

Getting To Know...  
**Once Upon  
 A Mattress**

## Musical Theatre is coming to Learning Gate!

if you thought you knew the story of "The Princess and the Pea," you may be in for a surprise. Did you know that Princess Winnefred ("Fred") swam the moat to reach Prince Dauntless he Drab? Or that it may not have been a pea that caused all those sleepless nights? This rollicking spin on the familiar classic of royal courtship and comeuppance provides for some side-splitting shenanigans.

*In order to have the correct amount of materials, please sign up by December 21.*

Wednesdays from 3-5pm. Cost: \$65 per month

Everyone is guaranteed a part. We need a minimum of 20 students for this production.

Performances will be May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.  
*Rehearsals begin January 16<sup>th</sup> K-8<sup>th</sup> grades may audition!*



[www.grossomusic.com](http://www.grossomusic.com)  
[info@grossomusic.com](mailto:info@grossomusic.com)

email registration to [info@grossomusic.com](mailto:info@grossomusic.com)

<b>Parent/Guardian Name</b>			
_____			
<b>Child(ren) Name(s)</b>			
_____			
<b>Address</b>			
_____			
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Email:</b>	
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<b>Preferred Method of Contact</b>	Phone	<b>Preferred Method of Payment</b>	Check
	Text		Credit Card
	Email		Cash

# Cast of Characters

## **PRINCIPALS**

3 Women (Princess Winnifred the Woebegone, Queen Aggravain, Lady Larken)

5 Men (Prince Dauntless the Drab, Sir Harry, The Minstrel, The Jester, The Silent King)

## **FEATURED**

1 Woman (Lady Beatrice)

1 Man (The Wizard)

## **ENSEMBLE**

Singers and dancers portraying the Ladies and Knights of the Kingdom.

**Princess Winnifred the Woebegone** - is down-to-earth and without pretensions. Unlike what you might expect from of a princess, Winnifred is just an ordinary, high spirited girl. Having grown up in the swamps, she doesn't conduct herself in the formal way the others in the castle do. It is her natural, ingenuous quality that sets her apart from the other Ladies of the kingdom and makes Dauntless fall in love with her.

**Prince Dauntless the Drab** - as his name implies, is kind of a sad-sack and somewhat listless. Although his overbearing mother controls his life and he is an obedient son, he still has hopes of someday finding a girl to marry of whom his mother will approve. Like Winnifred, he is honest and sincere. She gives him confidence in himself and within the course of the musical, we see him grow in self-assurance until he is finally able to confront his mother.

**Queen Aggravain** - as her name suggests, is extremely vain, believing that her way of doing things is the only way. She is devoted to her son, Dauntless, and has no intention of ever allowing him to leave her or to have another woman in his life. She selfishly dominates everything that happens in the castle, never considering the feelings of others.

**The Silent King** - has been brow-beaten by the Queen and is very passive. He has learned that it is easier just to let the Queen have her own way than to fight her. Because he has not been able to speak for so long, he has learned to communicate through pantomime, or gestures. He loves his son and sympathizes with him but realizes he can do little to help him. Despite his frustrations, he is extremely good natured.

**Lady Larken** - is a sweet girl but, perhaps because she is in love but unable to marry, she tends to be oversensitive. She is extremely frustrated that she can't marry Harry, but also extremely excited at the opportunity to be Lady-in-Waiting to Princess Winnifred. Of all the Ladies, it is Larken who most hopes that Winnifred will pass the test.

**Sir Harry** - is a regular guy and, like Larken, is eager for Dauntless to find a bride so that he and Larken can marry. He is brave and dedicated enough to venture on a "perilous journey" in hopes of finding a genuine princess whom the Queen will find suitable as a bride for Dauntless.

**The Minstrel and The Jester** - are court entertainers and they have a great sense of joy in what they do. They sometimes serve as narrators and are assured in their ability to tell the story with authority. There is also something playful and mischievous about them. Either role may be played by a boy or girl.

**The Wizard** - is the Queen's confidant, her only friend and therefore the only person she can really talk to. However, he, like everyone else in the kingdom, is apprehensive of the Queen and would never have to courage to contradict her.