

Community Theatre of Howell Announces Auditions:

Meredith Willson's

The Music Man

Performances: April 30, May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 2010

See Audition Schedule Below



An affectionate paean to small town, U.S.A. of a bygone era, Meredith Willson's *The Music Man* follows fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill as he cons the people of River City, Iowa into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band he vows to organize – this despite the fact he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef. Harold's plans to skip town with the cash are foiled when he falls for Marian the librarian, who transforms him into a respectable citizen by curtain's fall.

We are looking for a cast of about 65 of all ages and encourage you to come on out and audition! Please watch our website, www.cththeatre.org for additional information.

REHEARSALS BEGIN February 1, 2010 and will typically run Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm, with several Saturdays through the rehearsal schedule leading up to the performance dates. **Please note that it is very important that all conflicts from February 1, 2010 through May 9, 2010 be listed on the audition form. No conflicts will be allowed from April 16, 2010 to the end of the run.** All rehearsals through February 15, 2010 will be held at the Barnard Center (415 N. Barnard, Howell). Rehearsals from February 16, 2010 through the run of the show will take place at the Freshman Campus (1400 W. Grand River, Howell).

Director: Jeff Fox

Co-Producer: Carla Pacek

Assistant Director: Kim Sullivan

Co-Producer: Theresia Rogers

The Music Man Audition Schedule:

Date	Audition Event	Location
Friday, January 22, 2010	Dance Workshop 7:30 – 8:30 Youth (Grade 8 and under)** 8:30 – 9:30 Adults (Grade 9 and over)	Maria's School of Dance NO STREET SHOES PLEASE!!
Saturday, January 23, 2010	9:00 – Youth Auditions (Grade 8 and under)** <u>NO YOUTH AUDITIONEES ACCEPTED AFTER 9:30AM</u> 2:00 – Adult Auditions (Grade 9 and over) <u>NO ADULT AUDITIONEES ACCEPTED AFTER 2:30PM</u>	Freshman Campus
Monday, January 25, 2010	Adult Readings: 6:30 <u>(WILL START IMMEDIATELY)</u> **Youth by invitation only	Barnard Community Center
Tuesday, January 26, 2010	Adult Readings: 6:30 <u>(WILL START IMMEDIATELY)</u> **Youth by invitation only	
Wednesday, January 27, 2010	Callbacks	

**** A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING OUR YOUTH AUDITIONS AND WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIT WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF CTH TO REVIEW CTH POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS.**

We request that all auditionees AND A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN stay until dismissed.

Cast list will be posted by Sunday, January 31, 2010 at 5:00pm on the backstage theatre door and on the website - www.cththeatre.org.

You can download the audition form from our website: www.cththeatre.org. **CTH IS NO LONGER ABLE TO PROVIDE PHOTOS**, so please bring a small photo to attach to your audition form. Also, please bring your calendar and **all** conflicts from February 1 to May 9, 2010.

HOW TO PREPARE: You may check out the script from the show in advance by contacting one of the co-producers, Carla Pacek at wascross@comcast.net or Theresia Rogers at tj@michmail.com. Scripts may be kept for one week. There will be a \$10 deposit on all scripts which will be returned when the script is returned.

On Saturday, January 23 Auditionees will be required to sing selected measures from their character song selections (see the chart for more information). You will be taught a short dance sequence on Friday night to allow ample time for practice before the actual dance audition on Saturday. Selected scenes will be available Saturday to check out for the following Monday readings.

We also invite you to a free movie matinee at the Barnard Center 2:00pm Saturday, January 16, 2010.

Those wishing to do a little more research or preparation may watch either of The Music Man movies: Director recommends Robert Preston's portrayal of Harold Hill in this classic 1962 release from Warner Bros. also starring Buddy Hackett as Marcellus, Shirley Jones as Marian the Librarian, and Ron Howard as Winthrop. Director also recommends watching Kristen Chenoweth as Marian the Librarian in the 2003 Walt Disney production, also starring Matthew Broderick as Harold Hill and Molly Shannon as Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn. This production has superior and vivid costumes and sets. Either movie is great in its own right. Auditionees may wish to note the Director's choice of music to be the 1957 Original Broadway Cast Recording. The choice to investigate either or both of these selections on your own should surely be an overall enjoyable experience!

WHO CAN AUDITION: All of our auditions are OPEN to everyone! You do not have to be a member to audition, but if you are cast, we do require that you become a member. And, while experience may be helpful, the Community Theatre of Howell does not require this. All we ask is your commitment to help make *The Music Man* the same high quality show that CTH strives to provide the community in all its efforts.

The Music Man Character Descriptions

Main Characters

* Roles of Winthrop and Amaryllis will be double cast.

Prof. Harold Hill — A con man and traveling salesman who comes to River City, Iowa selling band instruments, uniforms and a promise to organize a boy's band - even to save the town from the *Trouble* it's in. However, Prof. Hill can't tell a trombone from a treble clef. Baritone: A flat – High F

Marian Paroo — The uptight town librarian and part-time piano teacher out to expose our lead as the fraud he is but inevitably falls for Harold Hill. Soprano: Low G - High A

Marcellus Washburn — (Comedic/side-kick role) Harold's old friend and partner, no longer a con man, dating his boss's (Mr. Squires') niece, Ethel Toffelmier. Dance preferred. Tenor: G - High A

Mayor George Shinn — (Can be non-singing) A proud local politician prone to saying nonsensical phrases, tries to control the town, but can't even control his own family.

Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn — The mayor's peacock wife; a grand dame whom Harold appoints head of the "Ladies' Auxiliary Society for the Classic Dance." Alto: D - D

Winthrop Paroo* (will be double cast) — (Must appear 9-11 yrs old) Marian's shy, lisping younger brother who hardly talks since the death of his father. Alto: C - E flat

Mrs. Paroo — Marian's nose-y Irish mother. Mezzo-Soprano: A flat - E flat

The Barbershop Quartet — Four bickering businessmen and school board members united in song by Harold to form a male barbershop quartet:

Olin Britt – Owns the Gazette.	Bass
Oliver Hix – Owns the bank.	Baritone
Ewart Dunlop - Owns the Grocery store.	Tenor
Jacey Squires – Owns the Livery Stable.	High Tenor

This is a great opportunity for any male seeking spotlight within a group. Thanks to our brilliant Vocal Director Sally Mikat we are able to offer the chance for members to be chosen from individual Auditionees.

Pick-a-little Ladies — Eulalie's four gossipy friends: Alma Hix, Mrs. Squires, Maud Dunlop and Ethel Toffelmier (the "pianola" girl).

Supporting Characters

Amaryllis* (will be double cast) — (Must appear 10-12 yrs old) Marian's young piano student. Ability to play the piano desired. Sings a lovely duet with Marian, has a crush on Winthrop. Alto: C - E

Tommy Dijlas — (Must appear 15-18 yrs old) A young man "from the wrong side of the tracks" who is secretly seeing the Mayor's oldest daughter, Zaneeta; Harold encourages their relationship and makes him assistant band leader. Dance and vocal desired.

Zaneeta Shinn – Oldest, and slightly daffy daughter of the Mayor and Eulalie. Acts very stereotypical of how teens were portrayed in early movies. She often says, "Ye Gads".

Gracie Shinn — (Should appear 8-11 yrs old) Youngest daughter of Mayor and Eulalie.

Charlie Cowell — A traveling anvil salesman who tries to expose Prof. Harold Hill as a con man. Charlie is seeking revenge on Harold for being tarred, feathered, and run out on a rail from the last town from which he had the unfortunate luck of following Prof. Hill.

Traveling Salesmen – (at least 6 males) A fun opportunity to sing in possibly the first ever rap song performed by a group of older guys!

Constable Locke — River City's chief law enforcement officer.

Conductor – Takes tickets onboard the train in opening scene.

River City Youth – Teens and younger Chorus, all ages.

River City Townspeople – Adult Chorus - male and female – with possible solo opportunities. Help us to bring River City, Iowa to life, we need doctors, bankers, farmers, teachers, and many other characters!!

Featured Dancers are invited to prepare a 32-count combination

The director reserves the right to cast outside of the listed descriptions based on audition participation.

VOCAL SELECTIONS – measures will be chosen from each of the following:

CHARACTER - ROLE	SONG TITLE
Harold Hill	Trouble (B – D) Marian the Librarian (D – End) Sadder But Wiser (B – C) (Callback) Till There was You (F-End) (Callback with Marian)
Marian the Librarian	My White Knight (C – End) Goodnight My Someone (C – End) (Callback) 'Til There Was You (F – End) (Callback with Harold)
Quartet – including Ewert, Oliver, Jacey, Olin	Ice Cream/Sincerely Lida Rose (Callback)
Marcellus	Shipooopi (D – End)
Pick-a-Ladies – Eulalie, Mrs. Squires, Alma, Maud, Ethel	Pick-a-Little, Talk-a-Little (Beginning – B)
Mrs. Paroo	Piano Lesson (F – End)
Amaryllis	Goodnight My Someone (C – End)
Winthrop	Gary Indiana (Beginning – B) Wells Fargo Wagon (Intro)
Chorus (ALL) Mayor Shinn Zaneeta Gracie Tommy Constable Locke Conductor Marshall Posse men Traveling Salesmen* Charlie*	Chorus selection: Wells Fargo Wagon (Beginning – 2 nd Chorus) * Rock Island (Callbacks)

Community Theatre of Howell
P.O. Box 533
Howell, MI 48844

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Meredith Willson's *The Music Man* audition information enclosed – Auditions January 22-27, 2010
Performances April 30, May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 2010**



We're on the web!
www.cththeatre.org

**Watch for this upcoming production with the
Community Theatre of Howell:**

***Escanaba in Love* – February 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 2010**