



How To Be Involved

This information should hopefully answer any questions you may have about being involved in our current production of Everybody's Talking About Jamie which we are delighted to be performing at The Halifax Playhouse on the **30th October - 2nd November 2024** .

About The Show:

Based on a true story the show follows Jamie New, a sixteen year old who lives on a council estate in Sheffield. Jamie doesn't quite fit in. Jamie is terrified about the future. Jamie is going to be a sensation.

Supported by his brilliant, loving mum and surrounded by his friends, Jamie overcomes prejudice, beats the bullies and steps out of the darkness, into the spotlight. This 'Funny, outrageous, touching' (Daily Telegraph), musical sensation is to be experienced by all the family and not to be missed!

With an original score of catchy pop tunes that will 'blow the roof off the Theatre' (Mail on Sunday) by lead singer-songwriter of The Feeling, Dan Gillespie Sells and writer Tom MacRae (Doctor Who), this 'Sparkling coming-of-age musical' (The Times) will have everybody talking about Jamie for years to come.

There are a number of themes covered within the production including identity, relationships and self-esteem that the selected cast will explore during the rehearsal period. We are looking for a cast that is able to explore these themes sensitively, respectfully and supportively together to ensure a good understanding and accurate portrayal of the challenges faced.

The production team at the helm will be:

Director - Georgia Bloxham

Musical Director - Charlie Rhodes

Choreographer - Louise Goodchild

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 6:30 - 9:30pm, Fridays 7:00 - 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 run rehearsals in the lead up to the show, 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 fee 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 payment will be required the month before the show and can be paid in monthly instalments or all in one go.

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 11-18 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.

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 6pm Sunday 12th 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 6pm on Sunday 12th 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 19th May 2024. Everyone wishing to be in the production needs to attend the workshop. You will also be provided with a solo audition time 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 8th May	6:30 - 8:30
Sunday 12th May	11:00 - 13:00
Wednesday 15th May	6:30 - 8:30

What happens on the audition day?

The Workshop:

Everyone who would like to be considered to take part will need to attend the workshop on the morning of **Sunday 19th May**. If we have not received your expression of interest form and photograph before the deadline on the 12th 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 and movement before attending in order to be able to perform it to the best of your ability. Once learnt you will perform in small groups to the audition panel. Clothing and footwear should be worn that allows for movement.

Individual Auditions:

Individual auditions will take place after the workshop from approximately 10:30am. 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 this show there are a lot of relevant real life themes to be explored regarding identity, sexuality, bullying, relationships and self esteem that will be pertinent to the selected cast. We are looking for a cast who will approach and explore this with us sensitively, respectfully and supportively; some may be experiencing or may have experienced some similar issues and challenges.

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. For this production there are roles identifying specific ethnicity or heritage that need to be observed. The cast is to represent a modern northern school of mixed ethnicity in line with the author's intentions.

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