



Whippany Hero Child Payment and Scheduling Information

Pay Structure

Rate: \$25/hour (see *Note)

***Note from Rail Events Productions:** The Hero Child role is paid on an hourly basis. The base hourly rate is \$25/hour. Presuming a fully realized performance schedule (no unexpected cancellations or Acts of God) and if actors work the entirety of their assigned schedule, Whippany Hero Child actors will perform approximately 36 performances for an approximate 92 total hours from the start of rehearsals to the closing day performance. We are providing this information in order to supply as much information as possible, however, please understand that this is not a guarantee of total wages. This role is paid hourly for actual hours worked.

Schedule Structure

Rehearsals:

The rehearsal times on the provided schedule indicate when the *adult* actors will rehearse. Within that time frame, youth actors will also be scheduled but on less days and for less time. On weekdays, rehearsals will usually be later in the day due to potential school conflicts. On weekend rehearsals the kids may be called at any time within the time frame listed. Keep in mind that there may be times when we need youth actors with us during school hours on the weekdays, and we will be looking for flexibility with this.

Tech Rehearsals:

Youth actors will be required to attend tech rehearsals on the train. For safety reasons, no adult or youth actors will be allowed to be in the show without attending tech rehearsal. We will split up the time between Hero Child actors, and they will not be expected to be there for the full day. Your child may be asked to be there during some school hours on some of the tech rehearsal days, and we appreciate the effort it takes to make this happen. Again, it's all about safety!

Performances:

Our stage management team will be creating the performance schedule for your child. They will do their best to work around any conflicts, but please keep in mind that all of the families will want certain days off during the holidays and sometimes it just isn't possible. We are a professional show with audiences who are expecting our best show and our best show will include your youth actor! Being a member of The Polar Express™ Train Ride is a commitment to theater and to our audience. Youth actors will not be allowed to switch schedules themselves, these requests must go through stage management. No youth actor will do more than three shows on one day.

We understand that your youth actor joining the cast would be a commitment for the entire family, and we want to extend our appreciation for this consideration!

Thank you for auditioning for THE POLAR EXPRESS™ *Train Ride!*

The Polar Express Train Ride

Whippany Rehearsal & Performance 2026 Calendar

subject to change

PLEASE NOTE:
There are 12 youth actors who will share the role of the Hero Child with 2 youth actors working per ride (one actor on each side of the train). Hero Child actors will NOT be called for the entirety of rehearsals or all performances.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 – October	19	20	21	22	23 Cast HR 3p – 5p	24 Rehearsal #1 9a – 6p
25 Rehearsal #2 9a – 6p	26 Rehearsal #3 9a – 6p	27 Rehearsal #4 9a – 6p	28 OFF	29 Tech Day #1 10a – 8p	30 Tech Day #2 10a – 8p	31 Dress/Previews 10a – 10p Previews: 5:25p, 7:25p
1 – November- Opening! Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	2 OFF	3 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	4 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	5 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	6 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	7 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p
8 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	9 OFF	10 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	11 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	12 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	13 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	14 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p
15 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	16 OFF	17 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	18 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	19 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	20 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	21 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p
22 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	23 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	24 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	25 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	26 Thanksgiving (Off)	27 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	28 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p

Hero Child performance call time is always 30 min. prior to their first scheduled ride of the day.

Rehearsal Location: Ripley-Grier Studios (520 8th Ave.)

Performance Address: Whippany Railway Museum: 1 Railway Plaza, Whippany, 07981

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	30 OFF	1 - December Rides: 3:25p*, 5:25p*, 7:25p *Sensory Friendly performances	2 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	3 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	4 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	5 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p
6 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	7 OFF	8 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	9 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	10 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	11 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	12 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p
13 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	14 OFF	15 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	16 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	17 Rides: 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	18 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	19 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p
20 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	21 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	22 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	23 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	24 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p	25 Christmas (Off)	26 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p
27 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	28 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	29 Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	30 – Closing! Rides: 11:10a, 1:10p, 3:25p, 5:25p, 7:25p	31	1 - January	2

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