



MUSICAL MASQUERS

AUDITION NOTICE

“ANNIE”

Musical Masquers of West Bend, WI, and its Director Jim Mohr, are pleased to announce open auditions for their upcoming production of the delightful Broadway musical, “Annie”. All auditions will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Immanuel United Church of Christ, 501 Walnut Street, West Bend, WI. The auditions are open to the public and require no advance preparation. A complete list of all parts in the show, together with the Director’s Notes on the characters, is found at the end of this Notice.

The first day of open auditions will be Saturday, April 5, 2014. Young girls wanting to try out for the role of Annie or any of the orphans will audition between 9:00 A.M. - Noon that day. Adult auditions will be between 1:00 - 4:00 that afternoon. The second day of open auditions, for both adults and young girls, will be Monday evening, April 7, 2014, from 7:00 - 9:30 P.M. Callbacks will be held on Tuesday evening, April 8, from 7:00 - 10:00 P.M.

All persons auditioning should wear comfortable clothing, which will allow them to move and dance with ease. No advance preparation for the auditions is necessary. All persons auditioning will be taught a simple song from the show and a dance step or combination. Auditions will consist of singing the song and performing the dance, as well as readings from the script.

Parents of children auditioning for the show are themselves also encouraged to audition. Preference will be given in casting children for the show to those whose parents are also in the show, and vice versa. Performing on stage together is a wonderful family experience.

After the cast is selected, there will be an organizational meeting and initial read through of the script, for all cast members, on Monday evening, April 14, 2014, from 7:00 - 10:00 P.M. at Immanuel Church. Rehearsals will begin at the church on April 21, 2014 and will generally be held Monday through Thursday evenings, with the possible exception of an occasional Saturday or Sunday afternoon rehearsal. All persons coming to the auditions should be prepared to indicate their conflicts with any potential rehearsals.

The entire production will be performed on the stage of the theater at the University of Wisconsin - Washington County on June 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, and, tentatively, 22.

All parts are open, and the following is a brief description of the characters in the play, with Director's notes and thoughts about each of the characters:

CHARACTERS

Orphans

We will cast 7 or 8 orphans, young girls who range in age from 6 -13. The actual age of any person trying out is not as important as how that person appears on stage. Thus, if any young girl auditioning **looks** to be between the ages of 6 and 13, she will be considered. All orphans must sing and dance extremely well.

Annie (age 11) - What can be said? Annie is probably (with the possible exception of Oliver) one of the greatest parts for a child in all of musical theater. The actress playing Annie must be a leader - charming, cute, resourceful, full of mischief, tough, but with a heart of gold. Annie is the eternal optimist. If the actress does not already have red hair, she must be willing to have her hair colored to make it red.

Molly (age 6) - The youngest and probably the cutest of the orphans.

Kate (age 7)

Tessie (age 10) - The cry baby of the lot.

Pepper (age 12) - Tough and sarcastic.

July (age 13) - The quietest of the group.

Duffy (age 13) - The biggest and toughest of the orphans.

- Miss Hannigan One of the great comic parts in all of musical theater. Not only must she have great comic timing, she has to be conniving, suspicious, arrogant, opinionated and flirty at the same time. She is an alcoholic and can't stand little girls. Must sing and dance very well.
- Daddy Warbucks Male lead of the show. He is an imposing, supremely confident, businesslike tycoon. He also has a soft heart, somewhere. We will want our Warbucks to be bald, as he was in the comic strip. Must be able to sing very well and dance reasonably well.
- Warbucks' Staff All members of Warbucks' staff will need to sing quite well and dance reasonably well, as they are in a number of musical numbers:
- Grace Farrell. Warbucks' secretary. She is professional, poised, classy, and extremely friendly. She has a not-so-secret crush on Warbucks who doesn't realize it until the very end of the show.
- Drake. Warbucks' very formal, English butler. He should have an English accent.
- Cecille and Annette. Warbucks' two French maids.
- Mrs. Greer. Warbucks' housekeeper.
- Mrs. Pugh. Warbucks' chef.
- 2 – 4 additional servants.
- Rooster. The ultimate con man. He is Hannigan's brother, sleazy and slippery. He is a small-time gangster trying to make it big by claiming Annie as his daughter. Must be able to both sing and dance very well.
- Lily. Rooster's girlfriend. The stereotypical gum-chewing, bimbo-like, dumb blond (a wig may be necessary). Must be able to both sing and dance very well.
- Chorus. Chorus members will be very busy as they assume many different roles, all of which require singing and dancing ability. We anticipate 8 - 12 members in the chorus, who will appear as Bundles, the laundryman; Lt. Ward; the Depression-era people in the "Hooverville" number; the radio personalities, singers, producer, director, and sound effects person on the Bert Healy show; the members of FDR's cabinet, as well as Roosevelt

himself and Supreme Court Justice Brandeis. All parts have a number of speaking lines and many parts have solo opportunities.

“Annie” is an absolutely delightful show, and this will be an outstanding production. We have assembled one of the strongest production teams the Musical Masquers have ever seen. I urge you to try out and be a part of it. Participating in a musical theater production is one of the most rewarding and exhilarating things you will ever do in your life. You will also meet some of the friendliest, most outgoing, and most talented people you will ever get to know. It is an opportunity you should not miss!

If you have any further questions that are not answered in this Audition Notice, please feel free to email me at the address shown below.

I look forward to seeing you at auditions!

Jim Mohr, Director
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