



Ramona Quimby

Directed by Amy Spadafore

Auditions: Sunday & Monday, November 27th & 28th

Sunday

Youth Ages 8+: 1-2pm

Adults Ages 16+: 2-4pm

Monday

Youth Ages 8+: 6-8pm

Adults Ages 16+: 8-10pm

**Pit & Balcony Community Theatre | 805 N. Hamilton St,
Saginaw, MI 48602**

Pit & Balcony Community Theatre is committed to providing a nurturing environment in which to share diverse experiences and ideas. In employment, volunteer recruitment, and casting we do not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, or military status. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community.

Welcome!

Hello! Thank you for your interest in auditioning for *Ramona Quimby*! This story is near and dear to my heart and I'm so excited to stage it at one of my favorite places in the world, Pit & Balcony Community Theatre!

We have lots of opportunities for actors of all ages! We'll be casting actors ages 8-11 in the Youth Ensemble. These actors will play Scouts, Students, Neighborhood Kids, and more! Most of these roles are dance & movement roles with few lines, but you don't need to be a dancer to be cast! You just need to be brave, have a BIG imagination, and want to have fun.

Ramona, Beezus, Howie, & Susan can be played by anyone 12 and older and there are lots of roles for adults 16+ as well. Detailed character descriptions can be found later in this packet.

Come to auditions prepared to have fun! You'll find audition sides at the end of this packet. There's no need to memorize them, but you should be familiar with them. Dress in comfy clothes and shoes you can move easily in.

Ramona Quimby is known for being brazen and brash. She speaks her mind and knows exactly what she wants, even if what she wants is just to NOT grow up. Ramona is guided by her BIG imagination and even bigger heart. I relate to Ramona now as an adult even more than I did when I first met her as a girl and I am thrilled to share my love for her with you and the *entire* community.

Thank you again for your interest. I look forward to meeting you at auditions!

- Amy Spadafore, Director

Audition Expectations

Please complete the online audition form: <https://forms.gle/Q9bGvXAumVM7dDLH9>

We are auditioning actors ages 8+ of all races, ethnicities, genders, & abilities.

Youth (ages 8-11) – Be prepared to learn & perform some choreographed movement and call-and-response lines.

Youth (ages 12+) – Familiarize yourself with the Ramona, Beezus, & Howie sides at the end of this packet; be prepared to learn & perform some choreographed movement.

Adults (ages 16+) – Familiarize yourself with Beezus, Mrs. & Mr. Quimby, & Hobart sides at the end of this packet; be prepared to learn & perform some choreographed movement.

All – Have fun! Be prepared to get silly, try new things, and use your imagination.

Character Descriptions

RAMONA QUIMBY (girl, plays 8 years old*): An imaginative, lively third-grader who is sometimes wistful or sad. **Though Ramona is 8, the actor cast to play this role must be 12 or older.*

BEEZUS QUIMBY (girl, plays 12 years old): A conscientious older sister who loves, but is often exasperated with, Ramona. The narrator of our story.

MRS. DOROTHY QUIMBY (woman, plays 30-50 years old): Ramona & Beezus' loving mother who is often tired

MR. BOB QUIMBY (man, plays 30-50 years old): A father who is fun when he isn't down hearted. Secretly an artist and illustrator.

AUNT BEA (woman, plays 25-45 years old): Dorothy Quimby's younger sister, a third-grade teacher and fun, caring, "cool aunt" to Ramona and Beezus

HOWIE KEMP (boy, plays 8 years old*): Serious third grade friend and neighbor of Ramona's. **Though Howie is 8, the actor cast to play this role must be 12 or older.*

UNCLE HOBART (man, plays 25-45 years old): Howie's rugged uncle who works in oil fields, is full of fun, and likes to tease.

MRS. KEMP (woman, plays 50-70 years old): Howie's humorless grandmother and Ramona's sitter.

MRS. GRIGGS (woman, plays 30-50 years old): Strict third grade teacher just doing her job (which she loves). Also plays TAMMY & SELMA.

SUSAN (girl, plays 8 years old*): Ramona's attention-seeking classmate. They do not get along. **Though Susan is 8, the actor cast to play this role must be 12 or older.*

ADULT SWING (any gender, any age): This actor will play multiple roles including OLD (WO)MAN, MR(S). FROST, DOCTOR, MINISTER.

YOUTH ENSEMBLE (6-8 kids, any gender, ages 8-11): Largely dance/movement roles with some group or call-and-response lines playing SCOUTS, THIRD GRADERS, NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS, RAMONA'S REFLECTIONS IN A MIRROR, BOY ON TV

Rehearsal Calendar

Most rehearsals will take place between Monday & Friday from 6-9pm with a few exceptions. Conflicts after January 16th may affect your ability to be cast in the show. See below for a detailed calendar.

December, 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 First Read Thru 6-9pm	6 Rehearsal 6-9pm	7 Rehearsal 6-9pm	8 NO REHEARSAL	9 NO REHEARSAL	10
11	12 Rehearsal 6-10pm	13 Rehearsal 6-10pm	14 NO REHEARSAL	15 Rehearsal 6-9pm	16 NO REHEARSAL	17
18	19 Rehearsal 6-10pm	20 Rehearsal 6-9pm	21 Rehearsal 7-10pm	22 Rehearsal 6-9pm	23 NO REHEARSAL	24
25	26 NO REHEARSAL	27 Rehearsal 6-9pm	28 Rehearsal 6-9pm	29 Rehearsal 6-9pm	30 Rehearsal 6-9pm	31
January, 2023						
1 NO REHEARSAL	2 NO REHEARSAL	3 Rehearsal 6-9pm	4 Rehearsal 6-9pm	5 Rehearsal 6-9pm	6 Rehearsal 6-9pm	7
8	9 Rehearsal 6-9pm	10 Rehearsal 6-9pm	11 Rehearsal 6-9pm	12 Rehearsal 6-9pm	13 NO REHEARSAL	14 TECH Rehearsal 10a-8pm
15	16 NO REHEARSAL	17 TECH Rehearsal 6- 10pm	18 TECH Rehearsal 6- 10pm	19 TECH Rehearsal 6- 10pm	20 TBD Rehearsal 6- 9pm	21
22 DRESS Rehearsal 2pm	23 DRESS Rehearsal 6:30pm	24 DRESS Rehearsal 6:30pm	25 DRESS Rehearsal 6:30pm	26 DARK NIGHT	27 OPENING NIGHT 6:30pm	28 SHOWTIME 6:30pm
29 SHOWTIME 2:00PM	30	31	FEB 1	FEB 2 SCHOOL SHOW/BRUSH UP	FEB 3 SHOWTIME 6:30PM	FEB 4 SHOWTIME 6:30PM
FEB 5 SHOWTIME & STRIKE 2:00PM						

In all cases, youth cast under 16 will be released by 9pm until Tech Week when *all* cast members will be needed for the *entirety* of all rehearsals. Space to do homework during rehearsal will be provided if necessary.

PLEASE NOTE: On February 2nd we will be presenting a free daytime performance to local students at 9:30am. You MUST be available for this performance in order to be cast. In the unlikely event that school is cancelled on February 2nd we will have a regular brush up rehearsal in the evening at 6:30pm.

COVID-19 POLICY

Pit & Balcony is committed to the health, safety, and privacy of all of its employees and volunteers. To this end we keep a close eye on all regulations and recommendations set forth by the Federal and State governments as well as local, state, and national health organizations.

At the time of compiling this packet, Pit & Balcony does not *require* masking or vaccination in order to take part in its productions and safety protocols may differ from person to person based on their vaccination status. Vaccination status may or may not impact castability. All volunteers and employees are encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and all booster shots as soon as they are able. All policies and protocols are subject to change without warning based on recommendations set forth by governing bodies and health agencies.

SIDES

BEEZUS

BEEZUS: Hi. My name is Beatrice Quimby and my job is to help you. Usually, at a play like this, or at the movies, we see people really different from us, people who lived a long time ago, or even in the future. At school, you learn a lot more about people really different from you. So I thought it might be pretty neat if we took a good look close to home. So my idea for this play, *Ramona Quimby*, is to take us all to my house. Come on, I'll show you around.

If you watch TV news, it looks like the whole world is full of really crazy, scary stuff. Wars and homeless people and all – but the street we live on, Klickitat Street, is just there, in a nice sort of quiet way. Sprinklers and bikes and garage door openers, and the rows of houses full of couples and their kids. A big bomb could drop on Whashington, D.C., where the president is, and on Klickitat Street everybody would still mow their lawn. Sometimes I wonder what would happen if we didn't mow, but we always do.

HOWIE, RAMONA, BEEZUS

HOWIE: RAMONA!

BEEZUS: It's Howie. Ramona's best friend, and our next door neighbor.

HOWIE: Hey, Ramona. Day one of third grade! We don't wanna be late.

BEEZUS: I got to get to school myself. I'll tell you more later. It may look a little ordinary around here, but once you...

RAMONA: A car hit a telephone pole. You should tell about that.

BEEZUS: Ramona, I'm trying to calmly introduce the neighborhood, so people can learn how we live here.

RAMONA: The telephone pole's in the neighborhood.

BEEZUS: Don't butt in, okay? (BEEZUS exits, RAMONA turns to HOWIE)

RAMONA: I wanna tease the second graders, like we got teased last year

RAMONA & HOWIE: Second grade baby, stick your head in gravy, wash it out with bubble gum and send it to the navy!

RAMONA, BEEZUS

BEEZUS: Ramona! What are you doing? You're making a mess.

RAMONA: My father is a poor woodcutter. In Germany.

BEEZUS: Your father works in ta frozen food warehouse. Two miles away. On Grand Avenue near the shopping mall.

RAMONA: I have to leave this trail of crumbs so he can find me at the house of the wicked witch.

BEEZUS: Witch?

RAMONA: Mrs. Griggs. She hates me, Beezus.

BEEZUS: Griggs hates everyone. She's a sourpuss, but she's really not that bad. Just try to go along with her. What are those crumbs?

RAMONA: Peanut butter sandwich cookies.

BEEZUS: Peanut butter?

RAMONA: mmmm...hmmm...

BEEZUS: Peanut butter doesn't crumb. It's gooey, and you can never get it out of....RAMONA! Don't!

What's that smell? It smells like burning rubber....Oooohhh! My lasagna! The dinner I was making for Aunt Bea.....

MR. QUIMBY, MRS. QUIMBY, RAMONA, BEEZUS

MR. QUIMBY: No gold watch, no two weeks' notice. Just canned.

RAMONA: Daddy, he can't do that to you.

MR. QUIMBY: Yes he can, my little sparkler. And he did. I'm out of a job, Dorothy. And we've got a stack of bills this high.

MRS. QUIMBY: You'll find something else soon. I know you will. And the girls'll help me stretch the savings we've got.

BEEZUS: I guess this means not Whopperburger tonight.

RAMONA: but I wanted to....

MRS. QUIMBY: Sorry, Ramona. This family won't be going to the Whopperburger for a while. We can eat more economically at home.

RAMONA: What's economically?

MR. QUIMBY: Leftovers.

BEEZUS: We learned in my social science class that a recession exists in this part of the country.

MR. QUIMBY: You can tell your calss it came right into your living room and sat down on the couch.

RAMONA: Does this mean you're not gonna go to the North Pole and be Santa's helper ever again?

MR. QUIMBY: I never really liked being Santa's helper anyway. It was cold in there.

RAMONA: We're all going to be homeless and live in a refrigerator box.

MRS. QUIMBY: What?

RAMONA: I saw it on TV.

MRS. QUIMBY: Ramona, don't be silly.

RAMONA: I'm not being silly. I'm being scared.

BEEZUS: We have to keep making house payments, you know. If Daddy isn't working....

MRS. QUIMBY: I don't want you girls to worry. Daddy and I will work this out.

MR. & MRS. QUIMBY, BEEZUS, HOBART

HOBART: It's gonna be the fests wedding in the west. And the most beautiful!

MRS. QUIMBY: Wedding?

MR. QUIMBY: I thought you and Bea were leaving for Alaska tomorrow.

HOBART: We are. But these daughters of yours convinced me. Bea feels she'll be missing something wonderful – and she'll never have the chance again. I'm persuaded. The wedding's on.

MRS. QUIMBY: But the dresses, the flowers, the invitations...

MR. QUIMBY: By tomorrow? Impossible.

HOBART: By *this afternoon*. No problem!

MRS. QUIMBY: Just where is this wedding going to be?

HOBART: Rose City Presbyterian! I called Pastor Jones and he had to cancel a fishing trip, so we're in luck!

MR. QUIMBY: Who's the best man?

HOBART: Howie. I've captured him already. And the two maids of honor are right here.

BEEZUS: Mom, you've still got your wedding dress in a trunk upstairs. That would fit Aunt Bea.

MRS. QUIMBY: Yes, but...

HOBART: Dorothy, your job is to get the bride into that dress by three o'clock. Bob, invite the neighborhood!

MR. QUIMBY: No problem!

HOBART: we've got shopping to do. Where od they sell bride and groom stuff?

BEEZUS: I think there's a wedding shop in the mall. They should...

HOBART: Let's go!