

ABC PLAYERS PROPOSAL FORM
2025-2026

Play: *A Christmas Story the Musical*

Author: Book by Joesph Robinette, Music & Lyrics by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul

Director: Jodi MacNeal & Jenn Fritchley

Check Preferred Time(s): ☐ Fall X December ☐ Winter ☐ Spring

Cast Requirements: (provide number needed)

3 Men, 2 Women, 6 Boys, 6 Girls, X Any

(The number indicated is for named roles. There is no set number for ensemble. This will be per director's discretion.)

Plot Synopsis:

Ralphie Parker, a 9-year-old, is on a journey for an Official Red Ryder Carbine-Action 200-Shot Range Model BB gun. Ralphie plots with numerous ideas on how to get his coveted BB gun, but his ideas are with an echoing response at every turn. The audience will be entertained by Ralphie's friend getting his tongue stuck to the flagpole, Ralphie's brother dressed in a snow suit, the local bullies Farkus and Dill, the pink bunny suit, and the award-winning leg lamp.

Unusual Technical Aspects (set, costuming, music, lighting, dialect, etc.):

Set

- Parker family house with a section that looks like a 2nd floor. The house will be stationary upstage. Except, possible a small rolling platform with two chairs & an end table. The flat black curtain will be behind the house, the cyc & scrim will mask the house for the other scenes. Place in the wall that looks like the furnace is smoking through the wall radiator.
- Outside the house or alley – Large fence pieces that roll on and off.
- Higbee's department store window – This piece will be a light wood frame flown in. The merchandise/toys being viewed as behind the window. The items can be rolled on a display case.
- Inside Higbee's with Santa – small movable platform with Santa's seat and a small slide to push the kids down.
- The school yard flagpole – This can be a small mound piece with the flagpole mounted. This piece will roll on and off stage.
- Inside the classroom – Teacher desk, chalk board, and the Matilda desks.

Props

- Paker's Family Car – Full Monty car painted blue and may be altered slightly so the family can be in it. Need hub caps.
- Leg Lamp - Need a good one – buy one or create one. Need one that breaks.
- Snow Cradle – Use for the scene when the family sees it snowing.
- Small Christmas tree.

Costumes

- Majority of costumes are street clothes with a 1940s look.
- Santa Suit – We have wanted to purchase one.
- Elf Suits – We should have plenty of items in stock.
- Bunny Suit – Can ask if anyone has one or create out of pink footy PJs.

Lighting

- Lighting will be instrumental in several scenes. Especially scenes when Ralphie and Old Man are daydreaming.

Names/Positions of Committed Staff (Optional):

- Light Design – Mike Gimmer
- Set Design – Jason Morosko
- Costumes – Have asked a team, waiting for confirmation.
- Props – Have asked a team, waiting for confirmation.

Other Comments:

- This is a 2-Act show. Even though it is not a junior version we intend to use as many kids & teens as possible. There will be some roles for adults as we need parents, townspeople, Santa, the teacher. This may provide an opportunity for parents to do a show with their child. We can use adult voices on ensemble songs.
- We may hold auditions for children and adults separately and have callbacks together.

Budget Estimates:

Costumes	\$800	Royalties	\$2,200
Lights/Tech	\$2,000	Scripts	\$550
Programs	\$200	Set	\$600
Props	\$500	Sound Effects/Video	\$75
Publicity	\$750	TOTAL	\$7,675

Characters/Roles:

JEAN SHEPHERD / NARRATOR: Late 40s to early 60s. A charismatic storyteller who has the ability to weave a spell and draw an audience into his magical world. He is omniscient but not overpowering – a good-natured curmudgeon with a deadpan sense of humor. He holds the audience with his tremendous presence and spark.

THE PARKERS: RALPHIE: 9, going on 10 (may be played by a 9- to 12-year-old). Cute and winsome, but not precious. Bright, but not precocious. A regular kid you would not mind having as a next-door neighbor. He's a bit mischievous and rascally but with a twinkle in his eye.

MOTHER: 30s to 40s. More in charge of the family than the Old Man is, but she would never let him know it. She is warm and affable... at times a bit daffy... but not a pushover. A vibrant woman, she is always busy, especially anytime she's in the kitchen. She is the secret engine

that keeps the family running, keeping the household together with an impressive balancing act.

THE OLD MAN: 30s to 40s. A guy with a good heart, though it is buried beneath a sometimes gruff (and rough) exterior. He's a devoted husband and father who loves his family but doesn't overtly show it. He usually expects the worst but is capable of excitement if the situation warrants (though it usually doesn't). In his moments of fantasy, he is transformed from his usual grumbling blue-collar self to a true song and dance man.

RANDY: 7 to 8 (may be played by a 7- to 10-year-old). Ralphie's younger brother. Cute, cuddly, and whiny. Admires Ralph but won't admit it. He's at the stage of childhood wherein he seems opposed to everything, but he's still lovable – not a brat.

KIDS ROLES & ENSEMBLE

SCHWARTZ: a classmate

FLICK: a classmate

ESTHER JANE: a classmate

MARY BETH: a classmate

SCUT FARKUS: 14 to 15. The textbook example of a schoolyard bully, except this truant doesn't go to school. He is loud, obnoxious, and intimidating. Older than Ralphie and his classmates by a year or two, he wears a perpetual scowl beneath his trademark coonskin cap. He always appears at the most inopportune times to scare and harass his innocent victims.

GROVER DILL: 9 to 12. Always at Farkus' side in his today, Dill. Much younger and decidedly smaller than Farkus, Dill delights in being tethered to his "hero." He punctuates the bully's threats and warnings with a series of rapid-fire belly-laughs, thus making the two of them scourge the neighborhood whenever they appear. But, like most of thereof ilk, when the two are finally challenged and bested, they turn out to be the biggest cowards of all.

Boys & Girls (classmates, townspeople, kids in line for Santa)

Nancy

Goggles Kid

Bank Tellers (Boys/Girls)

Customers (Boys/Girls)

Tap Specialty Boy (could be played by a girl)

Waiter's Daughter

TEEN ROLES & ENSEMBLE

Elves at Higbee's – Townspeople – Villains - Bank robbers – Customers – Policemen – Firemen – Nurse - Can-Can Girls - Can-Can Girlfriend

ADULT ROLES & ENSEMBLE

ADULTS: MISS SHIELDS: Mid 30s to late 50s. The local elementary school teacher. A seemingly stereotypical 1940s educator – prim and proper. Stern, when necessary, though warm – and even humorous – when the situation merits it. In Ralph's fantasy, she becomes a dynamic, show-stopping, brassy belter and tapper – a force to be reckoned with.

SANTA: Early 30s to early 60s. The Santa Claus at Higbee's Department Store is decidedly unlike the typical "Jolly Old Elf" of legend and lore. Ill-tempered and slightly inebriated, he is unhappy with his job. He dismisses each child as quickly as possible in an attempt to put an end to the day and, perhaps, head for the nearest "watering hole."

Delivery Men – Townspeople – Parents - Escaped Prisoner – Bartender – Customers - Can-Can Girls - Can-Can Girlfriend – Policeman – Fireman – Doctor – Nurse - Waiter