.) He sings very little. A female actress playing male may also play the role.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: G4

Vocal range bottom: C4

Violet Beauregarde

Gum chewer extraordinaire, Violet hails from Snellville, Georgia, so it's nice if she has a Southern American accent, but not necessary. Violet should stand in stark contrast to Veruca Salt. Veruca is a wealthy refined brat; Violet is more of a bluecollar, middle class brat. She sings "Chew It" along with Willy Wonka. The song is a tour-de-force for the right voice, so cast a young lady with strong voice.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Mike Teavee

For this adaptation Mike is not just a TV junky. He is also addicted to video games, the Internet and any other mindnumbing technological device. Mike is bratty, loud and obnoxious. He does not understand the word "no." Mike and Ms. Teavee sing "I See It All On TV" so he should be a reasonable singer, but does not need to be phenomenal. Mike could also be portrayed by a girl playing a boy, but generally works best with a male actor.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: G3

James

James is Charlie's friend from school. He has a few lines and sings the introduction of "The Candy Man" along with Matilda and Charlie. This is a great role for a performer who is newer to the stage.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: F#4

Vocal range bottom: A3

Chorus Of Cooks

Please note this is an optional chorus. The Cooks appear during "I Eat More!" presenting Augustus with a smorgasbord of food choices. (Check out the Director's Guide note in the song for more information.) Double the Candy Man Kids Chorus and Oompa-Loompa Chorus or cast a single class of kids to perform this section.

Gender: Any

Augustus Gloop

Augustus is the overachieving eater. Be extremely sensitive in casting this role as it is tempting to cast an overweight young person and that can be scarring-especially if the child struggles with this issue. Consider casting a thin child and creating the illusion of size via the costume. Either a boy or a girl acting like a boy can play Augustus. Augustus sings "I Eat More!" along with his mother and Phineous Trout. The song is on the difficult side, but does not need to be sung with a polished pretty voice, in fact, the more character the better.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Ms. Teavee

Ms. Teavee is a take on all television moms of the distant past. Think June Cleaver (*Leave it to Beaver*) or Marion Cunningham (*Happy Days*) or even Carol Brady (*The Brady Bunch*). She's perfectly put together and a bit vacant. She sings "I See It All On TV" but does not require a polished voice.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Veruca Salt

Veruca is wealthy, class-conscious, and completely spoiled. She is often portrayed with a high British accent that is by no means required (brats come in all nationalities). Veruca's solo number "I Want It Now" is deceptively tricky and comes late in the show, so select a young lady with a strong voice. Veruca should contrast sharply with Violet Beauregarde in terms of look and physical type. Cast a great singer and actor in this role who can make bold choices onstage.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Matilda

Matilda is also a schoolmate of Charlie's, but she's a bit of bully. Matilda has a few lines and sings the introduction of "The Candy Man" along with James and Charlie.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: C#4

Squirrels

The squirrels are non-speaking, non-singing roles and you can cast as many as necessary. This is a great part for beginning actors.

Gender: Any

Mrs. Beauregarde

Mrs. Beauregard is a teacher of geography and has invested a great deal of hard-earned money on therapy for her gum-chewing daughter, with less than stellar results. The role is virtually non-singing. Her accent should match Violet's and the two should make a good pair onstage.


Gender: Female

Vocal range top: G4

Vocal range bottom: C4

Roald Dahl's

Willy Wonka JR.



PROLOGUE: WONKA'S FACTORY

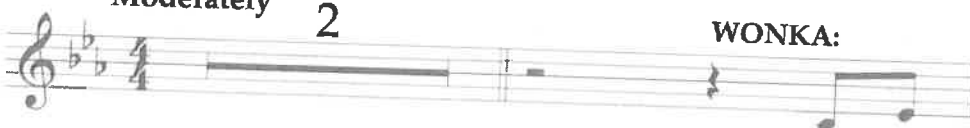
(An empty stage. Lighting suggests the moving cogs of an active factory. The sounds of this magical factory are heard: pings, boings, crackle-pops, whistles blowing, bursts of children's laughter, occasionally a child crying, and another throwing a tantrum. From time to time, bubbles fill the stage, as well as bursts of smoke and fog. The lighting is constantly changing, constantly moving.)

(WONKA enters the stage; he peers at the audience. It is clear he is world weary-tired, and a bit dangerous. OOMPA-LOOMPAS dressed in pristine white lab coats carrying high-powered flashlights illuminate WONKA as he invites the audience to enter a world of pure imagination. #1 - PURE IMAGINATION begins.)

PURE IMAGINATION

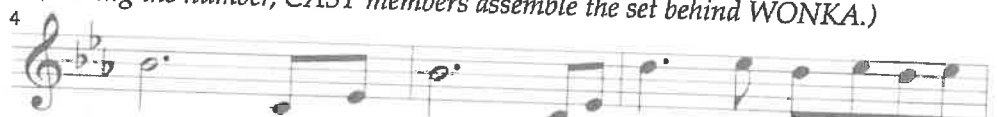
(WONKA appears in solo spotlight.)


Moderately 2





WONKA:
Come with


(During the number, CAST members assemble the set behind WONKA.)

4 
me and you'll be in a world of pure im - a - gi -


7 
na - tion! Take a look and you'll see in - to


10 **Faster** 
your im - a - gi - na - tion! _____ We'll be - gin with a

13 
spin trav - 'ling in a world of my cre - a - tion! What we'll

16 **Poco Accel.** 
see will de - fy ex - pla - na - tion! _____

(The stage now begins to take shape with lighting.)

20 **Faster** 
If you want to view par - a - dise,

22 
simp - ly look a - round and view it!

24 **Rit.**
 An - y - thing you want to, do it!

26 **Molto Rit.**
 Want to change the world? There's no-thing to it!...

28 **Accel.** **Slightly Faster**
 — There is no place I know to com -

31 **Rit.**
 pare with pure im - a - gi - na - tion! Liv - ing

33
 there you'll be free, if you tru - ly

36 **Rit.** **(WONKA:) I am Willy Wonka, the greatest candy maker of all time.**
 wish to be!

(#2 - GOLDEN AGE OF CHOCOLATE begins.)

(They watch as each SQUIRREL picks up a nut, takes it up a ramp, and deposits it into a hopper. A voice judges the nut: 'GOOD NUT.' This action continues throughout the scene.)

MS. TEAVEE

Mr. Wonka, are those squirrels?

WONKA

Right you are! Eventually, these squirrels will remove a walnut from its shell in one piece and at the same time sort the good nuts from the bad nuts.

VERUCA

They're so adorable! Here, squirrelly-squirrelly!

WONKA

Veruca, whatever you do, do not disturb the squirrels! They are in training.

VERUCA

See here, Wonka, I want a squirrel.

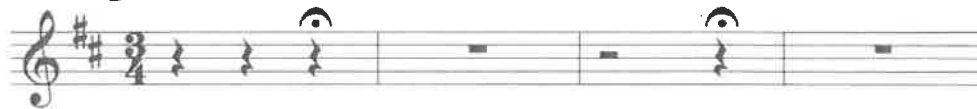
(#43 – I WANT IT NOW! begins.)

I WANT IT NOW!


(VERUCA:) I want a squirrel,
and an Oompa-Loompa.

(VERUCA:) I want a squirrel
and an Oompa-Loompa and a pink
candy boat and while we're at it—


Bright Waltz



12 
 I want a bean feast! Cream buns, and

17 
 do-nuts, and fruit-cakes with no nuts, so good you could

21 
 go nuts! Give 'em__ to me now!

26 
 I want a par - ty with room-fuls of laugh - ter.

30 
 I want a ton of ice cream!_____

35 
 And if I don't get the things I am

39 *cresc.* 
 af - ter, _____ I'm gon - na

44 *(VERUCA screams.)* 4

scream! _____

52 2

I want the works. I want the

57 2

whole works! Pres-ents and pri-zes and

62

sweets and sur - pris-es of all shapes and si-zes, and

66

now! _____ Don't care how!

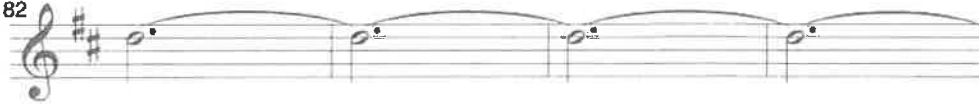
71

I want it now! _____

76

Don't care how! _____ I want it

(Vocal begins long fall.)

82 

now!!!! _____

(VERUCA jumps onto the chute and down the chute. VOICE OVER: 'BAD NUT.')

86 

MR. SALT

Veruca! Veruca!

(MR. SALT chases after her, falling into the chute as well.)

MS. TEAVEE

Wonka, what will become of them?

WONKA

What happens to every bad nut – that particular chute leads to the garbage incinerator. But don't worry, there's a chance it may not be lit today.

GRANDPA JOE

A chance?

WONKA

Yes, well, it's generally only lit every other day. I can't remember if today is a burn day... Hmm... Guess we'll find out. Shame really, she was so deliciously bossy, a natural captain of industry. Hmm. Onward and upward, backward and forward, off we go. Please exit this way; I will be with you in a moment.

(WONKA gestures for Veruca's Golden Ticket to go dark. #44 – LIGHTS OUT 3 begins. WONKA is alone onstage for a moment. It is a sad moment. He has lost another candidate. He sighs heavily and exits the stage. #45 – OOMPA-LOOMPA 3 begins.)