



Welcome!

Welcome to Maranatha Children's Theater! We're thrilled to embark on an incredible journey together for our 2024 Production of Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.

Our Purpose

Maranatha exists to provide high-quality training in a Christ-centered environment that nurtures each student and allows them to thrive. Whether our students study for fun or train to pursue professional careers, it is our goal to be a positive influence in students' lives to help prepare them for whatever lies ahead.

At Maranatha Theater, we are committed to nurturing young artists in a fun and safe environment where they can explore and develop their God-given talents. Our dedicated teachers are passionate about mentoring the next generation of servant leaders in the arts and will work to equip children to glorify God through theatrical arts by teaching redemptive storytelling.

Our Commitment

Instill Confidence

Maranatha is committed to offering programs of excellence that instill confidence in our students. At Maranatha Theater, our vision is to serve and equip students to fulfill their God-given calling in the theatrical arts. We provide hands-on instruction to foster artistic development through skills training and performance opportunities.

We believe every child has God given worth. We desire to help students grow in their confidence by providing uplifting classroom environments, teachers who encourage whole student growth (body, mind, and soul), costumes and choreography that promote a healthy body image, and opportunities to cultivate lasting friendships.

Inspire Character

Maranatha is committed to challenging, teaching, and equipping students in a manner that inspires character and encourages passion. Training in the arts has lasting value because arts lessons are life lessons. Through the arts, students have opportunities to learn perseverance, humility, discipline, respect, and courage, among other virtues. Our teachers also provide an environment for in-class discipleship and training in God's Word.

At Maranatha Theater, we aim to share Biblical truths through redemptive storytelling. Our characters will navigate themes of good and evil, self-sacrifice, brokenness, and healing love. These characters may reveal redemptive truths through both positive and challenging experiences. We seek to uncover Biblical character that can be taught through each of our stories.

Impact Community

Maranatha is committed to meaningful relationships among our students, teachers, and parents. At Maranatha, the studio becomes a family and a second home for kids during their developmental years. We desire to impact our community through outreach, service and sharing the love of Jesus.

At Maranatha Theater our goal is to serve as a model of artistic excellence and moral integrity in our community, producing theater that reveals truth.

Our creative team carefully reviews and approves all productions, prayerfully exercising prudence in decisions related to script selections and staging options. While maintaining these guidelines, we encourage students to enjoy artistic freedom and take responsibility for their creative choices.

Our Basis of Faith

Though students and families are not required to share our faith, our basis of faith means that we:

- Freely talk about our faith in the studio and share about the hope we have in Christ.
- Pray before classes begin and lift up the needs of a student in prayer when appropriate.
- Seek to be positive role models by demonstrating things like integrity, honesty, respectfulness, positive work ethic, patience, kindness, and joy on a daily basis.
- Choose tasteful, modest costumes and use carefully selected music, steering clear of things like inappropriate language and suggestive lyrics in order to maintain a wholesome, positive environment.
- Encourage students to use their art form as a way to create meaningful experiences with others.
- Discuss monthly discipleship themes with our students.

Communication

Our central hub for all essential show information is www.maranathadance.com/findingnemo. Make sure to visit this website regularly to stay updated. Theater related questions may be sent directly to Ms. Katie via email at katief.maranatha@gmail.com or to info@maranathadance.com

Calendar

Our production calendar, detailing all rehearsals and performances, is provided on the show's website. Please mark these dates in your family calendar and note any conflicts on your audition form. Unapproved absences may affect participation in performances and future productions. Stay updated through our website for any changes.

Expectations

Dress Code

- Wear loose, comfortable clothing suitable for dancing and moving onstage, along with athletic or dance/character shoes.
- Remove all jewelry before rehearsals and pull back long hair.
- Clothing should be modest and should not contain any inappropriate phrases or images.
- Please no skirts, sandals, or flip-flops.

Conduct

We expect all participants to conduct themselves professionally and honor our code of ethics while honoring Christ by following these guidelines:

- **Attendance:** Actors must attend all rehearsals. If an actor cannot attend, the reason must be pre-approved before auditions, or they may be replaced.
- **Preparation:** Actors should come prepared and ready in appropriate rehearsal attire, please bring your script and a pencil to all rehearsals.
- **Punctuality:** Actors should arrive on time.
- **Memorization:** Actors must have their lines memorized by the deadline.
- **Handling Props:** Actors may only touch costumes and props specifically assigned to them.
- **Consistency:** Actors should keep performances consistent and avoid pranks or gags. Actors should not share notes with other actors during rehearsals or performances.
- **Post-Performance:** Actors must change out of costume and specialty make-up before greeting family members and friends.
- **Privacy:** Actors should not take photos or videos of other actors in dressing rooms or during rehearsals.
- **Appearance:** Please do not change your appearance without consulting the director (e.g., dyeing hair).

When You're Cast...

Congratulations! Here's what to do next:

- Read the script and listen to the tracks.
- Start working on your character and memorization immediately.

Rehearse Like a Professional

- Keep a positive attitude and show respect to everyone.
- Be proactive about getting information, especially if you miss a rehearsal.
- Be on time to warm up physically and vocally.
- Come prepared in appropriate attire with your script and pencil.
- Review your script daily for lines and blocking.

- Arrive ready to work—energetic and engaged.
- Memorize your lines by the deadline. Feeding lines during rehearsal, tech, dress, or performances is unprofessional.
- Contribute fully to rehearsals; many people depend on your effort.
- Maintain complete silence during rehearsals. Avoid talking in the theater and backstage areas, as even whispering can be distracting.
- Do not give notes to other actors during rehearsals or performances; only the director provides notes.
- We will focus on building a strong ensemble, make sure you understand your role in achieving this goal.
- Refrain from using cell phones during rehearsal unless permitted by the director. No recording is allowed.
- All rehearsals are CLOSED; only currently enrolled students may attend.

Any actor found abusing another actor or adult, using foul language, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, vaping, or bringing weapons will be immediately removed from the program.

Tech Rehearsals and Performances

Attendance is mandatory, no exceptions. All participants must fully attend each scheduled technical rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and performance.

Dates and times are as follows:

- Wednesday, Nov. 6th, 4:45 pm – 7:30 pm: Dress Rehearsal at Maranatha Dance Studio
- Friday, Nov. 8th, 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm: Technical Rehearsal at Crosspoint Church
- Saturday Nov. 9th, Call Time 9:00 am, 10:30 am Performance at Crosspoint Church
- Saturday Nov. 9th, Call Time 1:00 pm, 2:30 pm Performance at Crosspoint Church
- Saturday Nov. 9, Immediately after 2:30 pm show: Strike (tear down) at Crosspoint Church

Family Involvement

While we are fortunate to have a professional production staff, parent volunteers are essential for a successful production. Volunteer roles can include ushering, concessions, distributing show information, securing silent auction items, donating concessions, behind-the-scenes assistance, and participating in strike. Please pray and thoughtfully consider how you would like to volunteer this production. An online sign-up will be posted on the website soon.

Strike

Strike, the process of dismantling the show and restoring the performance space, is mandatory for all participants in grades 6-12 and will take place immediately after the final performance. Actors in grades 3-5 are asked to pack their belongings and exit the theater promptly following the final performance. While parents are not required to assist with strike, many hands make light work, and actors will not be dismissed until the director clears them once the task is completed.

Taking Care of our Spaces, Props, and Costumes

Our Spaces:

We ask that everyone treats our personnel, property, and spaces with the utmost care and respect. Please be diligent in disposing of trash and keeping our areas clean.

Props:

Props are NOT toys! A good actor values the care and use of props and understands their importance to the show. Do not play with or mishandle props, nor handle props that belong to other cast members. If you are assigned a prop, it is your responsibility to pre-set it in the designated area before rehearsals or performances and return all props to the master prop table at the end of each session before entering the dressing room.

Costumes:

On stage, treat costumes as your character would. Off stage, handle costumes with special care.

Please refrain from eating and drinking in your costume.

Actors should always be clean and apply deodorant before changing into their costumes. Make-up must be applied before putting on costumes, and perfume or cologne should not be worn or applied while in costume.

Costume items must remain in the theater during dress rehearsals and performances. Do not take home any part of the costume, even if it's your own property.

Actors are responsible for checking all costume items immediately upon arrival at the theater to address any misplaced items in a timely manner.

Actors should replace their costumes on hangers as they found them, with all costumes hung together for easy location. If any costume items need repairs, please leave a note on the trouble sheet posted in the dressing room during each show. A good actor values the care and use of props and understands their importance to the show. Do not play with or mishandle props, nor handle props that belong to other cast members. If you are assigned a prop, it is your responsibility to pre-set it in the designated area before rehearsals or performances and return all props to the master prop table at the end of each session before entering the dressing room.

Under Dressing

Each actor is responsible for purchasing the appropriate under dressing to wear under costumes for quick changes backstage. Girls should purchase black undergarments (tank tops, camis, shorts, or leotards), while boys will need black, well-fitting t-shirts and shorts. Under dressing should be worn to the theater on tech and show days to ensure that students are never fully undressed while changing costumes.

Make-up

We recommend purchasing a theatrical make-up kit (e.g., Ben Nye). Make-up should be done at home before arriving for dress rehearsal and performance days. Any backstage touch-ups must be done by students, as parents are not permitted in dressing rooms or backstage areas.

Additional Costume Requirements

Participants are responsible for purchasing their own tights, socks, shoes, and other items as directed. Updates will be provided on the website for costume requirements and deadlines depending on your role.

Cast Party

Join us to celebrate our achievements! The cast party will be held on Wednesday, 11/13, from 4:45-6:30 pm at Maranatha Dance.

We look forward to a fantastic production season and can't wait to see all that is created together!