What is the age requirement for children to audition?
Children must be 8 years old as of December 5th, 2015.

Where are auditions?
At the New Lyric Theatre Warehouse at 7 Green Tree Drive in South Burlington.

When are auditions?
Saturday, December 5th. Registration for Children auditions will begin at 8:30 a.m. You must be registered no later than 9:15 a.m. to audition. There is no pre-registration for Children’s auditions. You MUST be at least 8 years old as of December 5th, 2015 to audition.

What should I expect at auditions?
Children Auditions consist of three components:
1. Registration
2. Music Workshop
3. Vocal Audition

1. REGISTRATION

How does check in and sign up work?
When you arrive, visit the info table to pick up the necessary forms if you have not printed them in advance from the web or picked them up at the kickoff meeting. Fill out all forms in their entirety, carefully and in as much detail as you can. A parent or legal guardian MUST sign the form for auditionees under the age of 18.

Once you have completed your audition form and signed all required forms, proceed to the Pre-Registration table where your forms will be checked for completeness.

With your completed and checked forms, go to the Registration table where you will be assigned an audition time, and be given an audition number that you will pin to your clothing during your audition. PLEASE DO NOT LOSE YOUR NUMBER! It must be returned.

Next you will go to the Email entry station where you will enter your notification email address.

Lastly, you will then have a digital photo taken.
What forms do I need?
You will need 3 forms: an Audition Form, an Audition Policies, Procedures and Rights Form, and the Parent Information and Consent Letter. All forms MUST be signed by a parent or guardian prior to auditioning. NO EXCEPTIONS!

I already have a resume and picture. Do I still have to fill out an audition form?
Yes. All the questions on the form are important. You may attach a resume to your form, but the form must still be completely filled out. Download it from the website and complete it beforehand! There is no need to attach a picture, but if you choose to do so, we will NOT be returning the picture to you.

2. MUSIC WORKSHOP

How does the Music Workshop work?
As a group, you will learn a segment of Jolly Holiday that you will perform as your audition. Parents/Guardians will be allowed to stay in the audition room for this portion.

3. AUDITIONS

What happens there?
Small groups will be called to the stage together where you will sit in a row. Individually you will each stand center stage and do the following:
- State your name, audition #, and the role(s) you are auditioning for.
- Perform the vocal piece you learned during the vocal workshop.

Who should audition at the Children Auditions?
If you want to be considered for Jane Banks, Michael Banks, Mollie or Ollie, you must audition on Saturday, December 5th.

Will characters speak with accents? Do you want accents during the scene readings?
Children cast in the show will speak with a standard British Accent. It is not necessary for you to do the vocal audition with an accent. You may be asked to try an accent at callbacks.
What is the age requirement for adults to audition?
Everyone auditioning must be at least 16 years old as of December 11th, 2015.

Where are auditions?
At the New Lyric Theatre Company Warehouse at 7 Green Tree Drive in South Burlington.

When are auditions?
Sunday, December 6th through Wednesday, December 9th, with Thursday, December 10th and Friday, December 11th reserved for callbacks if necessary. Registration for Adult auditions on Sunday will begin at 1:00 pm and you must complete registration no later than 1:30 pm. Registration for Adult auditions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will begin at 5:45 pm and you must complete registration no later than 6:15 pm.

What forms do I need to audition?
You will need 2 forms to audition – an Audition Form and an Audition Policies, Procedures & Rights form. Please note that if you are under 18 years old, your parent or guardian MUST sign the form prior to your audition.

What should I expect at auditions?
Adult Auditions consist of three components:
1. Registration
2. Workshops: Music, Dance, and Reading
3. Traditional Auditions

1. REGISTRATION

How does check in and sign up work?
When you arrive, visit the info table to pick up the necessary forms if you have not printed them in advance from the web or picked them up at the kickoff meeting. Fill out all forms in their entirety, carefully and in as much detail as you can. A parent or legal guardian MUST sign the form for auditionees under the age of 18.

Once you have completed your audition form and signed all required forms, proceed to the Pre-Registration table where your forms will be checked for completeness.

With your completed and checked forms, go to the Registration table where you will be assigned an audition time, and be given an audition number that you will pin to your clothing during your audition. PLEASE DO NOT LOSE YOUR NUMBER! It must be returned.
Next you will go to the Email entry station where you will enter your notification email address.

Lastly, you will have a digital photo taken.

**Can I Pre-Register for Auditions?**
You can pre-register for a specific night of auditions, but not a specific time slot. You will still need to arrive at the audition location in enough time to complete your registration.

**Can I pick which Traditional Group I'm auditioning in for Adult Auditions?**
Group placement will be first come, first served. We try to spread folks out over the groups as much as possible so we can maximize your audition time as well as end earlier whenever possible. We may allow younger teens a little more priority for Group 1, but other than that, it will be random. We appreciate your patience as we give everyone auditioning the time they deserve!

I already have a resume and picture. Do I still have to fill out an audition form?
Yes. All the questions on the form are important. You may attach a resume to your form, but the form must still be completely filled out. Download it off the website and do it beforehand! There is no need to attach a picture, but if you do choose to do so, we will NOT return the picture to you.

2. **WORKSHOPS: MUSIC, DANCE, READING**

**How does the Music Workshop work?**
As a group, you will learn the song segment that you will perform as a part of your Traditional Audition. You can learn all of the choices, but will only audition with 1 specific song segment of your choice. There are specific choices based on the characters you may wish to be considered for. You will only attend the Music Workshop once, on the night you are auditioning. Music workshops will be broken down by gender of the role for which you are auditioning.

**How does the Dance Workshop/Audition work?**
You will be taught a dance piece as a group, rehearse it several times, and then perform it as a part of a smaller group all during the same workshop session. You will only attend the Dance Workshop/Audition once on the night that you are auditioning. You will not have to perform the piece again later in the evening. Movement Workshops will be broken down by gender of the role for which you are auditioning.

**How does the Reading Workshop work?**
You may enter the Reading Workshop once you have completed your registration if you like. Once all auditionees have competed registration, the Reading Workshop is mandatory. We will have an artistic team member present to explain accents, what we are looking for, and answer any questions. Your reading is just as important as your dance and vocal audition.
3. **TRADITIONAL AUDITIONS**

**What happens there?**
Small groups will be called to the stage together where you will sit in a row. Individually you will each stand center stage and do the following:
- State your name, audition #, and the part(s) you are auditioning for.
- Sing a scale.
- Perform the vocal piece you learned during the vocal workshop.
- Act the scene of your choice opposite a designated reading partner.

**Will characters speak with accents? Do you want accents during the scene readings?**
There is a mix of British accents in the show. If you are comfortable with accents and can do one without it distracting you from your reading and characterization then go for it! If doing an accent in your reading is going to derail you from focusing on the scene, PLEASE don’t worry about it. We will work with you on the accents at callbacks. You will not be judged on your accent and not using one will not preclude you from being considered.
GENERAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
ABOUT AUDITIONS

How many roles are there, total?
35 or so. Please see the character descriptions for details.

What should I wear to auditions?
Both men and women should wear clothing that is EASY TO MOVE IN. Clothing that lets us see your body move is helpful. If you are interested in a feature dancer role, please wear form fitting clothes. Please, NO bulky sweatshirts or sweatpants, pencil skirts or miniskirts. Shoes must be worn for the dance/traditional audition. Jazz shoes, dance sneakers, low heeled lace-up boots, character shoes, or any soft soled lace up shoe are all appropriate footwear choices. If you own tap shoes, please bring them. Wear something YOU feel good in. (And consider wearing easily removable layers in case it is cold or you get hot.)

If I get called back, what should I prepare or expect?
You will not need to prepare any differently than for your regular audition. Call-backs are where the team asks to see what they need to see in order to figure out where people best fit, when they haven’t seen enough in the main audition or need to see something different. You may be asked to do the same pieces you learned during your original audition with some feedback/direction from the team. OR you may be taught entirely new pieces. You might read across from a designated reader or across from other auditionees. Come with an open mind, and consider this an opportunity to play whatever role you are called back for even if just for that night. If you don’t get a call back that does not necessarily mean that you will not be cast.

Are you going to make the music, readings, and dance audition pieces available before auditions so I can practice?
Detailed information about the music selections and the readings is available on the Lyric website. The dance audition will not be available prior to the workshop/audition.

Why are auditions closed? Why can’t my even my mother be in there?
It has been our experience that some people auditioning are distracted when certain other people are present (especially friends or family). Some worry about what their family or friends are thinking and instead of auditioning for the show, they audition for the role of “talented friend” (or worse “not talented enough friend”). Fewer people watching = less pressure.

Does everyone who auditions get a part of some kind?
Not everyone who auditions will end up with an on stage, performing role, but you can still be involved! If you are not cast (and even if you don’t audition!) there are
still plenty of opportunities to be a part of the production! Contact us for more information on backstage and other behind-the-scenes roles.

Who makes these casting decisions?
The team members that watch the auditions are the Director/Choreographer, Music Director, Producer, Stage Managers, Director/Choreographer assistants, and a Lyric Theatre Company executive / Board of Directors representative. This team may change based on the wishes of the director. The Director and Music Director make the casting decisions together with input from assistants. In the event of differences of opinion, the director has final say about casting decisions.

What factors go into casting?
So many things are considered by the casting team: In addition to skill and talent, we have to consider look, fit, attitude, availability, the way other roles are being cast, professionalism, limitations as noted by the auditionee (including conflicts) and many other subjective factors. A decision to not cast you doesn’t mean you aren’t talented. In fact, many casting decisions come down to some factor other than talent – if more than one person has the “right stuff” for the role then there has to be a decision made based on other criteria. Remember that you are auditioning from the moment you want in the door. A smile and a positive attitude go a long way.

Are all the roles only for people of certain characteristics?
Lyric Theatre Company, Inc. is an equal opportunity organization and as such does not discriminate during auditions based on any parameters other than appropriateness for a specific role. Some roles are written or better suited for specific physical characteristics (age, race, size, level of mobility, etc.) and as such these characteristics may be a part of the casting decision.

Do you cast new people? Isn’t Lyric an elitist organization that only casts from within?
If Lyric only cast from within, there would BE no Lyric. Every person who seems “inside” Lyric now, was once brand new. Lyric is only as strong as the growth of its membership. New performers are joyfully welcomed into the community with every single show, and on average, 20-50% of a Lyric cast is new to performing for Lyric. When people who have been cast before are cast again, it is because they had the right skills and fit for the show. But people who have been cast before are regularly NOT cast again when they are not the right fit for the next show. There are many examples of someone who was a lead in one show who is not cast at all in the next show. And vice versa – so if you are not cast this time, come back next time! A different show has different needs. We do everything we can to be completely open and fair. We always look forward to seeing and welcoming new talent!

Doesn’t Lyric “pre-cast” all of its shows?
Absolutely not. Auditions for every role are always open. No exceptions. Ever! An artistic team that would precast their show would be denying themselves the chance to find the best possible fits, to create the best possible show. No Lyric team wants that. There is NO pre-casting.
Does anyone get “preferential treatment” at auditions? Such as family and friends of the casting team?

No. The cast that is picked is the best for this show – no other criteria are used. It is true that people develop friendships, relationships, even marriages after meeting for the first time in a Lyric show. So naturally, they have shared interests, and sometimes one person is on a team while the other is auditioning. It would be unfair to deny friends and family members of the chance to audition, so everyone is allowed to audition. A Lyric executive/board member representative who is not affiliated with the casting team or anyone auditioning is always present at auditions to ensure that everyone is being fairly considered. Also, no member of the Artistic team is allowed to audition.

Does Lyric pay its actors? Does it pay anybody?

Lyric is a not-for-profit community theatre organization and as such most of those involved are NOT paid. There are 2 “permanent” paid positions: the Executive Director position and the Office Manager position. The musicians (but not the Music Director/Conductor) is paid (they are professionals who only get limited rehearsals!) The other 200+ participants on and off-stage, including the artistic team who put in hundreds of hours, are volunteers (and happy to be!).

When do rehearsals start?

If you are cast, we will have one rehearsal in December – December 13th. We will begin regular rehearsals on Sunday, January 10th. Rehearsals will be held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening and every Sunday afternoon. You may or may not be called for every rehearsal night, but it is better to be prepared to make that commitment. Show dates are April 1st through April 3rd, and April 7th through April 10th. We will also have a brush up rehearsal on Wednesday, April 6th.

If I audition and don’t get a part, can I call to discuss the reasons with someone?

The Mary Poppins team would love to talk with you; in fact we would love to talk with every auditionee afterward. But we are unable to give feedback because as soon as the show is cast we need to dive right into work for rehearsals. There simply isn’t time to respond thoughtfully to a number of people who wish feedback.

Any issues, complaints, compliments, or critiques concerning the audition process are to be directed to Lyric Theatre Company's Executive Director Syndi Zook at: 802-658-1484 – director@lyrictheatrevt.org

What if the answer to my question isn’t in here?

Contact me, Kate Whalen (Director), or anyone else on the team via our Stage Manager: Freda Tutt at fredankt@comcast.net.