

Productions Company 2026
The Hobbit
Callback Packet

READ ME FIRST: Callbacks for roles in *The Hobbit* are the first step in our production process. We will hold callbacks over the first few weeks of school. Callbacks are to help determine which role will be the best fit for each student in the show. There are 3 parts of the callback:

- Monologue
- Duo Scene
- Group Scene Work

CALLBACK FORMATS

- Each student will select one of the provided monologues to perform in class showing their interpretation of the chosen character. The monologue must be memorized.
(Performed Tuesday September 1)
- Everyone will be able to select a partner for a duo scene and will be given a choice of scene from different options. Off-book is preferred but not required for the duo scene.
(Performed Tuesday September 1)
- Everyone will be divided into large groups and given a short scene from the play to stage and perform to demonstrate collaboration, character interaction, and creativity as a group. The group scene does not have to be off-book, but it's never a bad idea.
(Performed Thursday September 3)

Start working on your monologue selection now so you can be prepared, especially if you are also auditioning for Shakespeare Troupe (which I hope you all are). Both the Monologue and Scene Work callbacks will be graded.

A FEW NOTES ON CASTING: All the roles have the potential to be double cast in this show. Casting for all roles in the show will be entirely gender-blind, meaning any student is eligible to be cast in any role in the show.

Reach out to Mr. L if you have any questions.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS - in order of appearance

**All characters in this production have potential to be double cast.*

**Casting for all roles will be completely gender-blind. Anyone can play any role.*

** Some characters will be depicted using puppetry, but performed and operated by the actor cast in that role.*

“Narrator” - A character who creates a framing device for our production of *The Hobbit*. This character will be central to our concept for the show.

Bilbo Baggins - **/Bill-bow/** A Hobbit. He is every inch a proper country gentleman. Bilbo is reluctantly pulled into an adventure across the world, where he learns a great deal more about himself than he thought.

Gandalf - **/Gand-alf/** A great wizard. No one knows how old he is, nor even half of his wisdom. Gandalf orchestrates the great adventure these characters embark on.

The Dwarves

- **Thorin Oakenshield** - **/THOR-inn/** The leader of the dwarves and heir to the throne as King Under the Mountain. He is arrogant, stiff-necked, and regal. As a young dwarf he witnessed the destruction of his kingdom by Smaug.
- **Dwalin** - **/DWAH-linn/** Younger brother to Balin. Like his brother Balin, he plays the violin. He is the first of the dwarves that Bilbo meets.
- **Balin** - **/BALL-inn/** Older brother to Dwalin. Bilbo and Balin later became good friends.
- **Kili** - **/KEE-lee/** son of Thorin's sister and Fili's twin. The youngest dwarves in the Company and therefore useful for their keen eyesight.
- **Fili** - **/FEE-lee/** son of Thorin's sister and Kili's twin. The youngest dwarves in the Company and therefore useful for their keen eyesight.
- **Dori** - **/DOOR-ee/** distant cousin to Thorin; musically inclined dwarf who helps to entertain the group of adventurers
- **Nori** - **/NOR-ee/** distant cousin to Thorin; musically inclined dwarf who helps to entertain the group of adventurers
- **Ori** - **/OAR-ee/** distant cousin to Thorin; musically inclined dwarf who helps to entertain the group of adventurers
- **Oin** - **/OH-inn/** Brother to Gloin. He and Gloin are charged with starting the campfires and cooking.
- **Gloin** - **/GLOW-in/** Brother to Oin. Gloin openly doubts Bilbo at the start of the quest. (Gloin is the father of the character Gimli in *The Lord of the Rings*.)
- **Bifur** - **/BIH-furr/** Descended from the Dwarves of Moria, not directly related to Thorin. Their family was displaced from their ancestral home during the Goblin Wars. Younger cousin to Bofur and Bombur
- **Bofur** - **/BAW-furr/** Descended from the Dwarves of Moria, not directly related to Thorin. Their family was displaced from their ancestral home during the Goblin Wars. Younger brother to Bombur, cousin to Bofur.

- **Bombur** - /**BOMB-burr**/ Descended from the Dwarves of Moria, not directly related to Thorin. Their family was displaced from their ancestral home during the Goblin Wars. Older brother to Bofur and cousin to Bifur. One of the older dwarves, who is very motivated by food and provides comic relief.

Trolls

- **Bert** - One of three large mountain trolls. Not particularly smart or clever, but very strong.
- **Essie** - One of three large mountain trolls. The smartest of the trolls, but still not very bright.
- **Tom** - One of three large mountain trolls. Possibly less clever than Bert.

The Great Goblin - The biggest and strongest of the Goblins. He rules over Goblin town, which was established when the Goblins overtook the Dwarves of Moria during the Goblin Wars.

Gollum - /**gawl-umm**/ A mysterious creature living alone deep under the Misty Mountains on an island in a dark, cold lake. He loses his magic ring, which Bilbo finds. In *The Lord of the Rings*, it is revealed that Gollum is a degenerate hobbit of great age whose name was originally Sméagol.

The Elven Queen/King - Queen or King of the Mirkwood Elves. Holds the dwarves captive. In *The Hobbit* they are only called "the Elvenking"; their name "Thranduil" is given in *The Lord of the Rings*.)

Smaug the Destroyer - /**smah-oog**/ A great dragon who made the Lonely Mountain his lair when he attacked Thorin's ancestral home to steal the Dwarves great treasure for himself. Smaug will likely be a multi-voiced or multi-bodied character in our show.

The ensemble includes Hobbits, Goblins, Elves, and puppeteers.

CALLBACK MONOLOGUES:

**Select one monologue to perform as a part of your callback.*

** **A note on accents:** This production will be set with a variety of accents. Some of the characters sound “British”, but a dialect is not necessarily required for all characters. For your callback, you may approach an accent however you are most comfortable and will showcase your skillsets the best.*

As you create a character, think about what YOUR interpretation of the character might be, not just an imitation of what you have seen in movies or even read in the book. Your individual choices as an actor are much more interesting than your ability to copy choices others have made before you.

NARRATOR

We find ourselves in a part of the world called Middle Earth. We are in the Shire, Underhill, home of the Hobbits. It is a pleasant morning. The Shire is the picture of rural perfection. Here sits a well-appointed little Hobbit by the name of Bilbo Baggins, Esq. He is sitting on the stoop outside his round green door which has a shiny yellow brass doorknob in the exact middle. Before him is a turntable laid with four complete breakfasts. Bilbo has just eaten the first of these. He turns the table so that breakfast number two is before him. He digs in with determination.

BILBO BAGGINS

You, sir, are in the neighborhood of Hobbits. We're just plain folk – have no use for adventures. Nasty, uncomfortable things! Adventures make you late for dinner! Can think what anybody sees in them! Good morning. We don't want any adventures here. You might try across The Hill or over The Water.

THORIN OAKENSHIELD

The circumstances are briefly these: Long ago when my grandfather was king, the dwarves settled here under the Lonely Mountain, and they build the merry town of Dale. Those were happy days! They made beautiful things just for the fun of it. Not to sell, as we do now. When they needed more gold or emeralds or rubies, they just dug them out of the mountain. There was no end to the supply, but that brought the dragon. Good times always bring dragons.

BERT*

Ugh! I'm sick to death o' mutton, Essie! It's coming out me ears! Mutton yesterday, mutton today, and blimey, if it don't look like mutton again tomorrer! Never a blinkin' bit o' manflesh or a nice shoulder of dwarf have we had for a long time! (*realizing their drinking jug is empty*) Ugh! No more'n a dribble o' drink left! What was we a-thinkin' of to come into these parts beats me. We've et a village and a half between us since we come, and them villages was barely bite-sized.

**NOTE: Bert and the trolls speak with a cockneyed accent*

GOLLUM

Did we say so, precious? Show the nasty little Baggins the way out, yes, yess. But what's it go in its pocketses, eh? Not string, precious, but not nothing. Oh, no! Gollum. Cross it is. The Baggins is getting cross, precious, but it must wait, yes, it must. We can't go up the tunnels so hasty. We must go and get somethings first, yess, things to help us. My birthday present, tahts what we wants now – then we'll be quite safe. We slips it on and it won't see us, will it, my precious. No, it won't see us and it's nasty little sword will be useless, yess – ssssssss.