

Fort Wayne

youtheatre



AUDITION PACKET

CORDUROY



Adapted for the stage by
BARRY KORNHAUSER

Based on the books 'Corduroy' and 'A Pocket for Corduroy' by Don Freeman

Directed by LESLIE BEAUCHAMP

Auditions: Sunday, March 1, 2026 (1-4PM)

Call-Back: Monday, March 2, 2026 (4:30-6:30PM)

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Open Audition Spots by Reservation Only.

Sign up at FWYT.org/auditions



AUDITION NOTICE: DATES & TIMES



OPEN AUDITIONS: Sunday, March 1, 2026

- EVERYONE must SIGN UP online for a one hour (1-2PM, 2-3PM, 3-4PM) audition spot at fwyt.org/auditions.
- Fill out & bring an audition form and ACCURATELY COMPLETED conflict sheet. Paper copies will be available at auditions if you need to fill it out there.
- Arrive at least 5-10 minutes prior to your audition time (more if you need to fill out the audition form there).
- Location: RKF Studios, 2434 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805. Enter the Main Doors at front of building and follow signs.

Everyone should be prepared to...

- Read from the Audition Sides provided here as assigned by the Directors at the audition.
- Participate in some physical theatre games and/or perform randomly assigned pantomimes. A great deal of the show is PHYSICAL. Corduroy, the Night Watchmen, and the Clowns, in particular, must be able to demonstrate that they can display thoughts and emotions through BROAD facial and physical gestures and actions.

CALL-BACK: Tuesday, March 2, 2026

- 4:30- 6:30PM
- Location: RKF Studios, 2434 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805
- Actors needed at Call-Backs will be notified via call or text on Sunday after auditions.
- Call-Backs will primarily use the same Audition Sides found in this packet.

CAST LIST AVAILABLE: Friday, March 6 or Monday, March 9 on Youtheatre's FB & Instagram.

REHEARSALS: Mondays- Fridays, March 16- April 23 (4:30- 6:30/7:00PM)

Note: No rehearsal March 30-April 3 for Spring Break.

TECH WEEK: Monday, April 20- Thursday, April 23 (4:30- 7:30PM)

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT REHEARSALS:

Not all actors will rehearse every day. A specific schedule based on actor conflicts will be made after casting.

PERFORMANCES:

Public Performances: April 25 (1PM/3PM), April 26 (1PM / 3PM) at the Downtown ACPL

School Performances: April 24 (9AM Call / 10-11AM Show / 12-1PM Show) at the Downtown ACPL

ABOUT THE SHOW:

Youtheatre and the Allen County Public Library team up again for more *Stories from the Stacks: Theatre for Young Readers*. Aimed at Pre-K through 3rd Graders (*but with plenty to enjoy for all ages*), this year's selection is the beloved kids' book CORDUROY.

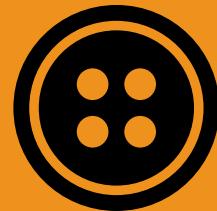
Everyone's favorite teddy bear is stepping out of the department store and into the spotlight! When a teddy bear with a missing button dreams of finding a home, he sets off on an unforgettable nighttime journey of curiosity, courage, and a little bit of mischief though an empty department store. Based on the beloved children's books "Corduroy" and "A Pocket for Corduroy," the play celebrates friendship, belonging, and the magic of being loved just the way you are. Perfect for families and young theatre-goers, **CORDUROY** features playful storytelling, imaginative staging, and plenty of cozy moments that will delight children and adults alike.



**Allen County
Public Library**



AUDITION NOTICE: SCENES & CHARACTERS



Fort Wayne Youtheatre seeks 8-16 actors ages 8-18 for this fun-filled Fort Wayne premiere.

We encourage performers of all races and ethnicities, genders and abilities to audition.

Reading skills required. Strong pantomime, physical comedy, and movement skills are important to this show.

CHARACTERS...

- **Corduroy:** Age 8-18. Male or Female. A lovable little Teddy Bear in a department store. Corduroy is hopeful, a little sad..but also adventurous. He just wants to find his missing button, which he thinks will finally make him worthy of a loving home and friend. Requires a performer who can be VERY physical and take us on Corduroy's journey without words.
- **Lisa:** Age 8-12. Female. She is caring and accepting- loving Corduroy even with his imperfections- and industrious- saving her own money to buy him.
- **Lisa's Mother:** Age 12-18. Female. She is practical, but very loving. At first she won't let Lisa have Corduroy, but supports her choice in the end and even gets Corduroy his long-lost button.
- **2 Night Watchmen:** Ages 11-18. Male or Female. A team of funny security guards who take watching the store at night very seriously while Corduroy is on his late night wacky adventure. Needs strong physical comedians.
- **4 Clowns:** Ages 11-18. Male or Female. These four actors serve a variety of roles throughout the show. Sometimes they are the narrators of our story. Sometimes they transition us from scene to scene. Sometimes they are mannequins or shoppers in the Department Store. Needs strong physical comedians.



AUDITION NOTICE: AUDITION TIPS



Remember...

Don't think of an audition as a competition. Think of it as a chance to do something you love to do- perform! For however long you're up there, that role is yours. Make the most of it. Be creative. HAVE FUN!

The Directors are all rooting for you to succeed!

General Audition Tips...

- **BE PREPARED.**

Directors are impressed by actors who care.
Know the show. Read the script. Listen to the music.

- **BE ON TIME.**

- **ALWAYS PAY ATTENTION.**

Listen quietly to others. It is polite...PLUS you learn from what they do.

- **REMEMBER, YOU ARE AUDITIONING ON-STAGE & OFF.**

The directors are always watching.

- **DON'T APOLOGIZE OR MAKE EXCUSES.**

Director's can tell when you're sick. Just do the best you can.

- **GIVE IT 150%.**

Do your absolute best, then...

- **LET IT GO.**

Whatever happens happens. IT'S ONLY A PLAY!!!

Reading Audition Tips...

- **BE SEEN!**

Don't hide behind your script.
Hold it about chest level so we can see your face.

- **BE HEARD!!**

Project your voice so directors can hear & understand you.

- **BE CONFIDENT (even if it's fake)**

Plant your feet. Use your face, your hands, your whole body to communicate.

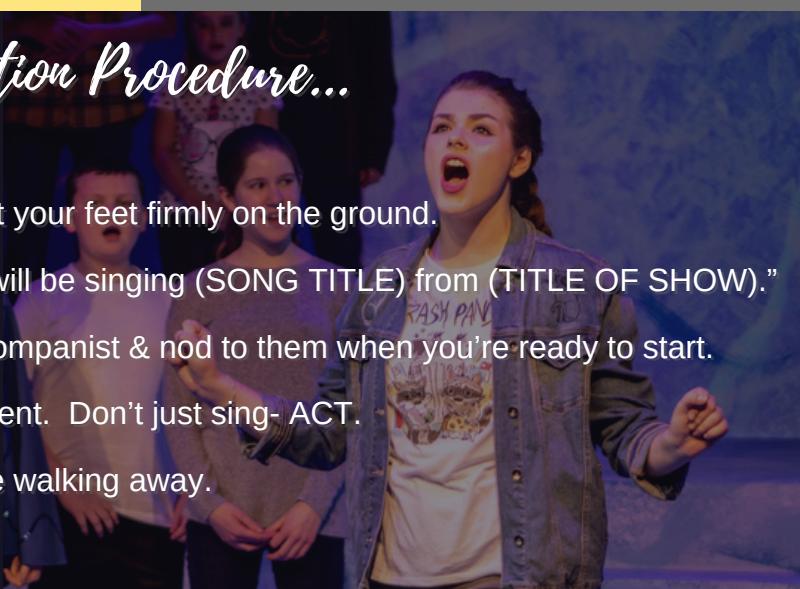
- **LISTEN TO YOUR FELLOW ACTORS!!!**

Pay attention & react to what they do.

- **DON'T JUST READ, ACT!!!!**

Directors know you can read.
Show them you can ACT!

Youtheatre Musical Vocal Audition Procedure...



- Enter
- Go to your spot in front of the Directors & plant your feet firmly on the ground.
- Say "Hello, my name is (YOUR NAME) and I will be singing (SONG TITLE) from (TITLE OF SHOW)."
- Make eye contact with the Music Director/Accompanist & nod to them when you're ready to start.
- Sing your song. Be loud. Be clear. Be confident. Don't just sing- ACT.
- When finished singing, say "Thank you" before walking away.
- Exit.



AUDITION NOTICE: AUDITION SIDES

SIDE #1

MOTHER & LISA

LISA

Oh, Mommy! Look! There's the very bear I've always wanted! (As her MOTHER begins picking up, LISA runs over to the shelf, picks up the bear in the green overalls, looks straight into his bright eyes, and speaks to him.) Don't be sad, little bear. You just need a **friend**, that's all. I understand. Well, guess what?

(She whispers something in his ear as her MOTHER speaks her next lines.)

MOTHER

(apologetically to the NIGHT WATCHMAN
who is helping gather up her purchases)

Oh, Lord; I knew it was a mistake to cross through the Toy Department on our way out.

(Calling) Lisa!

LISA

(quickly finishing her whispering in the bear's ear, but then out loud to the bear
as her MOTHER crosses to her, referring to her whispered message)

And that's a promise! (Then to her MOTHER) Do you see this sweet little bear? Oh, wouldn't he make the very best **friend**? Can we please bring him home?

MOTHER

Not today, dear. I've spent too much already. Besides, that bear doesn't even look new.
He's lost the button to one of his shoulder straps.

LISA

A button. But Mommy –

MOTHER

But nothing. (The NIGHT WATCHMAN "ahems" to get MOTHER's attention and taps his watch.) Anyway, you heard the announcement; the department store is about to close. See, the Night Watchman's already on duty. (The NIGHT WATCHMAN smiles in acknowledgment, but LISA doesn't budge, just hugs the bear tightly.) Child, what is up with you today? Have you suddenly forgotten your grandmother's Golden Rule of Shopping?

LISA

No. (Then very softly) "Until one buys..."

MOTHER

Lisa. Share it. Let the nice Night Watchman hear.

LISA

(with little enthusiasm)

"Until one buys, no hands, just eyes."

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MOTHER

That's right. So please unhand the bear and put it back on the counter top where it belongs.
(LISA doesn't budge; she just stands there transfixed, continuing to hold the bear close. After a moment, and perhaps a look exchanged between MOTHER and the NIGHT WATCHMAN) Lisa, now! *(LISA hastily, hesitantly, puts the toy back on the counter, but not exactly where she found it, taking a quick peek at the price tag that rests nearby, winces, then stares longingly at the bear.) Lisa!*

LISA

(as they cross)

Please, please, please, please can I get him, Mommy? Please -

MOTHER

Oh, but that bear seems so *old*. From all appearances, he's been sitting on that shelf for a very long time.

LISA

And that must be why he's sad. He's just waiting for **somebody to come along and take him home.** What he needs is a *friend*.

MOTHER

What he needs is some mending. ...But speaking of friends, Lisa, have you made any at your new school yet?

LISA

Yes. *(Her MOTHER gives her a dubious look and holds out her crooked pinky again, catching LISA once more in a fib.)* ...Kind of.

MOTHER

I know that's hard for you, baby, but -

LISA

But Corduroy would make a fine friend.

MOTHER

Corduroy?

LISA

That's what I've named the bear. For his green overalls.

MOTHER

(exiting with the rest of the bagged purchases)

His *damaged* green overalls.

LISA

(following, exasperated)

It's just a lost button!

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AUDITION NOTICE: AUDITION SIDES

SIDE #2

NIGHT WATCHMAN

NIGHT WATCHMAN

(calling out)

Poo-poo to you, you pernicious pillaging prowler; I say poo-poo to you!!! In-doo-doo-bitably!

(Then, in raising his fist defiantly into the air, he accidentally knocks the toilet seat up, hitting him smack in the face, and knocking him to the ground where he lies dazed and flat on his back, the toilet seat lid still covering his kisser.)

(The VACUUM bigger than before re-enters from SL1 carrying the toy bear on it. It runs smack into the prostrate NIGHT WATCHMAN stirring him instantly back to consciousness.)

NIGHT WATCHMAN

The vacuum?! *(Then noticing) THE BEAR!!?? (He gets up and grabs the toy Corduroy, as the VACUUM exits R. The NIGHT WATCHMAN watches its exit with dismay.)* That thing's filling up! Devouring department (- an offstage crash is heard. He winces -) after department's marvelous merchandise! And it's all that foul fiend's fault! *(He then takes out his tape recorder and begins addressing it 'though now in a tone somewhat despairing and drained, and accompanied by occasional twitches) Night Watchman's Log – Entry #56...67...78, whatever!: Have tracked transgressor through nearly every corner of the store, yet still somehow he eludes capture. (Then shouting, not recording) Oh, but not for long! I know you're in here, you no-good nuisance! Yes, you may have escaped me yet again– oh, but just barely (waving the toy) just BEARly! (The Back into recorder) But – ha ha - toy bear is back in custody. And soon enough that crafty criminal will be, too. So, he had better say his prayers!*

NOTE:

While actors should familiarize themselves with these sides, if appropriate, auditions will largely consist of physical theatre games, pantomimes and improvs designed to let actors show that they can use BROAD facial and body gestures and actions to demonstrate what the character is feeling and thinking since so much of the story is told through wordless action accompanied by music.