Auditions for ISU Theatre’s
The Velveteen Rabbit
Adapted by Amanda Petefish Schrag and Ben Schrag based on the book by Margery Williams
Director – Amanda Petefish-Schrag
Production Stage Manager – TBA

About the show . . .
Margery William's classic children’s book, The Velveteen Rabbit, chronicles the tale of a toy rabbit who longs to become “real.” In bringing the beloved story to life, this new stage adaptation features original music, puppetry, and a small acting ensemble. Intended for an intimate performance setting and small audience, the production will blend a variety of traditional and innovative storytelling and theatre techniques.

Audition details . . .
- Tuesday, August 29, 2023 – 5:30-8:30PM
- Sign up online at Sign Up Genius here, at Theatre.iastate.edu, or use the QR code. This is to sign up for The Velveteen Rabbit only. Please see separate audition details to sign up for Head Over Heels auditions.
- You will sign up for a 30-minute time slot, but you will be seen individually within that time period.
- Callbacks will be Wednesday, August 30. More details provided at the audition.

To prepare . . .
Prepare and perform one of the play selections included below. Please sign up for a 20-minute audition slot, during which time you will perform your 1–2-minute selection.

In addition to preparing and performing your selection, please have your fall semester schedule (including classes, work, other university activities, travel, etc.) with you at the audition in order to complete your audition form at check-in

Production details . . .
Rehearsals:
- Rehearsals will generally be held on weekdays in the evenings and will last approximately 2-3 hours.
- A first read-through will be held the week of September 18.
- From September 25 to October 20, rehearsals will generally take place twice a week on weekday evenings
- From October 23 to November 16, rehearsals will generally take place 3-4 times a week on weekday evenings (There will not be rehearsal on November 17 or during the Fall Break from November 20-25).
- Final rehearsals will resume on November 26 and be held each evening through the start of performances on November 30.
Performances:
Performances will occur at various locations throughout Ames and the surrounding community from November 30 – December 9 (Note: There will not be performances on each of those days.)

Credit Requirement . . .
All students cast will register for at least one credit of Theatre 301 (up to three credits are available).

Roles . . .
The play will incorporate a cast of 3-5 actors who play both narrator/chorus roles as well as voice and operate a variety of shadow puppet characters.

Questions?
Contact Amanda Petefish-Schrag, apschrag@iastate.edu

Audition Selections (please choose one of the following to perform for your audition):
From Scene 6, “Spring Came”

NARRATOR A
Once, when the boy was called away to tea, the rabbit was left alone on the lawn.

Dusk came. The Rabbit was still by himself. The light grew dim.

But then, what was this? Nana had come to search for him by candlelight, grumbling the whole time! For, as The Rabbit learned, The Boy had declared to her that he could not sleep without his dearest Rabbit and that no other toy would do!

“Fancy all that fuss for a toy,” Nana grumbled.

But the boy heard her and scolded: “You mustn’t say that. He isn’t a toy. He is REAL”.

When the little Rabbit heard those words, he was finally happy, for he knew that what the Skin Horse had said was true at last.

From Scene 8, “Rabbits”

NARRATOR B
On one such evening, when the Rabbit was watching ants among the grass when he saw two strange beings.

They were rabbits like himself, but quite furry and brand new. They must have been very well made for their seams didn’t show at all.

And somehow they changed shape as they moved. One minute they were long and thin and the next fat and bunchy. The Velveteen Rabbit, on the other hand, was always the same. He stared hard to see on which side of them their clockwork stuck out, for he knew that people who jump generally have something to wind them up. But try as he might, he couldn’t see any crank or spring. They were, evidently, a new kind of rabbit altogether.

They noticed him staring and stared back. All the time their noses twitched.

“Why don’t you get up and play with us?” one of them asked.

From Scene 10, “The Seaside”

NARRATOR C
The little Rabbit shivered. He had been used to sleeping in a proper bed. By this time his coat was thin and threadbare and no longer any protection to him.

Nearby he could see the thicket of raspberry canes, growing tall and close like a tropical jungle, in whose shadow he had played with The Boy on bygone mornings. He thought of those long sunlit hours in the garden -how happy they were - and a great sadness came over him.

Oh! Of what use was it to be loved and become real if it all ended like this?

As the Rabbit considered this, all alone in the dark, he became overcome. And a tear, a real tear, trickled down his little shabby velvet nose, and fell to the earth.

But just then, a strange thing happened.