

ESTHER: FOR SUCH A TIME AS TIME

INFORMATIONAL PACKET



About Lake Minnetonka's Esther produced by CREO Arts & Dance: CREO Arts & Dance Conservatory is pleased to present Esther: For Such a Time as This! Set in the opulent yet perilous Persian Empire, ESTHER is a captivating tale of beauty and bravery. Esther's ordinary life is changed forever when she is taken through the palace doors, entering a new world of royalty and risk. With a crown on her head and a secret in her heart, can she find the courage to trust in God's plan and believe that she was made for such a time as this?

Cost to Participate: \$175

AUDITIONS

April 6–11: Vashti auditions

- Dancers will sign up for individual audition times.
- Audition sign-up will be sent out in March.

August 17–19 | 4:30–8:30 PM: Faith & Dance: Esther Audition

- August 17: Dancers learn group choreography
- August 18–19: Preliminary/trial placement in dances
- Dancers going into Level 3 & up or Grade 6+ in 2026 can audition for Footprints
- Dancers Level 4-7 or 5p can audition for Roots & Verve which includes ensemble, small roles, and main roles.
- August 24: Roles will be finalized and shared with families

REHEARSAL COMMITMENT

Fall Rehearsals:

- Esther (Verve/Roots) dancers will work on opening and closing feast choreography during their regular class time
- Class time TBA
- September through December

Spring Rehearsals Resume:

- January–March Fridays 4:30-6:30 Saturdays 1:00pm-4:30pm
- Some Wednesdays as needed

Performance Timing:

- TBA - We hope to perform in March, likely at a smaller, more intimate venue

Rehearsal Attendance: We ask that dancers fully commit or fully decline to all the rehearsal times. Missed rehearsals may result in role reassignment. With these guidelines in place, each dancer feels part of a collective team of performers.

Rehearsal Preparedness: Ensure that your dancer is well fed prior to coming to Role/Scene Rehearsals. This makes for a more productive process if dancers are fueled and prepared to focus!

Additional Rehearsals for Select Roles: Dancers cast in select roles may be called for additional rehearsals to either brush-up their piece or incorporate their piece or character within another scene.

Full Cast Rehearsals: Full Cast rehearsals focus on rehearsing scene transitions, refining individual scenes, and choreographing the closing number. **Attendance is required at all full cast rehearsals.** Dancers who miss full cast rehearsals will not be reincorporated into missed or changed choreography. Due to the proximity of the show at this time, no make-ups will be provided for missed material.

Rehearsal Attire:

- Solid color leotard or tank top
- Pink/tan tights or black leggings
- Hair pulled back out of face

PARENT COMMITMENT

Parent Volunteering

Parent Volunteers play a vital role in any show weekend at CREO. Because we expect Esther to involve around 40 dancers, we ask that each family volunteer for at least 1 position to ensure the success of our rehearsal process and performances. A Sign-up Genius has been sent out through weekly news. Families unable to volunteer will be charged a \$50.00 activity fee on February 16th, 2024.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

Fast-Paced Process: The rehearsal schedule will move quickly, and dancers should be prepared to keep up with the choreography. There may not be time to revisit missed choreography.

The Story: We expect that dancers have or will review the story of Esther in the Bible. Dancers should bring their Bible and journal to rehearsal each week.

Self-Directed Learning: Dancers may need to learn certain sections on their own through video or with the help of their castmates. However, some parts, especially partner work and formations, cannot easily be caught up on without direct participation.

Side Work: Even if a dancer is not involved in a particular section of the choreography, they should be prepared to use that time productively by watching from the side, working through their own choreography, or contributing to the overall rehearsal process.

Missed choreography: We will abide by what is written above in the performance packets for each show.

Team Mentality: The policy emphasizes the importance of working as a team and surrendering individual needs for the benefit of the group. This helps reduce anxiety about missing rehearsals and ensures the show runs smoothly.

Rehearsal Reports: Every Monday, dancers will receive a report from the CREO staff, detailing attendance, progress, and videos of the rehearsal. This will help keep everyone on track and will communicate any important information or messages from the staff to both the dancers and their parents.

Communication: You can expect that staff will likely not respond to texts or emails Friday-Sunday unless it is an emergency. This policy gives staff time to communicate as a team, decode the events of the weekend, and take personal time for rest and recreation.

Our Theme: There are many themes to our show. Each week we will highlight one. This week's theme is: You were born on purpose for a purpose and you role model that message to others in your life. Esther had to surrender all that she held dear, even her life to save her people. What comfort will you surrender for the sake of another. How can this action role model the love of God to others? We hope this and other messages will be powerful for our audience.

FULL CAST REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

| DATE | TIME | REHEARSAL TYPE |
|------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Friday, January 8th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, January 9th | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Friday, January 15th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, January 16th | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Friday, January 22th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, January 23rd | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |

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| Friday, January 29th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, January 30th | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Friday, February, 5th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, February 6th | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Wednesday, February 10th | 6:30-8:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Friday, February, 12th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, February 13th | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Wednesday, February 17th | 6:30-8:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Friday, February, 19th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, February 20th | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Wednesday, February 24th | 6:30-8:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Friday, February, 26th | 4:30-6:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Saturday, February 27th | 1:00-4:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| Wednesday, March 3rd | 6:30-8:30 pm | FULL CAST |
| PERFORMANCE/DRESS | TBA | TBA |

QUESTIONS?

Rehearsal scheduling questions: Rebecca Tanner at info@creodance.com

All other questions: Ramsey Folkert at events@creodance.com

Christ Anderson-Hill – Director of CREO Arts & Dance

15102 Minnetonka Industrial Rd, Suite 140

Minnetonka, MN 55345

Main Office 952-465-0018

creodance.com