



About HATY and Whistle Down The Wind

Hi all,

This information should hopefully answer any questions you may have about HATY and our current show Whistle Down the Wind which we are delighted to be performing at The Playhouse Theatre on the **31st of October until the 4th of November 2017**. Performances will be nightly and we will also be having a Saturday matinee.

About HATY:

HATY is the youth theatre of HAOS Productions who have recently performed Anything Goes at the Victoria Theatre and will be producing Top Hat at the Victoria Theatre in April 2018. We are a forward thinking registered charity who strives to bring high standard productions to local audiences.

We have a management committee that oversees all business relating to the charity and also have a sub-committee for HATY to focus on organising the youth side of things.

The HATY committee is made up of the following officers –

Chair: Geoff Cowgill

Secretary: Jane Marescaux

Treasurer: Nuala Smith

And they are supported by a number of adults who help with the day to day running of the society.

About Whistle Down the Wind:

Whistle Down the Wind revolves around the time and place where the word teenager was invented. Swallow, a 15 year-old-girl growing up in America's deep South in the fifties, discovers a mysterious man hiding out in a barn. When she asks who he is and the first words he utters are "Jesus Christ", it's as if all her prayers have been answered. Swallow and the town's other children vow to protect the stranger from the world that waits outside – the townspeople who are determined to catch a fugitive hiding in their midst. As fantasy and reality collide, Swallow is torn between the two and begins to discover who she is and where she is going.

The production team for Whistle Down the Wind are:

Yvonne White – Director

Beth Smith and Graham Robbins – Musical Directors

How do we get involved?

Anyone aged between 8 and 18 can audition to be part of Whistle Down the Wind. You don't need to have had any previous experience or training. We are looking for young people who are committed, enthusiastic and willing.

We are looking to cast 35 young people to be part of the show. This means depending on the numbers of interest there may be some of you that are disappointed this time.

There is an audition information sheet in with this pack which will inform you of the process of auditioning.

Commitment:

If you are successful in gaining a place in Whistle Down the Wind don't underestimate the commitment that will be required of you. Rehearsals will begin early June and will take place on a Wednesday 6-9pm, Friday 6-9pm and Sunday 10:30am-1:30pm up until the show. You need those times free to attend rehearsals.

Initially the company will not be required on a Friday as this will be allocated to named cast singing and setting, however from September you will be required. Named cast will be needed at all rehearsals from the start. A rehearsal schedule will be issued so you know exactly when and for how long you will be needed each week. If you can't make a rehearsal for any reason such as illness you must notify Jane, the secretary or a member of the production team. If no notification is provided there is a '3 strikes and out' rule, which means you will be asked to leave the production.

You will also be expected to learn words and practice in your own time in order for us to move forward quickly.

For the week of the show you will be required to keep free the Sunday before (Sunday 29th October) as there will be various calls at the theatre that day, Monday for the dress rehearsal and then all of the show calls. If you cannot make any of those calls in the theatre you are unable to participate in the show due to health and safety reasons.

Being part of a show is fun and very rewarding but like we've said, it is also lots of hard work!

Cost:

You need to be a member of the society in order to be in the show for insurance purposes. This is £10 a year. People who have already done concerts or workshops with HATY in 2017 will have already paid this. This will need to be paid at the first rehearsal or before if you are a new member.

There are lots of costs incurred when putting on a musical, including the rights to put it on, the hire of the theatre, costumes, sound and lights to name a few. Our last show Beauty and the Beast cost £18,330 to produce. There is a charge to be part of the show to contribute to some of these cost, this is £80.

We know this can sound lot all in one go but it works out at £3.81 per week for 21 weeks of rehearsals. For that you will be getting 2 or 3 rehearsals a week in preparation for the show. This payment will be required by the 31st August and can be paid weekly, all in one go or in chunks, whatever is easiest for you.