

Disney and CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S

STAGE ARTZ

STAGE  
ARTZ  
THEATRE  
COMPANY

# MARY POPPINS

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Stage Artz is delighted to announce its 2019 charity family musical...

## MARY POPPINS!

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**By the end of 2018, Stage Artz Charity Musicals had raised \$263,000 for The Children's Hospital at Westmead, taking our donation over the \$250,000 benefactor status level. As 2019 is our first year as an official Hospital Benefactor, we are preparing to make this year's charity show the biggest one yet!**

One of the most popular Disney movies of all time is capturing hearts in a whole new way: as a Practically Perfect musical! Based on the books by P.L. Travers and the classic Walt Disney film, *Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins* delighted Broadway audiences for over 2,500 performances and received nominations for nine Olivier and seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical. *Mary Poppins* is an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers and astonishing stagecraft. It is a magical, sensational adventure for young and old.

We are thrilled to be bringing this supercalifragilisticexpialidocious Broadway musical to the Glen Street Theatre stage.

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**Mary Poppins will be performed at the Glen Street Theatre, 28th September to 5th October, 2019.**



lifetime partner 2017  
Proudly donated over \$150,000  
the children's hospital at Westmead

# AUDITION INFORMATION

- Please check the list on the right to find out audition date/time and details for your age group.
- Junior, intermediate, Senior & Adult auditions are held at Mackellar Performance Space (Campbell Parade, Manly Vale).
- Prep audition venue TBA.
- Rehearsals will begin as soon as the show has been cast - around the end of May. The first rehearsal date will be announced on our website

## IMPORTANT AUDITION INFO:

- Please arrive 15 minutes prior to audition time to fill in the audition form.
- It is important to list on the audition form any unavailable rehearsal dates/times.

## MARY POPPINS REHEARSALS:

**SUNDAY AFTERNOONS** (all ages)

**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS**

(adults/senior cast members and principals only)

**SATURDAY AFTERNOONS**

(all ages/roles - Saturday rehearsals begin in August)

**REHEARSALS WILL BE HELD AT:** Manly Vale & Dee Why.  
Final rehearsals will be held at Glen Street Theatre from 23rd to 27th September. Detailed rehearsal schedules will be sent out to every cast member via email.

## MARY POPPINS FUNDRAISERS:

We have some fundraising events lined up to help with production costs. We ask all MARY POPPINS cast members and families to assist with these fundraisers.

A \$100 production fee will be charged to each cast member to help with costumes, rehearsal hall & theatre hire, technical costs, copyright fees, insurance, set & props etc. This fee will include a MARY POPPINS promotional T-Shirt. Profits raised from MARY POPPINS will be donated to The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

## NOTE TO PARENTS OF SENIOR, JUNIOR & PREPS :

Note to parents of Senior, Junior & Prep performers: Being involved in a full scale musical production with accomplished adult performers is an experience your children will never forget. All Stage Artz students who have the time to commit to this production are encouraged to audition. However, this is a complex show and rehearsal time is limited, so please make sure your children are available for rehearsals before they audition (any unavailable dates/time should be listed on the audition form).

Anyone under the age of 17yrs must be a student of Stage Artz to audition. Students in Grade 8 and over will perform in all shows. Students in Grade 7 and under will be split into casts.

## PREPS (UP TO GRADE 2)

**SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 12:30 - 1PM**

This audition will be short and fun. The children may sing in a group or solo (no backing music is necessary)... whatever makes them feel comfortable. We ask the children to act out or move like a few of the characters. Immediately following this audition, we will have a parents meeting to keep the mums & dads of our youngest cast members well informed. An audition reminder note will be handed out in class closer to the audition time.

## JUNIORS (GRADES 3 TO 5)

**SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 9:30AM - 12NOON**

It is understood that some young students have little or no auditioning experience, and we try to make the experience as easy and enjoyable as possible. We will begin with a fun warm-up game to help calm the nerves. Auditioning students will then be asked to sing a song. Songs must be kept short (one or two verses is sufficient). Children who are not confident preparing a song will be asked to sing "Happy Birthday". No music is necessary... it is quite acceptable for junior students to sing unaccompanied. If, however, the student would like to sing with a backing, there will be speakers available to connect to a device (iPod/iPad). After singing, juniors will learn a few very simple dance steps. Finally, the students will be asked to act out a character from the show and/or read from the script.

## INTERMEDIATES (GRADES 6 TO 8)

**SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 1PM - 3:30PM**

Intermediates are required to sing part of any song from a musical or a Disney film (16 bars or a verse and/or chorus is sufficient). Intermediates are encouraged (but not required) to sing with a backing (no vocals on the backing, please), they may bring an MP3 player (iPod/iPhone etc) and there will be speakers available. After singing, students will be asked to copy a few dance steps. They may be asked to read from the script.

## SENIORS (GRADES 9 TO 12)

**SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 4PM-7.00PM**

Seniors are required to sing part of any song from a contemporary musical or Disney film (16-32 bars is sufficient). Seniors must sing with a backing (no vocals on the backing), please bring an MP3 player (iPod/iPhone etc) - there will be speakers available. After singing, students will be asked to learn a few dance steps and they will be asked to read from the script.

## ADULTS (17YRS AND OVER) -

Adults are required to book a private audition time. Adult audition dates/times/information will be posted on the website - [www.stageartz.com.au](http://www.stageartz.com.au).

Info also available here:

> Facebook (*Stage Artz Theatre Company*)

> Insta/Twitter (@stageartztc).

**ALTERNATIVE AUDITION FOR STUDENTS UNABLE TO ATTEND THEIR SCHEDULED AUDITION TIMESLOT (ALL AGES)** - Wednesday 8th May. Please send an email to [sam@stageartz.com.au](mailto:sam@stageartz.com.au) to book a place and confirm a time.

## CALL BACKS - DATE TBA

*By invitation.* Some roles will be cast from the auditions. Some roles will need a bit more time. Call Backs give the audition panel an opportunity to spend more time with people who are being considered for roles and match them up with other performers who are being considered for partnered roles.

If you don't get invited to the Call Back, it doesn't mean you didn't get a part. It may be that you have already been cast.

# MARY POPPINS

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

## CHARACTER OVERVIEW

### MARY POPPINS

Jane and Michael Banks's new nanny. She is extraordinary and strange, neat and tidy, delightfully vain yet very particular, sometimes intimidating, but always exciting. She is practically perfect in every way and always means what she says. A mezzo soprano with strong top notes, she should be able to move well. She can have a more traditional soprano sound, but precision and diction is key.

### BERT

The narrator of the story, is a good friend to Mary Poppins. An everyman, Bert has many occupations, including street musician, sidewalk artist, and chimney sweep. He has charm, speaks with a Cockney accent, and is a song-and-dance-man. Baritone.

### GEORGE BANKS

Father to Jane and Michael Banks, a banker to the very fibre of his being. Demanding "precision and order", he is a pipe-and-slippers man who doesn't have much to do with his children and believes that he had the perfect upbringing by his nanny, the cruel Miss Andrew. His emotional armour, however, conceals a sensitive soul. A baritone.

### WINIFRED BANKS

George's wife and Jane and Michael's mother. A former actress, she is a loving and distracted homemaker who is busy trying to live up to her husband's desire to only associate with "the best people" as well as be a model wife and mother. She suffers from the conflicting feelings that she's not up to the job of "being Mrs. Banks," yet she is, and more. Mezzo Soprano.

### JANE BANKS

The eldest child of George and Winifred Banks, high-spirited and bright. She sometimes misbehaves to get the attention of her parents. Child soprano.

### MICHAEL BANKS

The cute and cheeky son of Mr. and Mrs. Banks. Excitable and naughty, he adores his father and tries to be like him. Male child voice, unbroken.

### KATIE NANNA

Jane and Michael's nanny at the beginning of the show. Overwhelmed and upset, she has absolutely had her fill of the Banks children.

### POLICEMAN

A London cop that often chases after Michael and Jane Banks when they get into trouble.

### MISS LARK

The haughty next-door neighbour of the Banks family who treats her dog, Willoughby, as if he were her child. Mezzo soprano.

### ADMIRAL BOOM

A retired Royal Navy man and neighbour of the Banks family. With a loud and booming voice, he speaks in Navy jargon. He has a soft spot for his neighbour, Miss Lark.

### MRS. BRILL

The housekeeper and cook for the Banks family. Overworked and harassed, she's always complaining that the house is understaffed. Her intimidating exterior is a cover for the warmth underneath. Mrs. Brill doesn't have a high opinion of nannies in general and Mary Poppins in particular. Alto.

### ROBERTSON AY

The houseboy to the Banks family. Lazy, sleepy, and clumsy, he never gets things right and believes himself to be useless. He doesn't do a lot of singing, but has a fun "Spoonful" solo. Tenor.

### BANK CHAIRMAN

The head of the bank where Mr. Banks is employed, an Edwardian stuffed-shirt. Baritone.

### MISS SMYTHE

The Bank Chairman's humourless secretary.

### VON HUSSLER

A businessman seeking a loan from the bank for a shady business deal. He speaks with a German accent.

### JOHN NORTHBROOK

An honest businessman seeking a loan to build a factory for his community. He speaks with an accent from Northern England.

### BIRD WOMAN

Covered in a patchwork of old shawls, her pockets are stuffed with bags of crumbs for the birds. She tries to sell her crumbs to passersby, who ignore her as if she doesn't exist. Alto.

### MRS. CORRY

Owns a magical gingerbread shop. She is a mysterious woman of great age who speaks with a Caribbean accent (or any accent that would make her seem exotic). Soprano.

### ANNIE and FANNIE

Miss Corry's excitable daughters.

### VALENTINE

A stuffed boy doll belonging to Jane.

### TEDDY BEAR, MR. PUNCH & DOLL

Toys belonging to Jane and Michael.

### MISS ANDREW

George's overbearing and scary nanny. With her bottle of nasty-tasting brimstone and treacle to keep naughty children in line, she is a bully who knows only one way of doing things - her way. A soprano with an alto belt.

### PARK KEEPER

The gruff but lovable watchman of the park. Tenor.

### NELEUS

A statue in the park across from the Banks house. When Mary Poppins arrives, she brings Neleus to life in "Jolly Holiday" and he becomes friends with the children.

### QUEEN VICTORIA

Another statue in the park.

### FEATURED DANCERS & FEATURED SINGERS

### ENSEMBLE & SUPPORTING ROLES INCLUDE:

Gwendolyn & Ernest Chimney Sweeps, Bank Employees, Mrs Corry's Chatterboxes, Statues, Park-Goers, Toys, Kite-Flyers, Gardeners, Starlighters and more.