

# Performance Ensembles

Grades 7-12



## ISTAGE PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE FALL 2024-2025 ENSEMBLE

Thank you for your interest in the **IStage Performance Ensemble** at Imagination Stage!

### **The fall musical will be *Tuck Everlasting!***

*What would you do if you had all eternity? Eleven-year-old Winnie Foster yearns for a life of adventure beyond her white picket fence, but not until she becomes unexpectedly entwined with the Tuck Family does she get more than she could have imagined. When Winnie learns of the magic behind the Tuck's unending youth, she must fight to protect their secret from those who would do anything for a chance at eternal life. As her adventure unfolds, Winnie faces an extraordinary choice: return to her life, or continue with the Tucks on their infinite journey. The original Broadway run was nominated for several awards including the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Musical. Tuck Everlasting features gorgeous music and an ensemble that demonstrates the strong storytelling aesthetic of Imagination Stage.*

**OVERVIEW:** The IStage Performance Ensemble (ISPE) gives teen performers in grades 7-12 with intermediate to advanced level performance skills the opportunity to apply their technique toward a performance. ISPE stages a popular musical on Imagination Stage's Lerner Family Theatre stage and is supported with professional costumes, lights, scenery, and props.

**COMMITMENT:** Because of the intensive and ensemble nature of the program, actors must have consistent attendance and participate in the rehearsal process with focus and dedication, missing no more than 3 rehearsals during the program.

- **Rehearsal Schedule:**
  - Wednesdays, beginning September 11 from 6:30-9:00 (no rehearsal on 11/27, 12/25, 1/1; TBD rehearsal on 10/2)
  - Sundays, beginning September 15 from 2:30-7:00 (no rehearsal on 12/1, 12/22, 12/29)
  - 5 additional Friday rehearsals (TBD) from 5:00-9:00
- **Tech Week:**
  - January 6-9, 2024 5:00-9:00 (No absences permitted)
- **Performances:**
  - January 10-12 (7:30, 7:30, 3:00)
- **Tuition:** \$1250

**AUDITIONS:** Ensemble spots are open only to students selected through an audition process. Actors should have intermediate to advanced level acting, singing, and movement skills and be familiar with the actor's role during the rehearsal process. Actors are to prepare **32 bars/45 seconds** of a musical theatre song selection (a piano accompanist will play for you during your audition). The audition will also consist of learning and performing back a short piece of choreography and work on some scenes from the show.

*(Continued)*

## **CASTING:**

Directors look for:

- Solid vocal pitch, tone, and volume.
- Previous acting coursework or summer production experience.
- Ability to execute choreography in the Broadway Jazz style, and demonstration of basic dance lines and coordination.
- Demonstration of clear acting and character choices.
- Demonstration of risk-taking during the audition.
- Ability to interpret direction.
- High level of focus, concentration, and personal discipline.

The casting process is as follows:

- **Round 1.** The auditions on September 3-4 determine the overall ensemble of the ISPE show, but not the actual roles.
- **Round 2.** Specific roles are determined after an additional casting period during the first three rehearsals. Actors interested in this program should be willing to commit to the ensemble irrespective of their eventual casting. Tuition is required prior to the first day of rehearsal and there are no refunds given if an actor is unhappy with their role. Our directors work towards high quality performances, committing the same amount of thought and attention to every role.

Please note: While we endeavor to make this audition as supportive and low-stress as possible for our student actors, risk is very much an inherent part of the process as we are not able to accept every student who auditions. Families should discuss and be prepared for either outcome of this audition. We provide feedback and class recommendations to those not accepted into this program.

**Audition Dates:** Auditions are held in a group setting, in 1.5-hour timeslots. Performers participate during the entire timeslot:

**Tuesday, September 3** (5:00 - 6:30)

**Tuesday, September 3** (6:30 - 8:00)

**Wednesday, September 4** (5:00 - 6:30)

**Wednesday, September 4** (6:30 - 8:00)

Please email or call Nikki Kaplan ([nkaplan@imaginationstage.org](mailto:nkaplan@imaginationstage.org)/301-280-1624) to ask any questions.

**If you are ready to schedule your audition,** please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/vAGyziPVud6ZVRJV6>