

Audition notice

We would like to invite you to audition for an acting role or contact us if you would like to be part of the production in another area. For a description of each non-acting role, please see pages 4, 5 and 6.

OUR HOUSE - The Madness Musical

Directed by: Louise Steggals.
Musical Director: David Wall.
Choreographer: Lisa Griffiths.
Audition Date: Sunday 16th February 10.30am in the main theatre. (Sign-in from 10am)
Production Dates: 1st – 11th July 2020.
Welcome Night: Thursday 6th February. (From 7:30pm in the Bar at Wigan Little Theatre)

Synopsis

Revolving around the music of British band, Madness, Our House follows the story of London lad Joe Casey. On the night of his sixteenth birthday, an over-excited Joe takes Sarah, the girl of his dreams, out for a romantic evening. On a whim, he breaks into a new building development near his house to show Sarah the view over north London. When the police arrive, Joe faces a tough decision: to run, or give himself up. It is at this point that the story splits in two as we follow the fortunes, and misfortunes, of both decisions.

Director's notes

This is a wonderful 'jukebox' show where we follow Joe from age 16 to early 20s across many locations, from Camden to Las Vegas, with some fantastic musical numbers that will be hugely familiar to many; so the show requires a lot of energy, enthusiasm and heart.

This is a real "all hands on deck" show too so, besides the principal characters, we will also need a strong ensemble with great acting/singing/movement skills to bring this story to life. In addition to the principals, I'm looking for 6-8 ensemble members of all ages to take on the cameo roles that appear throughout the show, as well as another 6-8 younger performers who can pass for 16-21 years old, with strong movement skills, to play Joe's classmates, including someone to double as Joe when the two paths converge.

There are some technically challenging moments in the show that will require full commitment to the rehearsal process so please only audition if you know you can give 100% to the rehearsals and shows. For those who do join the show, we will be in for a huge amount of fun and laughter.

Rehearsals

Sundays 6pm-8.30pm, Mondays and Thursdays 7.30pm-9.30pm.

Cast

(NB – London accents unless otherwise specified)

Joe Casey:

Sixteen, the stereotypical rough diamond who doesn't want to repeat his family history of petty crime and social exclusion – this is a demanding role, requiring quick costume changes and strong movement skills. (Playing age late teens-early 20s)

Sarah:

Girl next door, aspirations to be a lawyer, more middle class than Joe. Believes in and adores Joe despite the flaws her friends says he has. (Playing age late teens- early 20s)

Emmo and Lewis:

Joe's best mates and loose relations, taken in by Joe's mum. Emmo is a big kid at heart who would chase sticks if you threw them and Lewis is more sensitive with a strong moral core. (Playing age late teens- early 20s)

Billie and Angie:

Sarah's mates who like the finer things in life. Sharp-tongued and sassy, they disapprove of Joe, believing him to be 'below' Sarah. (Playing age late teens-early 20s)

Reecey:

Smiling and charming on the surface, Reecey is a typical 'bad lad' who tries to tempt Joe down a path he doesn't want to take. (Playing age late teens -early 20s)

Joe's Dad:

Acts as the core thread to the narrative of the show. He made all the wrong choices himself, so guides us through the two paths and watches over Joe and tries to guide him towards the right choices (Playing age late 30s upwards)

Kath, Joe's Mum:

The archetypal mum – fiercely protective of her family, and thinks of Joe as her 'Golden boy' – strong Catholic faith and highly resistant to attempts to move her out of Casey Street. Ideally an Irish accent, or Liverpudlian, but what's most important is we see her sense of family loyalty and feisty nature. (Playing age late 30s upwards+)

Mister Pressman:

Successful property developer but like Reecey, he's superficially charming, with a sinister undercurrent which becomes apparent when his plans to redevelop Casey Street seem in jeopardy due to Kath Casey's refusal to leave. (Playing age 40s+)

Callum:

A small but key role - school/college friend of Sarah's and potential love rival for Joe – Scottish accent. (Playing age late teens-early 20s)

Joe's 'double' – at certain points in the show we see both paths overlap and therefore will need someone to appear as 'Joe' – good movement required. No individual audition but please indicate if you are interested in this role (as we'll ideally want someone similar age and build to Joe).

Other characters such as schoolkids, lawyers, police, market traders, prisoners and relatives will be cast within the ensemble.

Audition Pieces - Songs

Joe/Sarah: It Must Be Love.

Reecey: Baggy Trousers.

Emmo/Lewis/Pressman: My Girl.

Joe's Dad: Simple Equation.

Kath/Billie/Angie/Ensemble: Wings of A Dove.

Ensemble Movement

All auditionees will be asked to perform a short movement routine which will be taught on the day so please wear comfortable clothing that you can move about in.

To request audition pieces/music please contact the director, Louise Steggals, via email at lousteggals@sky.com and include your address and contact info.

Alternatively, please contact any member of the Play Selection and Casting Committee (PSCC):

Paul Leffler	...	07854 086332	...	Paul_leffler@hotmail.com
Anne Woolley	...	07799 061558	...	akwoolley@blueyonder.co.uk
Tracey Dawson	...	07715 534716	...	traceydawson67@hotmail.com
John Naughton	...	07786 941858	...	john.naughton1@blueyonder.co.uk
Kath O'Leary	...	07863 794431	...	kathleenoleary14@hotmail.com

THE COMPANY

Actors

WLT aims for a very high standard of production and maximum commitment is required to achieve this. Rehearsals can take place for 8 to 12 weeks prior to the performance dates, typically 3 or 4 times a week in the evenings or on Sundays. In the event of not being able to attend the audition date, you should contact the Director or a member of our Play Selection and Casting Committee (PSCC). Please be aware that only one alternative audition will be held and times will be limited due to everyone's availability. If you are interested in auditioning for a part, please contact the Director or any member of PSCC.

Bar

Members of this team should be over the age of 18. They are responsible for working behind the bar, which is open from 7.00pm until 11.00 pm during each production. Members often do one or two nights during any production. If you're interested in bar work, please contact Brendan on 07566 200717

Box Office

We need friendly and helpful people who have good interpersonal skills both face to face and over the phone. Experience of working with IT will be an advantage but training will be given on the box office computer and administrative systems. Box Office opening hours are 7 - 9 p.m. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Richard on 07818 814926

Coffee

Coffee is sold during the interval. Most helpers arrive prior to the opening of the show on one or two separate occasions to make and serve the coffee, and once the washing up is done they are free to go! If you're interested in making and serving coffee, please contact Muriel on 01942 741583

Front of House

The Front of House (FOH) team welcome the public to a show, hand them their tickets where appropriate, escort them to their seats if necessary and remain on hand until the end of the show when the FOH representative will wait until the last patron has left before locking the main doors. The usual commitment is for one or two nights during the run of a show from 7 – 10 approximately. If you're interested in joining this team, please contact Tracey on 07715 534716

Lighting and Sound

The Technical Support Group is responsible for the design and operation of the lighting and sound for each production. Setting up a new show normally takes place on two or three separate evenings before the Technical Rehearsal, and then two or three members are at the Theatre each night of the production to operate the lighting and sound desks and provide any additional services required by the show. Training will be given and you won't be left to work alone until you feel completely confident. If you're interested in joining this team, please contact Neil on 07429 141102

Programme Sales

This job is as simple as it sounds! All you need is your smile and the ability to handle cash - and then all you have to do is wait for patrons to come to you to buy a programme! Programme sellers usually arrive at around 6.45 and stay on duty until the start of the show at 7.30 p.m. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Hilary on 07882 276837

Prompts

Members of the prompt team are never seen – and hopefully never heard – during the run of a production! Prompts work on a rota basis and attend rehearsals for approximately three weeks prior to the opening of the show and for one or two nights during a show, sitting in the wings with a copy of the script, ready to whisper a helpful reminder if required! If you're interested in prompting, please contact the Director of the production.

Properties

Attention to detail when setting the scene can certainly bring life to a production. This is the aim of our props team. New members are welcome to join us with maybe a view to becoming a props leader. To fulfil this, we are looking for volunteers who are organised, creative and who can deal with situations in a sensible and realistic manner. Commitment to shows and their rehearsal time is necessary. Working together we can create innovative and exciting productions. If you're interested in joining this team, please contact Elaine on 07772 833544

Set Building

For this any DIY or trade experience would be useful, but definitely not necessary! A lot of the work involves carrying/moving theatre flats, steps, doors etc. and holding them while they are fixed in place. We have a workshop at the side of the stage with the materials and equipment that we need. There is always someone around so you won't be asked to do any job or use any tools that you don't feel comfortable with. Generally, we build the sets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and Thursday evenings from 7 until 9 p.m. All times are approximate and, of course, you can come and go at whatever time suits you within those time periods. So, if you could spare any time at all (even just the odd hour) we would appreciate it. If you're interested in joining this team, please contact Brian on 07811 530293.

Set Painting

Set painters bring the set to life with their paintbrushes, whether it's a Victorian Drawing Room or a street of terraced houses! You don't have to be Monet - anybody who can use a paintbrush is welcome and the ability to climb a step ladder is also useful! Set painters work during the day, usually the week before a play opens, generally between 10 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. Guidance will be provided along with frequent coffees and a lunch break – and you can stay for as long or as short as you like If you're interested please contact Christine on 07716 318886

Stage Management

The role of the stage manager is to ensure the smooth running of a performance. You will enjoy this role if you are interested in all things theatrical; tactful when dealing with directors, actors and other members of the theatre; able to remain calm under pressure; able to organise a team; be a good communicator; are mature and sensible in attitude – ideally over 18 years of age. If you're interested in joining this team, please contact Paul on 07718 063516

Sweet Sales

Sweets are sold prior to the start of the show and the interval, along with ice creams, during each performance. Sweet sellers are expected to be on duty from around 6.45 until after the interval, the time for which obviously varies. If you would like to help us by selling sweets please contact Muriel on 01942 741583

Wardrobe

The Wardrobe Department supplies and constructs suitable costumes for every production. In addition, the Department is responsible for cleaning, repairing and maintaining the existing costumes. Some heavy lifting can be required; however any help is a benefit to support the department. Ability to sew is a bonus. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Stacey on 07913 972441

Please note that you will be required to become a member of Wigan Little Theatre to take part in any production, in any capacity.