

The logo for the musical 'Anastasia' features the word 'ANASTASIA' in large, ornate, gold-colored capital letters. Below it, the words 'THE NEW BROADWAY MUSICAL' are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a dark purple background.

ANASTASIA

THE NEW BROADWAY MUSICAL

How To Be Involved

This information should hopefully answer any questions you may have about being involved in our current production of Anastasia the Musical which we are delighted to be performing at The Halifax Playhouse on the **29th October - 1st November 2025** .

About The Show:

Based on the beloved animated movie from 20th Century Fox, Anastasia is both a heartwarming and heart-wrenching dive into one of history's biggest unanswered questions: what happened to Grand Duchess Anastasia Romanov? Set amidst the turmoil of the Russian revolution with the Bolshevik regime on the rise, Anya, an amnesiac orphan stranded in what was once the Russian capital, St. Petersburg, is on a quest to rediscover her past which she believes lies in Paris. Joined by a dashing conman, Dmitry, and an ex-aristocrat, Vlad Popov, who want to use Anya to bamboozle the only remaining Romanov, Dowager Empress Marie into believing that Anya is the lost Anastasia, she escapes to Paris with a determined Soviet officer on their heels. Including classic songs from the motion picture like "Journey to the Past" and "Once Upon a December", Anastasia explores one determined girl's journey to find home, love, and family as she discovers who she was and embraces who she is meant to be.

We are excited to introduce our fantastic production team:

Director - Chris Walker

Assistant Director - Kayleigh Smith

Musical Supervisor - Ben Smith

Choreographer - Becki Thompson

Commitment:

If you are successful in gaining a place in this production, please don't underestimate the commitment that will be required of you. Rehearsals will begin in June and will take place on Wednesdays and Fridays 6:30 - 9:30pm, and Sundays 11am - 2pm. All participants will need to be available during these times throughout the rehearsal period, although company members will not be needed at all 3 rehearsals each week to begin with. 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 the required rehearsal days you will not be able to audition.

If you can't make a rehearsal for any reason such as illness you must notify us as soon as possible in advance. 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. It is expected that you don't take any time off from rehearsals during the final month, as this is very close to the show.

For the week of the show you will be required to keep free the Sunday as there may be various calls that day, Monday evening for the technical rehearsal, Tuesday evening for the dress rehearsal and then all of the show calls.

If you cannot make all of these calls during show week and all full rehearsals in the lead up to the show during October, you are unable to participate in the show.

Attendance is essential to allow the wider creative teams to be able to undertake their roles and to support your fellow cast members. Being part of a show is fun and very rewarding but it is also lots of hard work!

Please ensure you have also read the HATY Handbook -

<https://www.haosproductions.com/policies-procedures>

to ensure you understand what is expected of members of HATY to make sure we are the right society for you.

Cost:

You need to be a member of the society in order to be in the show, annual membership for HATY costs £15.

There are lots of costs incurred when putting on a musical, including the rights to put it on, rehearsal space, costumes, sound and lights to name a few. There is a production donation to be part of the show to contribute to some of these costs; this is £100.

We know this can sound like a lot but it works out at under £5 per week for rehearsals. This can be paid in monthly instalments of £25 or up front all in one go.

If this cost would be a concern for any participant then please speak with us, this shouldn't be a reason to not be involved.

How do we get involved?

To be involved in this production you will need to audition. Anyone can audition for this production if they are aged 8 - 18 on the audition day, and no older than 18 on the final performance date.

We want to try and include as many young people as possible, but due to the venue size we will need to limit the number of young people involved. Therefore for this production we are only able to accept 35 into the cast.

HATY has other activities, concerts and productions running throughout the year that are open access and don't require an audition process.

How do I get a chance to audition?

REQUEST a password from jane@haosproductions.com in order to review the audition material. Please look carefully at the roles on the web page to decide which part you wish to audition for as you can only audition for 1 role. You can also tell us which other roles you would like to be considered for.

COMPLETE the online Expression of Interest Form (EOI). This electronic form is available on each of the character pages. **Deadline is 9pm Wednesday 14th May.**

SEND a recent photograph of your face only (headshot) to jane@haosproductions.com. This is needed for the audition panel paperwork so needs to look similar to how you will look on the day. **Deadline is 9pm on Wednesday 14th May** so we have enough time to prepare details ahead of audition day.

CHECK EMAILS for your invitation to a workshop on the morning of Sunday 18th May 2025. Everyone wishing to be in the production needs to attend the workshop. You will also be provided with a solo audition time later in the day if you are auditioning for a named principal.

Is There a Chance to Practice Before the Auditions?

All the audition material and rehearsal aids will be available online by visiting <https://www.haosproductions.com/whats-on> and clicking on the show. There by clicking take part you will be able to find the audition parts for each of the characters to be able to practice at home before you attend your audition.

Drop in sessions will be available as follows for anyone who would like an opportunity to speak with the production team if they have any questions and also have the chance to sing through the audition songs and learn the dance before the day. These are not mandatory so if you feel happy to practice the material at home this is fine, but is there if you would find it helpful.

Date	Time
Wednesday 30th April	6:30 - 8:30
Wednesday 7th May	6:30 - 8:30
Wednesday 14th May	6:30 - 8:30

What happens on the audition day?

The Workshop: For All

Everyone who would like to be considered to take part in the show will need to attend the workshop on the morning of **Sunday 18th May**. If we have not received your expression of interest form and photograph before the deadline on the 14th May you will not be able to attend the workshop.

You need to ensure that you arrive on time, we won't be able to wait for people to start as there is a tight schedule for the day.

We will sing through the number provided and practice the movement. It is advisable that you know the song before attending in order to be able to add in the movement and perform it to the best of your ability. Once learnt you will perform in small groups to the audition panel. Ensure you wear clothing and footwear that allows for movement.

Extended Workshop: Little Anastasia

There will be an extended workshop for those wanting to be considered for Little Anastasia. Those auditioning need to be aware they may be asked to perform on their own and not just part of a group as part of the workshop. They will not need to attend an individual audition later in the day.

Individual Auditions: Identified Principal Roles

Individual auditions will take place after the workshop from approximately 11:00am. You will have an individual time slot of 5-10 minutes to come and perform the audition pieces for your chosen character. We will expect that you are familiar with the audition piece you have chosen to perform.

You can only audition for one character but can put down on your expression of interest form if you would also like to be considered for any other roles. There will be just you and the audition panel in the room for your individual audition.

Who are the audition panel?

The people on the audition panel will be there throughout the workshop and the individual auditions watching you and making notes about how they think you have got on. After individual auditions on Sunday the panel will then discuss everyone they have seen and make the difficult decision of casting the show.

Auditions can be scary and people can get very nervous, but try not to worry; the audition panel understand this and all of them have been in the same position as you on a number of occasions. They will try and support you and try to help put you at ease.

Other members of the committee will be there to meet and greet you on the day.

What are the panel looking for?

We are looking for a cast who work hard, try their best, practice and really want to work with us. We all want to enjoy the process so are looking for individuals who are supportive of others and want to work together as part of a team. This is a hobby for all the adults involved in the production too, volunteering their time to make the production happen and we want this to be a fun experience for all involved.

For the audition we are looking for realistic characters based on real life historical events, although a fictional story. We are looking for those who can act through song to tell the story and portray the challenges that the characters were facing at that time.

In individual auditions try and give yourself something to do during the song - what would your character be doing as they are singing? How would they stand and move? What expressions would they be displaying?

We are there to support you and want you to do well. Just go for it!

How are decisions made about casting?

Roles will be offered to the candidate who best portrays the requirements of the role on the day of the auditions, meeting the specification and who are compatible with any other associated casting.

Where a clear decision cannot be made between two or more equally capable candidates, loyalty, support, commitment to the society and previous behaviour will be taken into consideration.

For more details about casting please see the HATY Casting Principles document available in the policy and procedure section on the HAOS Productions website -

<https://www.haosproductions.com/policies-procedures>

When will I find out if I was successful?

The audition panel will make their decision about casting at the end of the audition day. As per the HATY casting principles document there will be a 24 hour period after casting has taken place before any decisions will be communicated via email.

If for any reason the audition panel are unable to cast a specific part they hold the right to ask others outside of the audition day to take this role.

What if I can't make the audition day?

Unfortunately if you are unable to make the audition day you will not be considered in the initial round of casting. However if you still submit your expression of interest form and we are unable to cast the full company you may be considered.

If you have any further questions please email haty@haosproductions.com