



March 5th, 2020

Devon Gardens Student Showcase!

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We know that at Devon Gardens we have many talented students who have a variety of skills; from music and dance, to juggling and magic tricks – and everything in between! Recently, a group of Grade 7 students came forward with a proposal to hold a Student Showcase as a way of providing students an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and abilities. We thought this was a great idea, and so we will be holding the “**Devon Gardens Student Showcase**” on **Friday, May 29th at 1:30 pm**. The Showcase will be held, assembly style, in the gym and parents are most welcome to join us on that afternoon.

In order to keep the Showcase to a reasonable length, we will have to limit the number of acts and students interested in participating in the student show case must first audition. This year’s showcase will be limited to Intermediate students (grade 4 – 7).

Students interested in auditioning for the Showcase will need to fill in and return the bottom portion of this form. Then, the first step in the audition process will be for students to present their showcase submission to their classroom teacher, sometime between March 30 and April 9th. Each teacher will arrange the specifics with his/her own students.

Following this step, lunch time audition sessions will be scheduled during the weeks of April 27th and May 11th. ***Closer to that time, students who are auditioning will be provided a specific audition date and time.***

Given that this form has come home to you, at this time your child is interested in auditioning for the Showcase, which is great! In order to assist your child in finalizing this decision, ***please review with your child the Showcase criteria on the next page.***

A committee of judges made up of school staff members, along with the help of some grade 7 student leaders, will make the final selections for the Showcase. As we are anticipating a high level of interest, it will not be possible for all those who audition to be in the Showcase. This does not mean that the student(s) not selected are not talented. Rather, with so many talented students at Devon Gardens, we will have to make some difficult decisions in order to have the number of acts fit within the time constraints of the show. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding.

Nevertheless, not being selected can cause disappointment. In assisting your child with their decision to audition, please discuss the fact that although they audition, they may not be selected, and how they might manage their disappointment should this happen. The audition itself is a learning experience and there is excitement in the process. Whatever the outcome, students should be encouraged and congratulated for taking the risk in auditioning!

Student Showcase Criteria:

- The Student Showcase auditions are open to students in grades 4-7
- Students wanting to audition must return to their teacher the completed and signed "Student Showcase Audition" form (below) by March 11th, 2020.
- Performances must be approximately 2 to 4 minutes in length
- Performances demonstrate a talent relevant to student's age
- No Lip Syncing or singing along to a vocal track
- Audition shows evidence of practice/preparation
- Students need to come fully prepared for their auditions with everything needed for their act (eg. props, costumes, music, etc...)
- Music/content must be appropriate for school. Lyrics, actions, and dress/costume of any entry must comply with school expectations for appropriate student conduct. In other words, students may not sing about, discuss, or pantomime any activity that they could not actually say or do on school grounds. *If there are any questions about this, students are encouraged to check with Mme Ko, Mrs. Willcox or Mme Greenhalgh for advice ahead of time.*
- Students auditioning demonstrate comfort level necessary to perform in front of a large group
- If chosen, performance in the final Showcase must be same **as what was auditioned**
- To encourage a variety of talents in the show (music, dance/gymnastics, singing, comedy, etc...), uniqueness and creativity will be given greater consideration than an individual/group doing the same thing as another act
- To allow for as much participation as possible, students are limited to **one** act each (e.g. individuals can't also be in a group performance)
- Final selections will be made to ensure as much student diversity and representation as possible in the Showcase (eg. a balance of genders, different ages/grades, students from both the English & French Immersion programs, etc...)

Students will be expected to rehearse and prepare for their auditions at home and, if selected, to also rehearse for the actual show. There will be no practices or rehearsals held at school. Your child may need your support with this.

After discussing the Student Showcase audition process and criteria with your child, and assisting them in finalizing their decision to audition, please have them complete the form, below, and return it (with your signature) to their classroom teacher no later than **March 11th**. **Late permission forms will not be accepted.** Each student who would like to audition needs to hand in their own form, including those students who are auditioning as part of a group number.

Thank you for your support with this endeavor!

Sincerely,

Mme Ko and Mrs. Willcox
DG Student Showcase Teacher Sponsors

Devon Gardens Student Showcase Audition Form - Return your Classroom Teacher by March 11th, 2020

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Student's name: _____ Grade: _____ Div: _____
Please Print (First and Last Name)

Performance description (eg. Hip Hop Dance, Juggling, Playing the piano) _____

(please provide all relevant information such as song selection, equipment/space requirements, etc... Use other side if need)

Approximate duration _____ minutes

Individual

Group _____
(please list total number in group, as well as other members' first & last names, grades and divisions)

I have read and discussed the audition criteria with my child.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date