



Diane Cappiello <dcappiello@twpunionschools.org>

Fwd: C.A.S.T-Requesting Use of School

1 message

Gerald Benaquista <gbenaquista@twpunionschools.org>
To: Diane Cappiello <dcappiello@twpunionschools.org>

Wed, Mar 20, 2024 at 8:49 AM

Diane,

Can we put this on as a discussion item for April. Thank you.

Best Regards,

Dr. Gerry Benaquista
Superintendent
Township of Union Public Schools
gbenaquista@twpunionschools.org
(908) 851-6407

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kimberly Viola <kimberlyviola53@gmail.com>
Date: March 19, 2024 at 10:42:10 AM EDT
To: gbenaquista@twpunionschools.org
Subject: C.A.S.T-Requesting Use of School

Mr. Benaquista,

Good morning~

I am writing this email on behalf of C.A.S.T~ Community Actors' Student Theatre, a non-profit group of students/community members throughout Union County, with quite a few UHSPAC/BMSPAC Alumni involved as well.

Every Summer C.A.S.T puts on a wonderful Broadway inspired production with students aged 10-18 (although we welcome anyone looking to perform over the Summer a chance to audition).

Our dilemma this year is that the school we've used for the past 15 years (David Brearley) is undergoing construction in their auditorium & we are unable to use it.

We are fully insured with Security on staff with our own "Set" / "Lighting" / "Production Crew, but we are just looking for an auditorium to use. I, personally am a UHS Grad(1989), as is my daughter (2022) & have been very involved with UHSPAC, Marching Farmers, 5th Quarter Club, BMSPAC while serving as PTA President (BMS) for 2 years & I personally know the Township Of Union Schools are fantastic when it comes to Performing Arts, which is why when meeting with our other Board Members, Township of Union was a perfect fit .

We will be holding auditions via Zoom, & also at Cherney Dance Studio, located in Union for over 50 years, with owner & instructors part of our 2024 Board Members & have been for many years.

We are looking to rehearse during the month of July, which would usually start by 6pm & runs no later than 9pm. Our actual show would be scheduled for August 1, 2 & 3. We are committed to adhering to all facility usage policies & will ensure the venue is maintained in its original condition. I am open to discuss any terms &/or conditions that would be put in place , necessary details , insurance/paperwork requirements etc.

Thank you for considering this request. We are hopeful for the opportunity to be able to put on this show, which for some of these students is the highlight of their Summer. It's considered their safe space, & lets them connect with others who have the same interests & makes them feel a part of something special for a few weeks every Summer.

Please let me know if you require any further information or would like to arrange a meeting to discuss further before making a decision. I've been in touch with a few Board of Ed members as well, hoping this is

something that would be considered.

*Sincerely,
Kimberly Viola
C.A.S.T. Board Member 2024
Union NJ 07083
(908) 265-0967*