



SUMMER HANDBOOK 2025

Camp Casa: Newsies Jr

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First in Fort Worth Theatre Education

WHAT IS CASA MAÑANA SCHOOL FOR MUSICAL THEATRE?

OUR HISTORY

In 1936, Amon G. Carter began making plans for the large amphitheater known Casa Mañana. In 1958, Casa Mañana Theatre was completed as the famous aluminum-domed theatre known today. Arts programming was expanded in 1962 when Casa Mañana's Theatre School opened to train children in the performing arts. After more than 55 years in operation, Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre is a nationally recognized program. The studio is listed first in regional theatre training programs for young performers by backstage.com. The studios operate year-round with fall and spring sessions, Camp Casa, Camp Casa Jr, and Apprentice Program.

Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre combines over a half century of educational theatre experience with the standards of a professional Equity theatre to give all students an opportunity to grow and learn within one of the most recognized theatres in the Southwest. Casa Mañana was first in theatrical training in the DFW area and remains a premiere program for young artists today.

OUR BELIEFS

Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre is committed to creating an exceptional artistic learning experience for all students. We strive to empower young artists with the skills essential to life both on and off-stage.

OUR GOALS

Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre's vision is to ensure a comprehensive creative education that is accessible and inclusive to everyone. We are committed to removing any barriers or gatekeeping to provide all learners with a dynamic theatrical experience. We are driven to improve students' lives and create meaningful relationships for the future of all North Texas' Arts.

OUR VALUES

Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre believes that everyone has the right to navigate the world safely and confidently. We must all work together to encourage sympathy, create empathy, and find kindness. Our students, patrons, and community deserve better. Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre is committed to the action of doing better.

At Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre, we value:

UNITY

We are committed to encouraging a feeling of togetherness and a sense of belonging.

EQUITY

We are committed to ensuring everyone can share and celebrate themselves comfortably and equally.

DIVERSITY

We are committed to empowering everyone with the tools to express their own unique story.

ACCESSIBILITY

We are committed to making our spaces and services inclusive and welcoming for individuals of all abilities.

Wherever we educate, we also learn. Whenever we speak, we also listen. Whenever we perform, we also connect with the greater community. Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre is comprised of educators, artists, and fellow humans. We value a safe, welcoming, and culturally conscious environment for every child and their family.



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WELCOME TO CAMP CASA

Included in this packet we have provided a checklist of paperwork to return on or prior to the first day as well as a checklist of what to bring. **Please remember, other than a brief orientation on the first day, parents are not invited to stay for any portion of camp including auditions, classes, or rehearsals.**

Session Days/Times:

Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Session: June 23- July 13 (no camp on July 4), performances run July 11-13

Last day of camp, Friday, July 11 – ALL Campers will be released at 3:30pm, to prepare for the 7pm show that evening. The Red Cast will return to the theatre at 6pm for their 7pm performance.

Most campers will be assigned to only ONE of two casts within their camp session.

NEW* You will not be able to choose what cast your student is in, please plan to be available the entire weekend.

Performance Schedule:

CAST NAME:	PERFORMANCES:
THE RED CAST	Performance #1: Friday, July 11 at 7PM Performance #2: Saturday, July 12 at 1PM
The BLUE CAST	Performance #1: Saturday, July 12 at 5PM Performance #2: Sunday, July 13 at 2PM

CAMP SCHEDULE		
When?	What?	Where?
8:30AM-8:55AM (Day 1 ONLY) *	Drop-off/Check-in begins!	Casa Main Lobby
8:50AM-9:00AM (After Day 1) **		
9:00AM-9:30AM (Day 1 ONLY) *	Camper Parent Orientation	The House (inside the theatre)
9:35AM-12:45PM	Rehearsal/Classes	Stage and Studios
12:45PM-1:15PM	Lunch	Casa Main Lobby
1:15PM-1:30PM	Games with Counselors	Casa Main Lobby
1:30PM-4:45PM	Rehearsal/Classes	Theatre and Studios
4:45PM-5:00PM	Star Camper Awards	The House (inside the theatre)
5:00PM-5:15PM**	Pick-up	Casa Main Lobby/Carpool Line

Please plan to escort your child into the building for check-in on the first day of camp. Do NOT drop them off.

****Late pick-up fees will be assessed for students who are not picked up by 5:15 PM. For those not enrolled in Play Early, doors will remain locked until 8:50 AM. PLEASE ONLY DROP OFF AND PICK UP YOUR CAMPERS AT THE TIMES GIVEN.** Families who repeatedly disregard Pick Up/Drop Off procedures are in violation of our studio expectations. In such circumstances, Casa Mañana reserves the right to remove such families from the program, and no refund will be issued.

Dress-Up Days

Campers are encouraged to join us for the following dress-up days over the camp sessions.

- **Friday, June 27 – CRAZY SOCK DAY!**
- **Thursday, July 3 – SHOW SHIRT DAY!** (Wear a show shirt or come as your favorite musical character)
- **Friday, July 11 – DISNEY DAY!** (Wear a Disney shirt or come as your favorite Disney character)



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Play Early Information

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO PLAY EARLY THE FIRST DAY OR LAST DAY OF CAMP.

Overview of Play Early:

- Fees are \$105.00 to Play Early for 3 weeks of camp.
- To register, call the Education Office at 817-321-5040.
- Campers are supervised and may play games, work on memorizing the show, read, or build relationships with friends. There is no set schedule or curriculum for Play Early.
- Play Early will be in the Main Lobby of the theatre.
- Limit of 15 campers.
- **All Play Early purchases are final.**

Important information for Play Early:

- **THERE IS NO PLAY EARLY THE FIRST OR LAST DAY OF CAMP.**
- **Play Early is held in the Main Lobby.**
- Play Early begins on Tuesday, June 24 and runs Thursday, July 10.
- Play Early is NOT available on the first Monday of camp (June 23) as we will have our parent/camper orientation that morning. Please escort children inside to check-in on that first day. Starting Tuesday June 24, you may drop off students at the studios. Play Early is **NOT** available on the last Friday (July 11) of camp as we will be preparing for the performance that evening.
- Play Early will open the main lobby doors at **8:00 AM. DO NOT DROP YOUR CAMPER OFF BEFORE 8:00 AM.** They will be unsupervised and will not be able to enter the building. Please be aware repeatedly unsupervised campers do not meet studio expectations and run the risk of being asked to leave the program with no refund given.
- Students may arrive later than 8:00 AM (but before camp begins at 9:00 AM) and are not required to Play Early every day. *This service is provided for your convenience, and you may choose when to use it.* However, you will still be charged the full fee even if you do not use the service each day.
- **Play Early is not available during the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the performance weekend.**



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CASA MAÑANA SAFETY PROCEDURES

We take the safety of staff, students, and families very seriously at Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre. All of us have the right to feel confident and secure under the dome. With that in mind, we request that everyone honors the policies set forth by our theatre and education department. Our goal is to keep everyone as safe as possible.

CASA MAÑANA SCHOOL FOR MUSICAL THEATRE SAFETY POLICY

- All CM Studio instructors and staff have been subject to a background check and training.
- **CM Studio doors will be locked during camp and class time.** The studio door will only be unlocked during pick up and drop off.
- Campers will only be released to authorized adults, designated at registration.
- No unauthorized persons will be in the studios at any time.

How You Can Help:

- Please adhere to all policies and make sure we have correct information for your camper and family.
- Please alert us to any changes to your camper requirements as soon as able.

Let's work together to make sure we all are safe!



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CASA MAÑANA SCHOOL FOR MUSICAL THEATRE

EXPECTATIONS

At Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre, students can expect:

- To be respected and give respect to others.
- To be a good team player.
- To be safe.
- To take ownership of their own educational process.
- To be actively engaged in all areas of the theatre.

At Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre, our education team can expect:

- To be respected and give respect to others.
- To be safe.
- To be given full focus and engagement by their students while in class.
- To be fully supported by Casa Mañana and studio families.

Camp Expectations

- There will be **no cell phones or any other electronic distractions** while at camp. Leave them at home or turned off in your bag. Phones are **NOT** allowed at lunch or anytime during camp. They will be taken up if we see the cell phone and given back at the end of the day.
- There will be no inappropriate language, hate speech, or gestures while at camp.
- There will be no eating or **CHEWING GUM** during camp.
- **NO NUTS OF ANY KIND ALLOWED!**
- Only waters bottles or **cups with a lid** are permitted in the studio or the theatre. Please bring your own water bottle, we do not have any extra cups for water.
- All personal items are personal responsibility and should be stored safely during class time. Casa Mañana is not responsible for any lost or misplaced items. **Camp Casa reserves the right to confiscate any items which cause disruptions.**

Camp Dress Expectations

- Closed-toe shoes are required. **NO SANDALS or SLIP-ON SHOES.**
- Students need to have clothes that are comfortable to move in, while not prohibitive for stretching.
- Hair to be pulled back away from face.
- No jewelry.

Behavior Expectations

The well-being of our staff, students, and families is the heart of Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre. All of us have the right to feel secure in a learning environment. It is expected that those in the studio will engage with others in a safe and respectful manner. With that in mind, Casa Mañana reserves the right to remove students who violate studio expectations from class or camp at any time. In extreme cases, parents will be contacted immediately to retrieve their child. If the behavior continues, the student will not be permitted to return to the studios and no refund will be issued.

Snacks/Food Allergies:

Campers will provide their own lunches and snack items for 2 snack periods.

Do NOT bring any NUTS OF ANY KIND! Please, alert us to any food allergies your camper may have.

Campers Check List

- All campers must bring **CLEARLY LABELED** lunches and snack items for 2 snack periods.
 - Lunches must be ready to eat, we do not have a microwave, and you may not bring your student an outside lunch.
- A reusable water bottle.
- A pencil (more than one preferred!)
- **Please make sure that all your items are clearly LABELED with your camper's NAME.**

Performance Information for Camp Casa 2024

All tickets for Camp Casa: *Newsies Jr.* will go on sale by:

Wednesday, July 2

PARENTS WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL WHEN TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE.

Ticket Information

- Tickets are \$15.00 per individual. Tickets are Assigned and will be available to purchase before every show. Everyone **must** have a ticket, except infants under 12 months.
- Tickets for the performances of *Newsies Jr.* are **NOT** included with your registration.
- Ticket inquiries are handled by the Box Office. The Education Department does not oversee ticket sales. Please contact the Box Office for all ticket information.
- **Tickets can be purchased from the Box Office via (817) 332-2272 or at boxoffice@casamanana.org.**
- Box Office Hours are Tuesday – Friday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, as well as half hour prior to each performance.
- Most campers will be assigned to ONE of two casts within their camp session:

The *RED* Cast will perform:

Friday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 12 at 1:00 pm

The *BLUE* Cast will perform:

Saturday, July 12 at 5:00 pm

Sunday, July 13 at 2:00 pm

Your camper must be available for all performances, we will send out Cast Lists by the first Friday of camp.



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CAMP CASA AUDITIONS

(Trust us, you are going to SHINE!)

During the first days of camp, all young performers will audition for a role in the production of *Newsies Jr.* This is a low-stake process to determine student expectations, abilities, and ensemble building. **AUDITIONING IS A VITAL PART OF THE PERFORMANCE PROCESS!** That said, we understand stage fright can strike no matter the level of experience. Please know Camp Casa strives to make this a fun experience, even for those campers who have never done it before! *And don't forget!* Everyone who is enrolled in the camp will perform in the show. So, relax and have fun — you've already been cast!

The Process

- The audition will be broken up into three parts: Acting, Singing and Dance.
- For the acting audition, campers will either read scenes from the show or play fun improv games!
- For their singing audition, campers will be provided a song one week before camp to learn PRIOR to the first day of camp. They do not have to sing by themselves. Though if your camper wants to be considered for a solo, it is helpful for the production team to hear their voice.
- For their dance audition, campers will be provided a dance video one week before camp to learn PRIOR to the first day of camp. The choreographer will also go over the dance before the audition begins.
- There is no need to wear typical dance clothing for auditions. Wear something comfortable you can move in. Closed-toe shoes are imperative. **NO SANDALS, SLIP ON SHOES OR FLIP FLOPS.**

Helpful Audition Tips

- Familiarize yourself ahead of time with the show- even though there's a role for everyone at Camp Casa! That said, casting a show is about building an ensemble. The size or name of a part isn't what's important, it's the team involved. A show works best when everyone works together.
- Wear something that flatters you and that you can move well in. Please do not dress in a costume or "Picture Day Best" as these items may not be the best option for the movement/dance portion of the audition.
- State your name loudly and clearly before you begin your audition. (This is called a "slate", or "slating" your name.)
- Be your best advocate! Let the production team know if something makes you uncomfortable, or there are elements you are unsure about. Auditionees can say "no" at any time. We still may ask to you move or speak- just at the level you are comfortable with.

Callbacks

- Some campers may be asked to read scenes or sing additional songs from the show as part of a "call back" process. This will all occur during the camp day.
- Please note whether a camper is called back for a role, everyone will be an important part of the show!

Casting

- The show should be cast by the second day of camp. A cast list will be emailed by the first Friday of camp.
- Each camper will receive a copy of the script that is theirs to keep. Additional scripts are \$10. **Please remind your camper to bring their scripts with them to camp EVERY DAY!**

My camper didn't get the part they wanted, now what?

Hey, it happens. View it as a learning experience, and remember what you get out is what you put in. How much fun your camper will have during a performance isn't determined by their role but by their attitude. And there's always another show!

Please do **not** email the education staff or the directing team about casting. Please respect the decision of the directing team and the students who have been cast.

PICK UP/DROP OFF: ROUTE & PROCEDURES

For the safety of our campers, please adhere to these pick-up and drop-off procedures.

DROP OFF

- Enter from W Lancaster Ave. Campers may be dropped-off in front of the Dome (please see map below). Please either park and walk them in the main entrance or enter the front circle drive from the left side of the parking lot (the side closest to University).
- Please EXIT onto University. Exiting cars should form **TWO (2) Lanes of traffic** to turn LEFT or RIGHT onto University Dr.



PICK UP

- Due to the volume of cars picking up at one time, we ask for your patience and that you please use caution. The pickup line is usually completed in 10-15 minutes.
- Enter from W Lancaster Ave. Turn immediately towards the left side of the parking lot and make **THREE LINES** behind the traffic cones. You will merge in TWO LINES as you get closer to the front of the theatre.
- You will receive dashboard name tags when you check in on Day 1. You can make extra copies if needed.
- Please exit onto University Drive. Exiting cars should form 2 lanes of traffic to turn LEFT or RIGHT onto University Dr.
- If you would prefer not to use our carpool line, we ask that you please park in the main parking lot to accompany your camper(s) to and from the dome, rather than leave your vehicle unattended in the driveway. This prevents us from blocking traffic and slowing down our carpool line.
- Please note:
 - Parking is **NOT** permitted anywhere except the main parking lot. Do **NOT** park in any named spots.
 - Other than the first day orientation and the performances, only campers and staff are permitted inside the building.
 - Please do not block traffic by waiting in fire lanes.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep our campers SAFE!



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CAMP CASA CAMPER INFORMATION

Name: _____

Gender: _____

Age: _____

Date of birth (MM/DD/YY): _____

Grade: _____

T-Shirt Size (circle one): Youth Small Youth Medium Youth Large

Adult Small Adult Medium Adult Large

.....

Primary Parent/Guardian Information

Name(s): _____

Daytime Phone (s): _____

Alternate Phone: _____

E-Mail(s): _____

Anything else we should know about your camper?



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--Please STAPLE a headshot or school picture to the BACK of this page --

CAMP CASA COSTUME MEASUREMENTS

Camper Name: _____ Gender: _____

Age: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Shoe Size: _____ & Width: _____ Pant Size: _____ Shirt/blouse Size: _____

Head Circumference: _____

Neck: _____

Chest: _____

Waist: _____

Hips: _____

Waist to floor: _____

Neck to waist: Front: _____ Back: _____

Shoulder to wrist: _____



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CAMP CASA 2025

Code of Conduct Agreement

IF YOU DID NOT REGISTER ONLINE, PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE EDUCATION OFFICE ON/BEFORE
THE FIRST DAY OF CAMP.

This is the Code of Behavior for campers to follow during camp. Self-discipline is a necessary part of the Camp Casa experience. An inability to work within these simple guidelines may result in a conference with the Education Department, possible parent conference, and, in extreme circumstances, dismissal from camp. We are here to have fun and to learn. We take the process to put on a production very seriously and expect the same from our campers. This contract must be signed and dated by both the camper and a parent or guardian and turned in by the first day of camp.

1. **Camper will attend all required rehearsals.** Failure to attend rehearsals for any reasons other than illness, family emergency or pre-camp arrangement PRIOR to the first day of camp with the Education Department may prevent participation in the final production. This is at the discretion of the Education Department and Directing team.
2. Camper will treat the camp staff, fellow campers, and themselves with respect and dignity always.
3. Camper will not use any cell phones, iPods, electronic games, or any other electronic distractions during rehearsal time. Campers will have access to a phone in special circumstances and emergencies.
4. Camper will participate in a positive manner during all camp activities.
5. Camper will not leave the camp premises during camp hours, unless cleared with the Education Department.
6. Camper will be responsible for checking in and out with counselors daily.
7. Camper will refrain from using inappropriate language and gestures during camp.
8. Camper will not eat or chew gum during classes or rehearsals.
9. Camper will be responsible for all personal items that they bring with them to camp each day.
10. **BONUS RULE!** Campers will benefit from the experience of qualified and professional directors and instructors, will make new friends, and have a great time!

Camper Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

YOU DO **NOT** NEED TO PRINT THIS FORM IF YOU REGISTERED ONLINE.

CAMP CASA 2025

Liability Release and Medical Form

IF YOU DID NOT REGISTER ONLINE, PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE EDUCATION OFFICE ON/BEFORE
THE FIRST DAY OF CAMP.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Insurance Information:

Carrier _____ Insured _____

Insured's Place of Employment _____

Group Name/Number _____ ID# _____

Insurance Company Phone # _____

Doctor Information:

Name _____ Phone _____

Hospital Affiliation (if known) _____

Emergency Contact:

Name _____ Phone _____

Relationship _____

Allergies and/or medications: _____

Release for Medical Treatment (as previously agreed to when you registered online):

In the event that my child, _____, should become ill or injured at Casa Mañana I hereby give a representative of Casa Mañana permission to pursue and obtain medical treatment for my child. I also hereby release Casa Mañana, Inc. and the staff of Casa Mañana from any liability pertaining to above illness or injury related to camp.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

YOU DO **NOT** NEED TO PRINT THIS FORM IF YOU REGISTERED ONLINE.

CAMP CASA 2025

Authorization to use Written Materials/Photographs/Video

IF YOU DID NOT REGISTER ONLINE, PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE EDUCATION OFFICE ON/BEFORE
THE FIRST DAY OF CAMP.

I hereby authorize Casa Mañana to use, reproduce, and/or publish all written and/or visual materials, including photographs and video that may pertain to me. I understand that this material may be used in various publications, public affairs releases, recruitment materials, or for other related endeavors. This material may also appear on Casa Mañana's Internet Web Page and social media platforms. This authorization is continuous and may only be withdrawn by my specific rescission of this authorization. Consequently, Casa Mañana may publish materials, use my name, photograph, video and/or make reference to me in any manner that Casa Mañana deems appropriate in order to promote/publicize any endeavors deemed appropriate.

Parent Signature_____

Date_____

YOU DO **NOT** NEED TO PRINT THIS FORM IF YOU REGISTERED ONLINE.

CAMP CASA 2025

Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability

IF YOU DID NOT REGISTER ONLINE, PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE EDUCATION OFFICE ON/BEFORE
THE FIRST DAY OF CAMP.

Casa Mañana Inc. ("Casa") has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases during Camp Casa; however, Casa **cannot guarantee** that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19, flu, RSV, or other infectious diseases. By signing this Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability, I acknowledge the contagious nature of diseases and voluntarily assume the risk that my child(ren) and I may be exposed to, or infected with, a contagious disease while attending Camp Casa and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability and/or death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected at Camp Casa may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, Casa employees, volunteers, and program participants and their families. I further consent to allowing Casa to monitor my child(ren)'s health during his/her/their camp enrollment.

In consideration of Casa considering allowing, or allowing, my child(ren) to participate in Camp Casa, I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child(ren) or myself including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, death, illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I or my child(ren) may experience or incur in connection with my child(ren)'s attendance at Casa or participation in Casa programming (the "Claims"). On my behalf, and on behalf of my children, based on Casa considering allowing, or allowing, my child(ren) to participate in Camp Casa, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless Casa and its employees, directors, agents, and representatives (the "Released Parties"), of and from all Claims, including all liabilities, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to any Claims, specifically including, without limitation, any Claims resulting from, or caused (in whole or in part) by the negligence of the Released Parties.

It is my express intent to release the Released Parties from the consequence of their own negligence, whether that negligence is the sole or a contributory cause of any Claim including, but not limited to, a Claim related to a COVID-19 or other contagious disease infection, whether the COVID-19 or other contagious disease infection occurs before, during, or after participating in any Casa program.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

Camp Casa Participant(s)

YOU DO **NOT** NEED TO PRINT THIS FORM IF YOU REGISTERED ONLINE.

DON'T FORGET!

- ☐ Your lunch, snacks, and water bottle clearly labeled with your name
- ☐ A pencil
- ☐ Come dressed ready to move and wearing closed-toe shoes. No flip-flops, crocs or sandals!
- ☐ A SMILE! 😊

FORMS TO RETURN OR COMPLETE ONLINE:

- ☐ Camper Info Sheet with Headshot
- ☐ Costume Measurement Sheet
- ☐ Liability and Medical Release Form
- ☐ Photo/Media Release
- ☐ Code of Behavior Contract

Forms may be scanned and emailed to education@casamanana.org (Single PDF files only, please. Please no jpeg or other image files).

You may also return these forms at check-in on the first day of camp.

We look forward to seeing you at Camp Casa 2025!



First in Fort Worth Theatre Education



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

(Please add us to your contact list.)

The Education Department
education@casamanana.org
817-321-5040

Kelsey Dahlke – Director of the School for Musical Theatre
kelsey.dahlke@casamanana.org

Katelyn Weatherford – Education Manager
katelyn.weatherford@casamanana.org
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