

AUDITION NOTICE

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

By Mary Elliot Nelson

Director: Rick de Kerckhove

Contact Email: dekerckhove@virginmedia.com Phone number: 07851 355 663

Play Reading Monday 24th August at 7.45pm at the Mary Wallace Theatre

Auditions Monday 31st August at 7.45pm at the Mary Wallace Theatre

Playing Dates: Saturday 5th to Saturday 12th December in the Mary Wallace theatre

Rehearsals From Sunday 11th October (and then Tuesday, Thursday, Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons)

SYNOPSIS

A fabulous stage version of the critically acclaimed Capra movie. It's Christmas Eve, 1946, Bedford Falls. Down-on-his-luck banker George Bailey feels life has passed him by and he's at the end of his rope. But when George's guardian angel surprises him with a visit, he's amazed to discover what life in his beloved town would be without him. Maybe it's a wonderful life after all. This is a joyful story of love, hope and community and a perfect Christmas show.

We need a strong ensemble; with a cast for a range of actors; some will play more than one character. Most actors need an American accent; age range is for guidance and can be flexible.

CHARACTERS

George Bailey (20-40) Our good-hearted protagonist who has sacrificed his share of the American dream in order to help others and is pushed to the brink of despair on Christmas Eve.

Mary (20-40) George's childhood sweetheart, wife and mother to their 4 children. George's devoted wife, kind and resilient. Sees the best and worst of George.

Violet (20-40) A flirtatious and popular local girl who has a long-standing crush on George.

Sam (20-40) George's friend from his school days, moves away from Bedford Falls to become a successful businessman.

Uncle Billy or Aunt Dilly (50+) George's absent-minded, eccentric, and loveable relative who inadvertently causes the financial crisis that brings George's life crashing down.

Clarisa or Clarence (any age from 20 to 220), George's guardian angel, simple-minded and quirky. Sent from Heaven to save George when he is at his lowest point.

Bert or Gertrude (40+) Policeman or Policewomen and long-time friend of George.

Mr or Mrs Potter (40+): The greedy, ruthless, and scrooge-like villain who practically owns the town and acts as George's primary antagonist.

Harry Bailey (20-40) George's younger brother, a war hero and football star, whose life was saved by George when they were young.

Ensemble with doubling possible:

Angel Gloria and Angel Joseph (any age) Oversee the chaos that is earth.

Mr or Mrs Martini Friendly Italian bar owner, beholden to George for all the help he has given.

Mr or Mrs Gower Local pharmacist, eternally grateful to young George for saving his career

Ernie or Annie Cab driver and another long-time friend of George.

Ruth The new, unexpected, Mrs Harry Bailey.

Mr or Mrs Thompson, Mr or Mrs Davies, Mr or Mrs Randall, Tom or Norma all residents in Bedford Falls, customers of the building & loan company and good friends of George Bailey.

Young George (young teens) sensible school lad who works in the local pharmacy.

Young Harry (young teens) Georges younger, fool hardy, brother.

Young Sam (young teens) School friend of George and Harry.

Young Mary (young teens) School friend who visits George in the pharmacy.

Young Violet (young teens) School friend who visits George in the pharmacy.

Audition pieces

Scripts will be provided for the auditions and audition pieces will be available in advance at the play reading on 24th August. If you have any questions regarding the play or auditions, please feel free to contact Rick by email on dekerckhove@virginmedia.com or on 07851 355 663

RSS is committed to inclusive casting and providing fair and equal access to all.

Casting will not be constrained by any perceived characteristic of a role, e.g. gender or ethnicity, unless specified by the playwright or a condition of the licence.

Our auditions are conducted in the presence of a panel of members of the RSS General Committee; the role of the panel includes ensuring that auditions conform with the Society's Code of Conduct for Members

While auditions are open to all, any offer of a part is conditional. You must be a member of RSS before the offer can be confirmed

Audition Application forms are available in the theatre, can be downloaded from the auditions page of the RSS website, or online: www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk/acting.

Please return completed forms to the Hon. Secretary at the theatre or by e-mail to secretary@rss-mwt.org.uk

Dogs: please note that dogs (except trained and insured service animals) are not permitted in any part of the theatre at play readings, auditions or performances, or other events