

# Tomlinson Drama Club 2014-2015



It's 1962, and spunky plus-size teen Tracy Turnblad has one big dream -- to dance on the popular Corny Collins Show. When she finally gets her shot, she's transformed from social outcast to sudden star. In balancing her new-found power with her desire for justice, Tracy fights to dethrone the reigning Miss Teen Hairspray, Amber von Tussle, and integrate a TV network in the process. With the help of her outsized mom, Edna, and guest DJ Motormouth Maybelle, the rhythm of Tracy's new beat just might prove unstoppable. Hairspray Jr. is an exciting and funny show with fun and infectious music.

This year the Drama Club musical will be directed by Perry Liu. Mr. Liu is a Tomlinson parent and has acted Off-Broadway and has a long resume of theatre experience. He is very excited to be working with Tomlinson students on Hairspray Jr.

The "Jr." means it has been edited by the publishers for content and time to be a roughly 1 hour version of the hit stage musical. Please note that the publishers' edits may have cut lines and/or trimmed parts that may have been larger in the Broadway stage or film versions, including cutting the following songs: "I Can Hear the Bells", "Miss Baltimore Crabs", "The Madison", "The Nicest Kids in Town – Reprise", "Velma's Revenge", "Big, Blonde and Beautiful", "You're Timeless to Me"

There are many roles offered of various sizes, please see the attached cast breakdown.

There are also many important "back stage" opportunities for students to be involved in. Putting on a musical is a large and multifaceted endeavor. What many people don't realize is that some of the most important people are not on stage but behind the scenes. The time commitment is different than the acting rehearsals but all participants must be available for Tech Week. See calendar on next page. Please contact Mr. Liu at [email4perry@yahoo.com](mailto:email4perry@yahoo.com), if you are interested in working on Hairspray Jr. in this capacity.

**In order to make this program a success, there are two MAJOR expectations that we have for ALL students involved.**

- 1) **Commitment:** We expect that you will clear your schedules for assigned rehearsal times. On stage actors will meet most days of the week after school from 3-5pm.
- 2) **Attitude:** We expect that you will be on your best behavior and giving 100% to each rehearsal and each task. There is no room for fooling around and being off task. We also expect that you will work to make the production a success, and will cooperate fully with instructors.

**IMPORTANT information that you will need to know about the commitment:**

- **PERFORMANCE DATES**

*NO EXCUSES ACCEPTED! YOU MUST BE HERE FOR BOTH SHOWS!*

**Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm**

**Saturday, March 14<sup>h</sup>, 7:00pm**

- **TECH WEEK**

**March 9-12<sup>th</sup> 3-7pm** *ALL CAST MEMBERS AND PRODUCTION CREW MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE ALL WEEK! NO EXCUSES ACCEPTED!*

- **FIRST REHEARSAL**

**Monday Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm** *YOU MUST BE AT THIS REHEARSAL.*

- **WEEKLY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

**Monday-Thursday 3-5pm January 5<sup>th</sup> – March 12<sup>th</sup>**

*(No Rehearsal Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> and Feb 16<sup>th</sup>)*

- **“STRIKE” Clean up & Breakdown MANDATORY.**

**Monday March 16<sup>th</sup> 3-6pm**

If you have schedule conflicts during the **WEEKLY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE** calendar, you must list those conflicts on your AUDITION FORM.

For the Weekly Rehearsal Schedule we will try to be somewhat flexible with pre-arranged conflicts that you list on your Audition Form. But if the dates and times of rehearsals pose major conflicts for you or the production, please realize that it may be difficult to participate.

## AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held in the auditorium on **MONDAY, December 1<sup>st</sup>** and **THURSDAY, December 4<sup>th</sup>** from **3-5pm**. Sign ups for auditions will be posted in the Cafeteria. There will be no late auditions. Call Backs (if needed) will be after school on Friday Dec 5<sup>th</sup>. **IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO BE AT THE AUDITION DATES, YOU MUST EMAIL MR. LIU (email4perry@yahoo.com) BY November 24.**

- Everyone needs to audition even if you want to be in the chorus. Everyone will read and sing.
- Everyone will sing “You Can’t Stop The Beat”. Please learn this song. We will go through the song with you a couple of times at the beginning of auditions. You will also be asked to read excerpts from the script that day.
- Casting will be decided by a panel of teachers including Mrs. Hoefer and Mr. Liu.
- The cast will be posted on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Hairspray Jr. - Character Breakdown

TRACY TURNBLAD.....	The hero of our story and she is sweet but also strong in her convictions. She is bigger in size than the other girls, but she isn’t shy about it – she can still dance with the best of them!
EDNA TURNBLAD.....	Tracy’s loving mother who doesn’t spend much time outside the house. She works days and nights as a laundress in her home, and her lack of social interaction has made her a bundle of nerves.
LINK LARKIN.....	Baltimore’s biggest heartthrob, and Tracy’s dream guy. Link is considered the best performer in town. Think of any teenage idol who is able to reduce girls to tears – there’s your guy!
PENNY PINGLETON.....	Tracy’s fun and sheltered sidekick. She is a young lady caught between her mother’s very strict rules and her own wants and desires to be just another teenage girl.
SEAWEED J. STUBBS.....	The object of Penny’s affections, and together, they are determined to defy the segregation laws of the 1960s.
AMBER VONTUSSLE.....	A prom queen nightmare! She is definitely “The Corny Collins Show” favorite, but she is competitive and has a bad attitude.
VELMA VON TUSSLE.....	A carbon copy of Amber – just twenty years older and meaner! She is most concerned with making sure her daughter wins Miss Teenage Baltimore.
CORNY COLLINS.....	The host of “The Corny Collins Show,” and a Baltimore celebrity. Foremost, Corny is a charmer.
THE NICEST KIDS..... IN TOWN	The famed teenage performers on "The Corney Collins Show." BRAD, TAMMY, FENDER, SKETCH, SHELLEY, IQ, BRENDA and LOU ANN
THE DYNAMITES .....	A dynamic musical trio, iconic of the Motown era and the 1960s. Think the Supremes. JUDINE, KAMILAH & SHAYNA.
WILBUR TURNBLAD.....	Edna’s loving husband and Tracy’s supportive father who just wants the best for his girls.
PRUDY PINGLETON.....	Penny’s eccentric but loving mother, who wants the best for her daughter but is extreme in her means.
LITTLE INEZ STUBBS.....	Seaweed’s little sister.
MOTORMOUTH MAYBELLE	Mother to Seaweed Stubbs and Little Inez, Maybelle is the face of the Civil Rights Movement and sings the beautiful anthem, “I Know Where I’ve Been.”
MR. PINKY.....	Owner of a ladies’ clothing shop and is a salesperson inside and out – he is always the first to give a compliment.
OTHER CAMEOS.....	Males & Females. A sadistic gym teacher, prison matron, wound-up school principal, cameraman, prison guard, etc.

