



We are so incredibly excited to bring Disney's Moana JR musical to our Tulare County student performers in Fall 2022!

Disney's Moana JR. is a 60-minute musical adaptation of the 2016 Disney animated film, bringing the adventures of Moana and her village of Motunui to life onstage. Moana JR. features all the beloved songs from the film, written by Tony®, GRAMMY, Emmy, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opetiaia Foa'i, and Mark Mancina, including "How Far I'll Go," "Shiny," and "You're Welcome."

This thrilling and heartwarming coming-of-age story follows the strong-willed Moana as she sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. Moana and the legendary demigod Maui embark on an epic journey of self-discovery and camaraderie as both learn to harness the power that lies within. With empowering messages of bravery and selflessness, Moana JR. is sure to bring out the hero within each of us.

AUDITION INFORMATION

Who may audition for Moana Jr.?

Students who will be in 1st grade through 12th grade in the Fall of 2022 may audition. Students must either live in or attend school in Tulare County to be eligible to audition.

What is the time commitment if I am cast in Moana Jr.?

As with all our productions, we expect students to attend all required rehearsals unless absences have been approved by the directing team ahead of time. By committing to the production, you are agreeing to schedule other commitments around our rehearsal schedule. All conflicts should have been submitted on your audition form.

A mandatory cast and parent information meeting will be held in mid to late August to prepare everyone for rehearsals, our parent volunteer needs, how to support our theatre boosters, and more. That date will be set and advertised over the summer after the show is cast.

Cost to participate

Cast members will be asked to provide \$50 toward the cost of producing the show and will be asked to provide their own undergarments and shoes.

No cast member is ever turned away due to an inability to pay. Scholarships are available. Email Bethany at bethany.rader@tcoe.org for scholarship information.

Rehearsal Groups

We typically separate our cast into a Youth Ensemble, Teen Ensemble and Featured Leads. We may also have special dance and vocal groups. All students cast will be a part of either ensemble. Those groupings will be decided at casting based on who auditions.

Weekly rehearsals throughout August & September 2022

Our usual break down in the past has looked like the below (*please keep in mind this may be subject to change and the official schedule will be given once cast*):

Teen Ensemble: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Youth Ensemble: Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Featured Leads/special vocal and dance groups – Tuesday, Wednesday and/or Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. as needed in addition to their assigned ensemble rehearsals.

Weekly rehearsals for October & November 2022

Full cast rehearsals will be added on Fridays beginning in October as we start to put the show together. Typical Friday rehearsal times are from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Leads are asked to stay until 8:00 p.m. to receive additional instruction.

Performance dates & venue

Our fall production normally performs the weekend before Thanksgiving break. Due to the ever-changing challenges that the COVID pandemic has brought, we are currently exploring different performance venues and dates in November. For now, please plan on our theatre week happening November 12 – 19, 2022. Dates and venue details will be made available as soon as possible.

How do I audition for Moana Jr.?

The first round of auditions will be by video submission online. Online submissions will begin on June 1, 2022 and end on June 12, 2022 at 8 p.m. You will have those 12 days to submit your audition video and form. In-person callbacks are by invitation only and will be held on Monday, June 20, 2022. *Accommodations can be made for any invited who may not be available to attend in person. If invited, those arrangements will be made with director Charlotte Garcia Da Rosa.*

1. Complete your audition form and conflict sheet here <https://forms.gle/znPIWgk6eUlp7jP97> (will become available on June 1, 2022)
2. Learn and record the **provided** audition song.
 1. Learn the final section of “How Far I’ll Go” (Lyrics provided below)
3. Learn and record the **provided** character dialogue. (Provided below)

4. Learn and record the **provided** dance combination.
<https://forms.gle/znPIWgk6eUlp7jP97>
 1. The dance combination video will be made available on May 25, 2022.
 2. **See additional tips and information below.**
5. Be sure you **slate your name** at the beginning of your video.
 1. Say your name, the grade you will be in this Fall of 2022, and then sing your audition song.
6. Submit **only one video per student** (if you really cannot figure out how to combine your videos, you need to slate your name before each video). You may only submit once so be sure you've practiced and are satisfied with the final product before you submit.
7. Rename your video.
 1. Use the format "**Lastname_Firstname_MoanaAudition**" (For example: "GarciaDaRosa_Charlotte_MoanaAudition")
 2. If you **HAVE** to submit multiple videos, please add a number to the file name, for example: "GarciaDaRosa_Charlotte_MoanaAudition2"
8. Upload the **video file** to the Google Drive folder available via the Audition Form. <https://forms.gle/znPIWgk6eUlp7jP97>

Everyone must participate in all three disciplines involved in the audition (vocal, acting, and dance) in order to be considered for casting. The directors and audition panel fully understand that students have strengths and weaknesses and varying levels of experience and confidence in the three disciplines. Do not count yourself out because you consider yourself a weak dancer or have little experience singing. There are plenty of roles in every show that are not dance-heavy or don't necessarily have a solo. Just try your best and learn from the experience no matter what happens! Have fun and "fake it till you make it!"

Moana Jr. Audition Materials

Section 1 – VOCAL

Please learn the end of “How Far I’ll Go” using the lyrics below. The backing track will be made available via the Audition Form. <https://forms.gle/znPIWgk6eUlp7jP97>

**What’s beyond that line?
Will I cross that line? (key change)
And the line where the sky meets the sea
It calls me
And no one knows
How far it goes
If the wind in my sail on the sea stays behind me
One day I’ll know
How far I’ll go**

(You can also find examples to listen to for REHEARSAL purposes on YouTube)

Section 2 – ACTING

Please recite/act all the lines below. Have FUN with them! Use different characters’ voices for each line and try to make them sound different...they ARE different! You know these Disney characters, so bring them to life any way you like! Don’t worry about it being a “boys” line or a “girls” line. We may cast some roles differently. So show us your personality, facial expressions, strong speaking voice, and energy! Please memorize them if you can!

SINA: Because he was you- drawn to the ocean. He and his best friend sailed, where waves like mountains crashed down, overturning their canoe. Your dad couldn’t save him. He’s hoping he can save you. Sometimes what we wish we could do...is not meant to be.

MOANA: Maui? Anyone here? Everything looks so deserted. (*Moana rehearses her speech*) “ I am Moana of Motunui. You will board my boat, sail across the sea and restore the Heart of Te Fiti. (*a different approach*) You *will* board my boat. (*Maui interrupts her*) I am not your fan! I’m here ‘cause you stole the Heart of Te Fiti. And you will board my boat, sail across the sea, and put it back!

MAUI: Um, it almost sounds like you don't like me, which is impossible because I got stuck here for a thousand years trying to get the Heart for you mortals. So what I believe you were trying to say... is "thank you". (*he pauses proudly waiting for Moana*) "You're Welcome".

Section 3 – DANCE

For the dance audition, you will be learning a short combination via video. A week prior to the opening of auditions, a link will be posted via the Audition Form where you can view and learn the dance audition material. <https://forms.gle/znPIWgk6eUlp7jP97>

How to record your vocal and acting audition:

Reminder: slate your name and grade at the beginning of your full audition video that includes all three of the disciplines.

- Please dress nicely and modestly for your recording. Have your hair styled, and off of your face.
- Record in a well-lit room with light on your face. Natural light is always great.
- Record in a quiet room that doesn't have an echo or fans/air conditioning running in the background.
- Find out a way for your recording device (tablet, cell phone, iPad etc.) to stay still and stationary. If someone in your home can be your camera operator, that would be helpful.
- Film in landscape mode/horizontal.
- Center yourself in the frame from the waist up. Being closer to the camera is better for your vocal and acting audition.
- For your vocal audition, use some kind of speaker system that will play the track clearly and balanced with nice sound quality. A good bluetooth speaker works well.
- Make sure your vocal volume is as loud or slightly louder than your backing track volume.
- **Do not edit your vocals in any sound program after recording.** It must be a live audition without any special effects.
- Same goes for your acting audition: **no editing** of any kind. It should be all one take.
- Make sure you stand confident and grounded with your feet shoulder width apart. Relax your neck and shoulders while keeping your torso tall and open. Make sure your knees are not locked. Do your best not to sway or fidget absentmindedly. It is acceptable to move slightly as long as it is with purpose.

How to film your dance audition:

- Dress in neat dance clothes or athletic attire that is not baggy.
- Wear jazz/ballet shoes, character shoes, or flexible sneakers.
- Have your hair neatly and securely pulled off of your face.
- Find an indoor or outdoor space where you can safely perform the piece. An ideal location will have good front-lighting and a clean background (a bedsheet can easily act as a backdrop).
- Set up the camera far enough away from you to **fit your entire body** (especially your feet and your face) in the frame for the duration of the combination. Film in landscape mode/horizontal orientation. It may be easiest to recruit someone to assist you with the technology during your audition so they can press record, play, stop, etc. while you focus on dancing.
- Play the provided dance audition music track on a separate device than the one you are filming on.
- Do not have the video of McKenna dancing playing during your audition.
- Perform facing the camera with full-out energy and a smile.
- When you've completed the combination, hold the end pose for a couple of seconds and then stop the recording.
- If you choose to do multiple takes of your dance audition, do not edit different clips from different performances together, just pick your favorite one to submit.

Final Notes:

- Do a couple practice takes, so that you can adjust your track volume, lighting, etc. Watch your audition back and make sure that it is acceptable.
- We have all had the experience of filming ourselves and never being completely happy or content with the end product. We can always find something to nitpick and might spend hours upon hours trying to get the perfect take. Do not fall into that trap! The directors and audition panel are not looking for perfection. We are looking for a confident and capable performer who entertains us!
- Do your homework ahead of time. Study up on the show you are auditioning for. Know who the composer is, the writers, the original choreographers...use that knowledge to your advantage!
- Treat your auditions like it's a performance. Don't focus on what the directors are thinking. This is your chance to share who you are and what your unique voice does!

We want to learn more about YOU in your audition. Do not try to copy other famous actors, singers, or dancers. Be you and do what you do best! Be proud of yourself!

MOANA JR. CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Moana—The vibrant, tenacious, and optimistic daughter of Motunui’s chief. She struggles to reconcile her father’s plans for her to take over as the village chief with her own desires to voyage beyond the reef. Ultimately, Moana proves a compassionate and capable leader. Cast an actor who can portray great maturity, possesses incredible energy, a fun sense of humor, and can confidently deliver songs like “How Far I’ll Go.”

Gender: Female, Vocal range top: D5, Vocal range bottom: G3

Maui—A demigod and master wayfinder with charisma to spare and a reputation of being a trickster. Despite his hard exterior, Maui becomes a wonderful friend and mentor to Moana throughout their journey. Cast an actor with great comic timing who can portray this shapeshifter’s larger-than-life personality through big gestures and high energy, making moments like “You’re Welcome” true showstoppers. Note: The character Maui is based on the fabled Pacific Island demigod, so proceed with respect and caution in costuming and portrayal.

Gender: Male, Vocal range top: B3, Vocal range bottom: G2

Chief Ancestors (1-3)—Chief Ancestors (1-3) are the three ancient leaders of Motunui. They guide Moana on her quest and narrate her story through speaking and singing solos. These ancestors should be animated storytellers who have excellent diction.

Vocal range top: A4, Vocal range bottom: G3

Gramma Tala—Moana’s wise grandmother and the mother of Chief Tui. She is the village storyteller known for being eccentric and dancing to the beat of her own drum. Look for a playful actor and singer who can balance comic timing in “Where You Are (Part 2)” with heartfelt sincerity in “Song of the Ancestors.”

Gender: Female Vocal range top: B4, Vocal range bottom: G3

Chief Tui—The proud leader of Motunui and Moana’s father. He prioritizes the safety of his people and his family. For this beloved and respected ruler, cast a mature and poised actor who can sing very well. After Chief Tui’s scenes at the top of the show, the actor can join the Maui, Monster, and/or Shiny ensembles before returning to this primary role at the show’s end.

Gender: Male Vocal range top: A#2, Vocal range bottom: E2

Sina—Moana’s supportive mother. She is compassionate, perceptive, and strong-willed, and trusts her daughter to make the right decisions. With both speaking and singing solos, look for a confident singer and actor who can embody a mature and respected leader. After Sina’s scenes at the top of the show, the actor can join the Maui, Monster, and/or Shiny ensembles before returning to this primary role at the show’s end.

Gender: Female Vocal range top: C#5, Vocal range bottom: C#4

Pua—Moana’s fiercely loyal friend. Pua always supports Moana – even if it means facing her own fears. An actor who is also a confident singer can make Pua’s moments in “Where You Are (Part 2),” “How Far I’ll Go,” and “We Know the Way (Finale)” stand out.

Vocal range top: C#5, Vocal range bottom: B3

Hei Hei—Moana’s not-so-bright friend. Hei Hei is well-meaning, but naive. Cast an actor who can portray Hei Hei’s innocence and own both speaking and singing solos in “Where You Are (Part 2),” “How Far I’ll Go,” and “We Know the Way (Finale).”

Vocal range top: C#5, Vocal range bottom: B3

Tamatoa—The vicious and egotistical giant crab who lives in Lalotai, the Realm of Monsters. Tamatoa enjoys gathering shiny baubles to add to an ever-growing collection. For this self-centered crab with a keen sense of showmanship, cast an actor who isn’t afraid to own the stage and really shine.

Vocal range top: B4, Vocal range bottom: B3

Ensemble—Ensemble roles include Ancestor Ensemble, Ocean Ensemble, Villagers (Dancers, Weavers, Fishers 1 & 2), Maui Ensemble, Monsters, Gate Monster, Left Claw, Right Claw, Shiny Ensemble, Te Fiti, Te Kā. Several of these roles include dialogue, vocal and dance features. Very similar to some of our past shows including The Lion King Jr. and Once On This Island Jr., the ensemble is a very important part of the show and makes lots of magic happen!