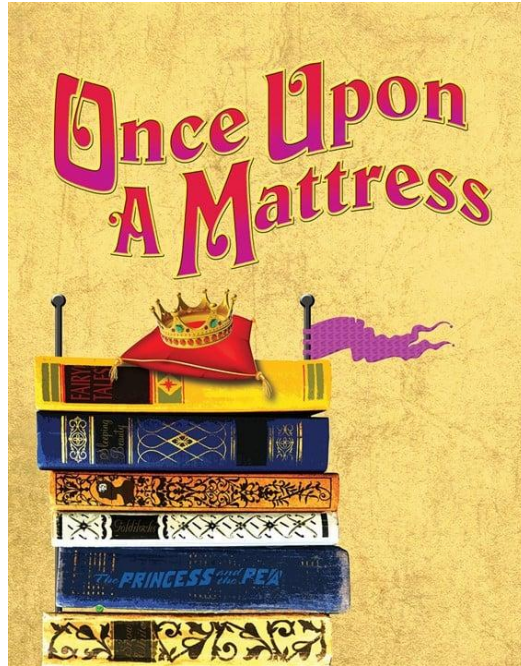


Audition Notice



Mercy High School Performing Arts

Farmington Hills, MI

Is holding auditions for *Once Upon a Mattress*

Auditions are open to:

Mercy students

Local high school boys

Local students 6th - 8th grades

PRODUCTION TEAM:

Shelley Bajorek - Director

Abha Dearing - Musical Director

Aimee Crosby - Choreographer

Holly Bennetts - Producer

Drew Hall - Technical Director

Email: sbajorek@mhsmi.org

Email: adearing@mhsmi.org

Email: aimcrosby@icloud.com

Email: hbennetts@mhsmi.org

Audition Workshop (High School Students Only):

Wed, September 24th 3:00 pm

Mercy High School Auditorium

- Learn the audition dance ahead of time. Get a leg up on the competition!
- Rehearse any and all audition music with our Music Director and live piano accompaniment

High School Auditions: October 2nd 3pm

High School Callbacks: October 3rd 3pm

6th-8th Grade Auditions: November 15th 10am

Rehearsals will begin November 12th and are held 3:00 pm- 6:00 Monday through Thursday. Elementary and middle students will be scheduled on Saturdays starting in January and then specific weekdays after school Mon-Thurs in February and March.

Show dates: March 12, 13, 14, 15

Please note the Thursday show is during the school day.

ABOUT THE SHOW:

Many moons ago in a far-off place, Queen Aggravain decreed no couples could marry until her son, Prince Dauntless, found a bride. Princesses came from far and wide to win the hand of the prince, but none could pass the impossible tests given to them by the Queen. That is, until the “shy” swamp princess, Winnifred the Woebegone, showed up. Would she be able to pass the Sensitivity Test, marry her prince and help Lady Larken and Sir Harry to the altar? Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this rollicking spin on the classic tale *The Princess and the Pea* provides some side-splitting shenanigans. For after all, a princess is a delicate thing.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT AUDITIONS:

When you arrive in the drama hall, please sign in with the stage manager Natalie Terrill. You will have some time to change and prepare for your audition. **Please have cast and parent contracts completed BEFORE auditions.** If you do not have one, forms will be available, however you **WILL NOT BE CAST** without a completed contract from both you and a parent or guardian.

CASTING:

Mercy Performing Arts is dedicated to equal opportunity casting. *Once Upon a Mattress* will be cast based on who best fits the role, regardless of age, race, or gender. Mercy students will be given preferential treatment in casting. We are hoping to cast King Sextimus, Prince Dauntless, and Sir Harry with MALE students. All other roles are open to any gender.

Callbacks are not an indicator of whether someone is cast or not. One may be cast that does not receive a callback.

After the cast list is posted, you may set up an appointment to speak with Mrs. Bajorek and/or Mrs. Dearing for feedback regarding your audition.

WHAT TO WEAR:

An audition is a job interview, dress accordingly. **You should not be in your uniform.** A nice dress, blouse & skirt, or blouse & dress pants are most appropriate. Be mindful that you will **still need to dance** in this outfit. If you are auditioning for a traditionally male role, pants are most appropriate. Please wear a color that is flattering on your skin. Do not wear black, as you are auditioning against a black curtain. Please bring dance (jazz or character AND tap) shoes if you have them. .

WHAT TO PREPARE:

Auditionees should prepare 1-2 song selections. **Audition pieces should be memorized.** Although we are not asking for monologue preparation, the production team is looking for strong acting choices and your interpretation of the characters in the singing audition. Be prepared to read from the script and improv, depending on the needs of the casting team. All auditionees will be taught a dance which will be performed on stage. It is highly recommended that you attend the dance workshop to learn the dance ahead of time. **If you are called back, you may be asked to perform pieces you did not originally audition with.**

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS and AUDITION CUTS

Characters:

Prince Dauntless — A handsome, young prince who desperately wants to get married, but is prevented by his mother's strict tests that she gives to all potential candidates.

Role: Lead Voice: Baritone (A3 to E4)

[Dauntless](#)

Princess Winnifred the Woebegone — An outspoken, strong, and optimistic princess from the swamp lands. She also wants to get married, but must go through the queen's unfair test as well.

Role: Lead Voice: Belt-Mix (A3 to D ♭ 5)

[Winnifred](#)

Audition: Shy

Callback: Happily Ever After

Queen Aggravain — The loud, talkative woman who really rules the country. She is trying to keep her son, Prince Dauntless, from getting married.

Role: Lead Voice: Alto (A3 to B4)

[Aggravain](#)

Jester — An energetic and peppy man who is the King's right-hand man and assists him with every endeavor. The Jester also plots with the Minstrel to spoil the Queen's plans.

Role: Supporting Voice: Tenor (D ♭ 3 to A ♭ 4) Dancing Required

[Jester](#)

King Sextimus the Silent — A kind, expressive, and playful man who is silent due to a curse placed upon him by a witch before the birth of Dauntless. He likes to chase girls through the corridors of the castle.

Role: Supporting Voice: Mute Dancing: Light
[King](#)

Lady Larken — A beautiful woman who desperately wants to marry Sir Harry because she is pregnant with his baby. She tries to flee the Kingdom after having an argument with Sir Harry, but is convinced by Winnifred to reunite with Sir Harry.
Role: Supporting Voice: Soprano (D ♭ 4 to A ♭ 5)
[Larken](#)

Minstrel — The handsome narrator of the story. He tries to persuade Larken to flee to Normandy with him. He and the Jester also join forces to stop the Queen's plans.
Role: Supporting Voice: Tenor (D3 to A ♭ 4)
[Minstrel](#)

Sir Harry — The macho, romantic knight who decides to leave the kingdom to search for a princess. Harry cannot marry Lady Larken until Prince Dauntless has found a suitable bride.
Role: Supporting Voice: Tenor (C3 to G4)
[Harry](#)

The following characters will all sing the [ensemble](#) song cut.

Wizard — The egotistical, ex-performer who directly serves the Queen.
Role: Supporting Voice: Baritone (low: A2)

Kitchen Wench — A woman chased around the castle by King Sextimus.
Role: Cameo Voice: N/A

Lady Lucille — A lady-in-waiting.
Role: Cameo Voice: N/A

Lady Mabelle — A beautiful woman with a french accent.
Role: Cameo Voice: Alto Dancing: Medium

Lady Merril — A lady-in-waiting.
Role: Cameo Voice: N/A

Lady Rowena — A lady-in-waiting.
Role: Cameo Voice: N/A

Nightengale of Samarkand — A royal pet that sings a lullaby to put Winnifred to sleep.

Role: Cameo Voice: Soprano (B3 to G5)

Princess No. 12 — A ditsy princess

Role: Cameo Voice: N/A

Sir Studley — A member of the court who dances.

Role: Cameo Voice: N/A Dancing: Medium

Ladies-in-waiting, Knights, Servants,