

# Costume Characters & Elves under age 13

Boys and girls under age 13 may volunteer to wear costumes we provide and model them at Storybook Land.

## Important notice for participation:

1. Parent/Guardian must accompany the costume character volunteer and wear a costume accessory to match your child so you are better identified as a volunteer who's with the child.
2. Parent/Guardian is required to register AND attend the training before participating at Christmas Storybook Land. See [christmasstorybookland.org/volunteer](https://christmasstorybookland.org/volunteer) to register. If you cannot attend the required training, you cannot volunteer. At the training, your child will be choosing what costumes they want to wear so that when ~~its~~ it's time to volunteer, we have your costume ready to go.
3. Parent/Guardian is required to submit Parent/Guardian Release for Volunteers under 18 listing the children before they participate. See [christmasstorybookland.org/](https://christmasstorybookland.org/) under Volunteer -- Guidelines and Forms
4. Parent/Guardian schedules the desired date and shift time online. Shifts are 2-3 hours.
5. Please be advised that you and your child will be photographed during the event and those pictures may end up on social media by attendees of the event

## DUTIES:

Storybook Land is located in the Cascade Pavilion at the Linn County Fairgrounds. Please come to Storybook Land 30 minutes before your shift starts, enter the back door marked Christmas Storybook Land Volunteers. Then proceed to the costume character changing area and check in with the CBSL costume coordinator who will be on hand to check your costume out. Once your shift is over, you will check your costume back in with the costume coordinator. Please do not leave the fairgrounds until you have checked out your costume.

**Candy canes:** SANTA ONLY is allowed to hand out candy canes. Elves or costume characters do not hand out candy canes. Do not hand out candy canes to people waiting in the line to see Santa. We pre-order candy canes before the event and will not be able to get more if we run out.



**BREAKS:** All shifts are three hours in length. You're able to take a 20-minute break after the first and second hour to grab a warm drink and a snack. Please use the restroom BEFORE you start your shift. Seeing a fairy or teddy bear coming out of a toilet stall ruins the magic for guests. Bathroom breaks are EMERGENCY only. The CBSL costume coordinator will come to let you know when break time is and will be checking on you periodically to make sure you don't need anything during your shift.

**Cell phones:** If you are not a parent who's accompanying your child, the following rule applies: Cell phones are not allowed out on the floor at ANY time while you are in costume. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. Phones must be stored discreetly on your person OR kept in the costume changing area with your belongings. Remember you are portraying a character and it ruins the "magic" if you're texting, taking selfies, or checking your phone for messages, etc. If there is an emergency and you must take a call/text, please go to the break room. Any selfies that you want to take while in costume should be done BEFORE you go on the floor.

**Costumes/Decorum:** The Costumes that you will be able to choose from will be Fairies, Elves, classic storybook characters, Pirates, Mermaids, and various Mascots. (They are amazing for keeping warm in the cold building BTW) You will be given specific duties for whichever character you choose. For example, if you're a Mermaid, you get to sit in a specific spot, and play with a hand-held bubble maker, and of course, take ALL the pics with the kids. If you're a fairy, you may have some "fairy dust" to sprinkle on the kids as you walk around. Elves get to pass out fun gifts, and play with jingle bells, etc.

Depending on which costume you choose, we ask that you provide makeup, leggings, and black flats, shoes or boots for your character. No tennis shoes unless they match your costume. Meaning, fairies don't wear tennis shoes, but an elf could get away with it. Hair should be styled to reflect your character and accessories are also encouraged! If you're a mascot, you can wear whatever you wish, but be mindful that it does get warm in the costume. Even in the cold building.

You are here to volunteer or assist your child in volunteering, and this experience is both fun AND rewarding! You get to have fun interactions with the children and families that come to experience the magic of the holiday season! You will be expected to interact with the families, and you will be given props and other things to assist with that. Acting is not required but if you're an actor or actress and you want to play your part, we WANT you to do it!



**Transportation:** Everyone must provide their own transportation. Due to liability, we cannot provide you a ride to or home from the event. Please do not put Christmas Storybook Land in this unacceptable position.

**Unable to make your shift:** We completely understand that emergencies and illnesses happen. If for whatever reason you are unable to make your shift, please text Cherita at 541-829-2133 or Carol at 541-974-5066.

**CONTACT INFO:** Please do not hesitate to call or text Cherita Wilson at 541-829-2133 with any questions or concerns.

