

TCOE Theatre Company  
**Auditions for the 2022 Summer Musical**



We cannot wait to be together for our 2022 summer show, the classic musical, *The Music Man!*

*The Music Man* is a musical with book, music, and lyrics by Meredith Willson, based on a story by Willson and Franklin Lacey. The plot concerns con man Harold Hill, who poses as a boys' band organizer and leader and sells band instruments and uniforms to naïve Midwestern townsfolk, promising to train the members of the new band. Harold is no musician, however, and plans to skip town without giving any music lessons. Prim librarian and piano teacher Marian sees through him, but when Harold helps her younger brother overcome his lisp and social awkwardness, Marian begins to fall in love with him. He risks being caught to win her heart.

In 1957, the show became a hit on Broadway, winning five Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and running for 1,375 performances. The cast album won the first Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album and spent 245 weeks on the Billboard charts. The show's success led to revivals, including the current production starring Hugh Jackman and Sutton Foster, and two film adaptations.

See full list of characters below.

# Audition Information

## What is like being in the summer show?

Being in a summer show is a **big** time commitment. Due to the short time frame of rehearsals, June 6 - July 11, 2022, we cannot allow students to miss more than 2 days of rehearsal.

- Rehearsals will be Monday - Friday from 1:00pm - 5:00pm beginning June 6, 2022.
- Students **cannot have more than two pre-approved absences**. Please talk to theatre company director, Bethany Rader at [bethany.rader@tcoe.org](mailto:bethany.rader@tcoe.org), if you have specific questions regarding this policy.
  - Because of the fast-paced schedule, if a student misses just one rehearsal, they might miss the vocal parts and choreography for an entire number. The first two weeks are the most crucial for students to attend.
  - We often have 3 rehearsal rooms going at once. Students will be in one room learning choreography, another room learning music, and in a third learning blocking. Down-time is limited and attendance is essential to success.
- Show dates, **as of now**, will be July 22 - 23 and July 28 - 30, 2022. This is subject to change due to theatre availability and conflicts due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Load in will be July 11, 2022 and strike will be July 31, 2022, as of now. These events are **mandatory** for each student (if you have a religious conflict with Sundays please speak with Bethany before rehearsals begin.)
- Students **MUST** be off book/memorized for the first rehearsal.
- A detailed rehearsal schedule will be given out at the Materials Meeting after the cast list is posted.
  - Some of these dates are subject to change, but will not fall outside of the June 6 and July 31, 2022 time frame.

## Who can audition for The Music Man?

We are opening auditions to 5th - 12th graders\* for *The Music Man*, due to role requirements in the show. (Typical summer show auditions are for 7th - 12th graders). There will be a limited number of 5th and 6th graders cast, so please make sure you can commit to the schedule and time constraints before you submit your audition.

**\*Students entering 5th grade in the fall, and those who will have just graduated 12th grade in the spring are included. Students must either live in or attend school in Tulare County.**

TCOE Theatre Company's OnStage Summer Camp will be working on a production of **Seussical Kids** and that is open to incoming 1st graders through just "graduated" 6th graders. Click here for more information: <https://tcoe.org/TheatreCo/OnStage>

## How do I audition for The Music Man?

Online submissions will start on **April 25, 2022 and end on May 8, 2022 at 8:00pm**. You have those two weeks to submit your audition video and form. In-person callbacks are by invitation only and will take place on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

1. Complete your audition form and conflict sheet here:  
<https://forms.gle/ZXKNkzqfUy9i34bG8> (will become available on April 25)
2. Choose and record your audition song.
  - a. **Preferred:** a song from *The Music Man*
  - b. See additional tips and information below.
3. Choose and record a **provided** monologue. (Link in audition form)
  - a. Choose only one monologue.
  - b. See additional tips and information below.
4. Learn and record the **provided** dance combination. (Link in audition form)
  - a. The dance combination video will be made available on April 14, 2022.
  - b. See additional tips and information below.
5. Be sure you **slate your name** at the beginning of your video.
  - a. Say your name, the grade you are in this spring, and the title and author of your audition song.
6. Submit **only one video per student** (if you really cannot figure out how to combine your videos, you need to slate your name before each video). You may only submit once so be sure you've practiced and are satisfied with the final product before you submit.
7. Rename your video.
  - a. Use the format "**Lastname\_Firstname\_TMMAudition**"
  - b. For example: "Rader\_Bethany\_TMMAudition"
  - c. If you have to submit multiple videos, please add a number to the file name, for example: "Rader\_Bethany\_TMMAudition2"

8. Upload the **video file** to the Google Drive folder. (Link in audition form)
9. If you would like to, you are also welcome to upload your resume and headshot to the Google Drive folder. Please be sure your name is included in the filename, similar to the other file you upload. (This step is NOT REQUIRED.)

**Everyone must participate in all three disciplines involved in the audition (vocal, acting, and dance) in order to be considered for casting.** The directors and audition panel fully understand that students have strengths and weaknesses and varying levels of experience and confidence in the three disciplines. Do not count yourself out because you consider yourself a weak dancer or have little experience singing. There are plenty of roles in every show that are not dance-heavy or don't necessarily have a solo. Just try your best and learn from the experience no matter what happens! Have fun and "fake it till you make it!"

## Additional Tips and Information

### Vocal Audition Tips and Information:

#### How to pick your song and what we are looking for:

- Pick a song that highlights what you do best as a singing actor -- your vocal range, ability, musicality, and the tone of your voice. Do not just pick the most popular song on Broadway or one that has the highest of notes. Find a song that really works for you and the show you are auditioning for!
- **We are encouraging song selections from *The Music Man* for this video audition.** If you are not choosing a song from this show, remember to do your research and consider the style of music and characters when choosing a song.
- You are going to use a pre-recorded backing track for this audition. It should be a piano recording or karaoke track of your song **without background vocals**. Do NOT record yourself singing along with the soundtrack that has vocals. We need to hear your voice only.
- Select 30 to 60 seconds (16 to 32 bars of music) of the song that you feel most confident about and that shows off your singing and acting abilities.
  - You do not start at the beginning of the song, just make sure that whichever portion you choose tells the audition panel a story that has a

beginning, middle and end to it. This will help you emote and act through the song.

- The intro should only be 8 beats or less of music before you sing.

## **Acting Audition Tips and Information:**

Remember you only need to record ONE monologue so pick the one that you relate to the most and submit that recording. (Link in audition form)

- Be memorized.
- Do your research on the play and use the monologue to your advantage:
  - If you know you want to be one of the teenage characters, make sure your monologue reads as a teenager.
  - If you want to be an adult, play it more like YOU feel an adult would be.
  - Is the character a “bad guy” or a “good guy”? Play that! Make us know your thoughts.
- Don't use any accents, just be **your** version of the character.
- Speak slowly and clearly and have fun.

### **How to record your vocal and acting audition:**

- Please dress nicely and modestly for your recording. Have your hair styled, and off of your face.
- Record in a well-lit room with light on your face. Natural light is always great.
- Record in a quiet room that doesn't have an echo or fans/air conditioning running in the background.
- Find out a way for your recording device (tablet, cell phone, iPad etc.) to stay still and stationary. If someone in your home can be your camera operator, that would be helpful.
- Film in landscape mode/horizontal.
- Center yourself in the frame from the waist up for your acting and vocal recording. Being closer to the camera is better.
- For your vocal audition, use some kind of speaker system that will play the track clearly and balanced with nice sound quality. A good bluetooth speaker works well.
- Make sure your vocal volume is as loud or slightly louder than your backing track volume.

- **Do not edit your vocals in any sound program after recording.** It must be a live audition without any special effects. This is the same requirement in professional theater auditions.
- Same goes for your acting audition: **no editing** of any kind. It should be all one take.
- Remember to slate as your introduction before your vocal audition. "Hi. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, I'm in the \_\_\_\_\_ grade and I will be singing \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ the musical." (Track starts and you perform...)
  - If you are doing all one video as requested, you do not need to slate before each portion of the audition, just at the start of the single video. However, if you must submit multiple videos you will need to slate before each section.
- Make sure you stand confident and grounded with your feet shoulder width apart. Relax your neck and shoulders while keeping your torso tall and open. Make sure your knees are not locked. Do your best not to sway or fidget absentmindedly. It is acceptable to move slightly as long as it is with purpose.

## Dance Audition Tips and Information:

For the dance audition, you will be learning a short combination via video. A week prior to the opening of auditions, a link will be posted on the [tcoe.org/theatreco](http://tcoe.org/theatreco) website where you can view and learn the dance audition material. (Link to choreography video and audio track in audition form)

### How to prepare to film your audition:

- Dress in neat dance clothes or athletic attire that is not baggy.
- Wear jazz/ballet shoes, character shoes, or flexible sneakers.
- Have your hair neatly and securely pulled off of your face.
- Find an indoor or outdoor space where you can safely perform the piece. An ideal location will have good front-lighting and a clean background (a bedsheet can easily act as a backdrop).
- Set up the camera far enough away from you to **fit your entire body** (especially your feet and your face) in the frame for the duration of the combination. Film in landscape mode/horizontal orientation. It may be easiest to recruit someone to assist you with the technology during your audition so they can press record, play, stop, etc. while you focus on dancing.

### **How to film your dance audition:**

- (Reminder: slate your name and grade at the beginning of your full audition video that includes all three of the disciplines.)
- Play the provided dance audition music track on a separate device than the one you are filming on.
- Do not have the video of McKenna dancing playing during your audition.
- Perform facing the camera with full-out energy and a smile.
- When you've completed the combination, hold the end pose for a couple of seconds and then stop the recording.
- If you choose to do multiple takes of your dance audition, do not edit different clips from different performances together, just pick your favorite one to submit.

### **Final Notes:**

- Do a couple practice takes, so that you can adjust your track volume, lighting, etc. Watch your audition back and make sure that it is acceptable.
- We have all had the experience of filming ourselves and never being completely happy or content with the end product. We can always find something to nitpick and might spend hours upon hours trying to get the perfect take. Do not fall into that trap! The directors and audition panel are not looking for perfection. We are looking for a confident and capable performer who entertains us!
- Do your homework ahead of time. Study up on the show you are auditioning for. Know who the composer is, the writers, the original choreographers...use that knowledge to your advantage!
- Treat your auditions like it's a performance. Don't focus on what the directors are thinking. This is your chance to share who you are and what your unique voice does!

**We want to learn more about YOU in your audition. Do not try to copy other famous actors, singers, or dancers. Be you and do what you do best! Be proud of yourself!**

# Music Man Character Descriptions

Cast Size: Medium. Dance Requirements: Standard.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Music\\_Man](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Music_Man)

**Charlie Cowell:** A traveling salesman who is on to Harold Hill's schemes. Tirelessly attempts to prove to everyone the true con man behind Harold Hill.

Gender: Male, Age: 25 to 45

**Harold Hill:** Our story's unsuspecting protagonist. A con man, traveling under the auspices of a salesman, he eventually falls in love with Marian Paroo. Charismatic and charming.

Gender: Male, Age: 25 to 35; Vocal range top: F4, Vocal range bottom: Ab2

**Mayor Shinn:** A blustery politician who is all too "self-important." Begrudgingly married to Eulalie, he is skeptical of the town rumor mill.

Gender: Male, Age: 50 to 60

**Ewart Dunlop:** A member of the quartet formed by Harold Hill with a tenor voice. Ewart is married to Maude Dunlop.

Gender: Male, Age: 25 to 45; Vocal range top: F5, Vocal range bottom: F3

**Oliver Hix:** A baritone in the quartet formed by Hill. Oliver is married to Alma Hix.

Gender: Male, Age: 25 to 45; Vocal range top: F4, Vocal range bottom: B2

**Jacey Squires:** The highest tenor in the quartet. Married to Mrs. Squires.

Gender: Male, Age: 25 to 45; Vocal range top: C5, Vocal range bottom: C3

**Olin Britt:** A citizen of River City and the bass of the quartet formed by Harold Hill.

Gender: Male, Age: 25 to 45; Vocal range top: C4, Vocal range bottom: F2

**Marcellus Washburn:** Harold's chummy old friend and former con man, he now lives in River City and is trying to settle down.

Gender: Male, Age: 30 to 40; Vocal range top: A4, Vocal range bottom: G2

**Tommy Djilas:** An attractive young man from the "wrong" side of town. Secretly courting

Zaneeta. Gender: Male, Age: 15 to 20



**Constable Locke:** The town peace officer. Gender: Male, Age: 25 to 45

**Marian Paroo:** The stuff town librarian and music teacher. She is an attractive young lady who eventually falls for Harold Hill. Stuck up. Curious.

Gender: Female, Age: 20 to 30; Vocal range top: A5, Vocal range bottom: G3

**Mrs. Paroo:** Cheerful and always plotting. An Irish widow and mother to Marian and Winthrop.

Gender: Female, Age: 45 to 60; Vocal range top: Eb5, Vocal range bottom: Ab3

**Amaryllis:** A slightly bratty piano student of Marian Paroo.

Gender: Female, Age: 8 to 12; Vocal range top: E5, Vocal range bottom: C4

**Winthrop Paroo:** Marian's baby brother, he is very shy because of a noticeable lisp. Embraces Harold Hill and the marching band.

Gender: Male, Age: 8 to 12; Vocal range top: Eb5, Vocal range bottom: C4

**Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn:** Mayor Shinn's peacock wife. A serial gossip and snob, she has trouble keeping her opinions to herself.

Gender: Female, Age: 40 to 50; Vocal range top: D5, Vocal range bottom: D4

**Zaneeta Shinn:** The Mayor's fresh-faced daughter who is in love with Tommy. Sweet and outgoing. Appears to be daffy at times.

Gender: Female, Age: 14 to 18

**Alma Hix:** A "Pick-a-Little Lady" married to Oliver Hix.

Gender: Female, Age: 25 to 45

**Maud Dunlop:** A "Pick-a-Little Lady" married to Ewart Dunlop.

Gender: Female, Age: 25 to 45

**Ethel Toffelmier:** A comical "Pick-a-Little Lady," and Marcellus Washburn's girlfriend.

Gender: Female, Age: 25 to 40

**Mrs. Squires:** A "Pick-a-Little Lady" married to Jacey Squires.

Gender: Female, Age: 25 to 45

**Ensemble:** Newspaper Readers, River City Townspeople, Traveling Salesmen