



- Auditions – “MAMMA MIA!”
- Announcement of Administrator/Manager Role
- “Les Misérables”
- Theatre Gossip



**AUDITIONS AUDITIONS AUDITIONS**

# **MAMMA MIA!** <sup>TM</sup>

## **AUDITIONS**

are being held

**17 & 18 August 2019**

at the Wallace Development Company Theatre,  
(Centennial Drive, Palmerston North)

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- Diversity is encouraged and all ethnic groups are welcome to audition.
- All roles are open to audition.
- While the Ensemble is a mix of ages, we are also seeking young (early 20's) people who are quirky and vibrant performers. While musical theatre experience is a bonus, we are not just seeking musical theatre performers but actors who can sing and move well. The Ensemble is comprised of contemporary dancers and singers. Some Ensemble men have dance specialties for which any acrobatics are a plus.

**Full Audition Information is available  
on [www.abbeymusicaltheatre.co.nz](http://www.abbeymusicaltheatre.co.nz)**

This production will be on stage at the Wallace Development Company Theatre,  
Centennial Drive, Palmerston North,  
from 21 November – 14 December 2019

Director: **Steven Sayer**  
Musical Director: **Lottie Perry**  
Choreographer: **Cara Hesselin**

To audition for "MAMMA MIA!" you must register and book an audition time,  
prior to Friday, 17 August 2019, with;  
[Merryn Osborne](#) (Production Secretary)  
E: [merrynos@xtra.co.nz](mailto:merrynos@xtra.co.nz)  
M: 027 220 3144 (SMS only)

# **AUDITION DATES & DETAILS**

## **SATURDAY – 17 AUGUST 2019**

AUDITION DANCE WORKSHOP

10:00am – 12:00 Noon

(\*\*\* Mandatory for all Ensemble and feature role auditionees \*\*\*)

PRINCIPAL AUDITIONS & BACKING VOCALISTS

12.30 p.m. – 5.00pm

## **SUNDAY – 18 AUGUST 2019**

PRINCIPAL & ENSEMBLE RECALLS

Times to be confirmed

# **ROLES AVAILABLE**

### **DONNA SHERIDAN**

The mother of a 20 year old, attractive and free-spirited. A former lead singer in a group called *Donna and the Dynamos* who now owns and runs a hotel/casino on a Greek island. A strong feminist who also has a zany and a vulnerable side.

### **SOPHIE SHERIDAN**

A very special young woman who is determined to find the romance and happiness she feels eluded her mother. She has a wild, zany spirit even though she pursues a conventional marriage.

### **SKY**

Sophie's fiancé. Athletic, attractive. Has given up his life as a successful businessman in order to make over Donna's taverna and marry Sophie.

### **TANYA**

A former singer in the *Dynamos*. Rich, sophisticated, acerbic, funny and witty.

### **ROSIE**

Also a former singer in the *Dynamos* who now writes for and runs a feminist press. Confident, strong and funny on the outside, but shy underneath. Kooky and fun. A good comic actress, bit of a clown actress who sings.

**SAM CARMICHAEL**

May be Sophie's father. Left Donna 20 years ago because he was engaged to another woman. Charming and successful architect – actor who sings.

**HARRY (HEADBANGER) BRIGHT**

May be Sophie's father. British financier, wealthy, buttoned-up and conservative but trying to reconnect with his freer, youthful self. Requires an actor who does a very convincing English accent – also an actor who sings.

**BILL AUSTIN**

May be Sophie's father. A travel writer with no possessions or strings. Good natured, always ready for adventure. Has a sense of humour. Should be a very good actor who sings fairly well.

**LISA**

Sophie's friend who arrives to be a bridesmaid. Very energetic and kooky. Should sing and dance well.

**ALI**

Sophie's friend. Impulsive and fun and should contrast to Lisa and Sophie. Should sing and dance well.

**PEPPER**

Sky's friend. Helps run the hotel. Charming, loves women, always flirting. Must be a good dancer, acrobatic skills or ability to do Russian split jumps a plus.

**EDDIE**

Another friend of Sky's and hotel worker. Laid back, easy going. Must be a good mover/dancer.

**FATHER ALEXANDRIOS**

The Minister of the island.

**ENSEMBLE ROLES****BACKING VOCALS**

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Merryn Osborne (Production Secretary)

E: [merrynos@xtra.co.nz](mailto:merrynos@xtra.co.nz)

M: 027 220 3144 (SMS only)





# ADMINISTRATOR/MANAGER

We are pleased to announce that **Kaydee Zabelin** has been appointed to the role of Administrator/Manager for Abbey Musical Theatre. Kaydee will be joining Carol Nagy (Administrator) in the AMT Office on 12 August 2019 and will take over the role solely when Carol retires in September 2019.

The AMT Board takes this opportunity to sincerely thank Carol for the dedication and commitment she has shown towards AMT over the number of years she has been a part of the AMT team.

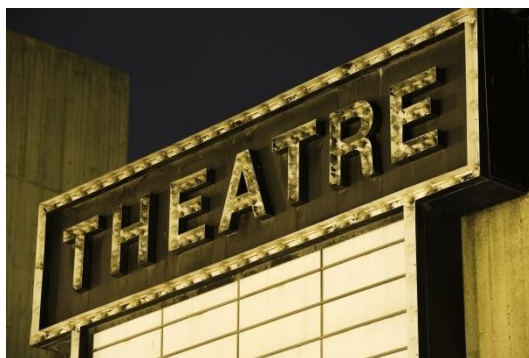


**TICKETS SELLING FAST!!!**

**BOOK NOW!!!**

**DON'T MISS THIS THEATRICAL SENSATION!!!**





# Gossip



## ***Moulin Rouge! The Musical* opens on Broadway**



The highly anticipated new musical *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* officially opens on 25 July at the Al Hirschfeld Theatre. The stage adaptation of Baz Luhrmann's 2001 motion picture began previews on 28 June. Stars from the out of town engagement at Boston's Emerson Colonial Theatre repeat their work on Broadway, including Tony winner Karen Olivo, Aaron Tveit, six-time Tony nominee Danny Burstein, Tony nominee Sahr Ngaujah, Ricky Rojas, Robyn Hurder and Tam Mutu. Set in the Montmartre Quarter of Paris at the turn of the century, *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* follows an ambitious, lovesick writer, Christian (Tveit), and a dazzling, entrancing chanteuse, Satine (Olivo). Their lives collide at the Moulin Rouge with its many characters including the host of the Moulin Rouge, Harold Zidler (Burstein); the brilliant, starving artist Toulouse-Lautrec (Ngaujah); the greatest tango dancer—and gigolo—in all of Paris, Santiago (Rojas); the tempting Nini (Hurder); and The Duke of Monroth (Mutu), the wealthy and entitled patron of the club who thinks he can buy anything he wants, including love. As was the case in the movie, the stage musical's score features some of the most beloved popular music of the past 50 years.



## **Broadway Grosses ...**

### ***Beetlejuice* surpasses a million dollars in highest grossing week**



*Sophia Anne Caruso & Alex Brightman in "Beetlejuice"*  
(Photo: Matthew Murphy)

Audiences can't get enough of the new musical comedy *Beetlejuice*. The Tony-nominated smash hit had plenty to celebrate this past week, reaching its 100th performance and making over a million dollars for the first time since opening night. The acclaimed tuner brought in \$1,036,333.30, playing to 93.74% capacity of cheering audiences at the expansive Winter Garden Theatre. Also among this past week's strong performers was the Broadway-debut engagement of comedian Dave Chappelle, who brought in \$1,638,061.00 and filled the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre to 100.14% capacity.

Here's a look at who was on top — and who was not — for the week ending 21 July ...

#### FRONTRUNNERS (By Gross)

1. *Hamilton* (US\$3,102,306.00)
2. *The Lion King* (US\$2,538,151.00)
3. *To Kill a Mockingbird* (US\$1,969,931.99)
4. *WICKED* (US\$1,917,793.00)
5. *Aladdin* (US\$1,796,003.00)

#### UNDERDOGS (By Gross)

5. *Oklahoma!* (US\$584,810.50)
4. *What the Constitution Means to Me* (US\$537,000.80)
3. *Beautiful* (US\$511,025.40)
2. *Be More Chill* (US\$462,584.90)
1. *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (US\$311,165.00)

#### FRONTRUNNERS (By Capacity)

1. *The Book of Mormon* (104.00%)
2. *Come From Away* (102.04%)
3. *To Kill a Mockingbird* (101.82%)
4. *Hamilton* (101.80%)
5. *Dear Evan Hansen* (101.60%)

#### UNDERDOGS (By Capacity)

5. *Tootsie* (75.91%)
4. *Be More Chill* (75.51%)
3. *Beautiful* (73.99%)
2. *The Cher Show* (72.97%)
1. *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (46.56%)

Source: *The Broadway League*



### Britney Spears Musical *Once Upon a One More Time* postpones world premiere in Chicago



Britney Spears  
(Photo: Jason Merritt/Getty Images)

Audiences will have to wait a little longer for the Britney Spears-scored musical *Once Upon a One More Time*. The tuner's Broadway-aimed world premiere, originally announced to play the James M. Nederlander Theatre in Chicago from 13 November through 1 December 2019, has pushed back its run to 14 April through 17 May 2020; a press release lists "scheduling issues" as the reason for the delay. As previously announced, *Once Upon a One More Time* follows Cinderella, Snow White and the other fairytale princesses as they gather for a book-club meeting; soon, a rogue fairy godmother drops The Feminine Mystique into their corseted laps, spurring a royal revelation. The musical features an original book by Jon Hartmere (*The Upside, Bare*) with direction by Tony nominee Kristin Hanggi (*ROCK OF AGES*) and choreography by Keone and Mari Madrid (Justin Bieber's "Love Yourself"; "World of Dance"). The musical will feature Spears' hit pop songs throughout. Casting will be announced at a later date.



## ***Little Shop of Horrors* set for off-Broadway revival with Jonathan Groff, Tammy Blanchard & Christian Borle**



Jonathan Groff, Tammy Blanchard & Christian Borle  
(Photos: Emilio Madrid-Kuser for Broadway.com | Rob Kim/Getty Images)

*Little Shop of Horrors* is headed back to its off-Broadway roots. The dark musical comedy will receive a new staging from Tony-winning director Michael Mayer at the Westside Theatre this fall, with previews slated to begin on 17 September and an opening night set for 17 October. Heading the cast will be two-time Tony nominee Jonathan Groff as Seymour, two-time Tony nominee Tammy Blanchard as Audrey and two-time Tony winner Christian Borle as Orin Scrivello D.D.S. Based on the 1960 film by Roger Corman and featuring a book by Howard Ashman, music by Alan Menken and lyrics by Ashman, *Little Shop of Horrors* follows meek plant store attendant Seymour (Groff), his co-worker crush Audrey (Blanchard), her sadistic dentist of a boyfriend (Borle) and the man-eating plant that threatens them and the world as we know it. Groff earned Tony nominations for *Spring Awakening* (also directed by Mayer) and *Hamilton*. His screen credits include *Mindhunter*, *Looking*, *Frozen* and *Glee*. Most recently seen on Broadway in *The Iceman Cometh*, Blanchard was Tony-nommed for *Gypsy* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. She was seen on the big screen in *Into the Woods* and won an Emmy Award for the TV movie *Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows*. Borle nabbed Tonys for his turns in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Something Rotten!* and received Tony nominations for *Legally Blonde* and *Falsettos*. His screen credits include *Smash* and *The Good Wife*. This marks the first major off-Broadway production of *Little Shop of Horrors* since its 1982 premiere at the Orpheum Theatre.



## **American Theatre Wing Gala to celebrate legacy of Jonathan Larson**



Jonathan Larson  
(Photo: Victoria Leacock Hoffman)

The American Theatre Wing has announced that its 2019 gala will honour the legacy of late *RENT* creator Jonathan Larson and the Larson family. The star-studded event, which will feature one-of-a-kind performances from a variety of artists impacted by his work, will be held at Cipriani 42nd Street on 16 September. "Few individuals have truly changed the theater industry as Jonathan Larson did," said Heather Hitchens, president and CEO of the American Theatre Wing. "Though his scope of work, as well as his life, was cut tragically short, the connection that the theater community and fans across the world made to his work is unmeasurable." In addition to his Tony and Pulitzer-winning musical *RENT*, Larson penned the off-Broadway hit *Tick, Tick...BOOM!*, which is currently in development as a film.





## Paul McCartney has written a musical adaptation of *It's a Wonderful Life*



Paul McCartney  
(Photo: Getty Images)

Paul McCartney, Grammy and Oscar-winning singer-songwriter and original band member of The Beatles, has crafted a score to a new musical adaptation of the iconic 1946 film *It's a Wonderful Life*, Variety reports. The musical is expected to make a 2020 world premiere in the U.K. before moving to Broadway. Tony winner and Oscar nominee Lee Hall (*Network*, *Billy Elliot*, *Rocketman*) is collaborating with McCartney on the new tuner, with Tony-winning producer Bill Kenwright shepherding the show to the stage. "Writing a musical is not something that had ever really appealed to me," said McCartney. "But Bill and I met up with Lee Hall and had a chat and I found myself thinking this could be interesting and fun. *It's a Wonderful Life* is a universal story we can all relate to." Famously directed by Frank Capra, the film *It's a Wonderful Life* centres on everyman George Bailey, who considers ending his life on Christmas. He inadvertently rescues a guardian angel named Clarence who shows him what the world would look like without his contributions. McCartney first launched to fame as bass guitarist and singer with The Beatles. Over the course of his career, he has won 18 Grammys and an Academy Award shared with The Beatles for the score to the documentary *Let It Be*.



## ***Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* to close after six years on Broadway**

# Beautiful

## The Carole King Musical

The long-running hit bio-show *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* has set a final performance date of 27 October, just short of six years after beginning performances at the Stephen Sondheim Theatre. *Beautiful* began previews on 21 November 2013 and officially opened on 12 January 2014. By closing, *Beautiful* will have played 60 previews and 2,418 regular performances. With a book by Douglas McGrath set to the song catalogue of Carole King, Gerry Goffin, Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil, *Beautiful* is directed by Marc Bruni and choreographed by Josh Prince, with musical supervision by Jason Howland and orchestrations by Steve Sidwell. *Beautiful* begins just before Brooklyn native Carol Klein composes her first hit song, "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," in 1959 when she is 17, pregnant and newly married to 20-year-old lyricist Gerry Goffin. In the decade that follows, King and Goffin produce a string of classic hits while forming a lasting friendship with another composing couple, Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann. When Carole's personal life begins falling apart, she responds by stepping out of the shadows with *Tapestry*, a deeply personal collection of songs that becomes one of the best-selling albums of all time. The original principal cast of *Beautiful* was led by Jessie Mueller as Carole King, Jake Epstein as Gerry Goffin, Jarrod Spector as Barry Mann, Anika Larsen as Cynthia Weil, Jeb Brown as Don Kirshner and Liz Larsen as Genie Klein. *Beautiful* was nominated for seven 2014 Tony Awards and took home statues for Jessie Mueller's performance and Brian Ronan's sound design. The current cast is led by Vanessa Carlton as Carole King, Evan Todd as Gerry Goffin, Ben Jacoby as Barry Mann, Kara Lindsay as Cynthia Weil, Andrew Kober as Don Kirshner and original cast member Liz Larsen, who has remained with the musical as Genie Klein for the duration of its run.



## Sally Field among 2019 Kennedy Center Honourees



Tony-nominated stage-and-screen actress Sally Field has been selected among the 2019 Kennedy Center honourees. She will be toasted with a ceremony and performance held in the Kennedy Center Opera House in Washington, D.C. on 8 December. Field made her Broadway debut in *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* and earned a Tony nomination for *The Glass Menagerie*; she recently concluded a London run of *All My Sons* opposite Bill Pullman. Field's numerous screen credits include Oscar-winning turns in *Norma Rae* and *Places in the Heart* and Emmy-winning performances in *Sybil*, *ER* and *Brothers & Sisters*. Joining Field among the 2019 Kennedy Center honourees are R&B vets Earth, Wind and Fire (whose music was heard in the 2006 Broadway musical *Hot Feet*) as well as singer Linda Ronstadt, conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and the Emmy-winning children's television programme *Sesame Street*.



## Full cast announced for *Les Misérables* all star concert at the Gielgud Theatre



A cast of over 65 members will star in the upcoming *Les Misérables: All-Star Staged Concert* as the full company for the upcoming production at the Gielgud Theatre has been announced. Shan Ako and Lily Kerhoas will make their West End debuts in the production as Eponine and Cosette respectively, joining the previously announced cast including Alfie Boe as Jean Valjean, Michael Ball as Javert, Carrie Hope Fletcher as Fantine, Matt Lucas as Thenardier, Katy Secombe as Madame Thenardier, Rob Houchen as Marius, Bradley Jaden as Enjolras and John Owen-Jones as Jean Valjean for three performances a week. *Les Misérables: All-Star Staged Concert* will play at the Gielgud Theatre for a limited engagement from 10 August to 30 November 2019, as the Queen's Theatre undergoes refurbishment works. After refurbishment works, it will re-open at the newly-named Sondheim Theatre from 18 December 2019, renamed in honour of the American composer. Opening in London in 1985, *Les Misérables* currently holds the title of the longest-running musical in West End history, following the story of Jean Valjean with an iconic score including 'Bring Him Home', 'One Day More' and 'Do You Hear the People Sing'.



## Further casting announced for Disney's *MARY POPPINS*



Cameron Mackintosh's new production of Disney's *MARY POPPINS* is set to return to its original West End home (no, not Cherry Tree Lane) at the Prince Edward Theatre which is currently home to Disney's *Aladdin*. This practically perfect in every way production will begin on 23 October 2019.

## Further casting announced for *Back to the Future, the Musical*



Casting has been announced for the upcoming musical adaptation of *Back to the Future*, which is set to transfer to the West End following its premiere in Manchester next year. The production, which features music by Alan Silvestri and Glen Ballard along with hits from the original film, was announced earlier this year as was the actor playing Marty McFly, Olly Dobson, whose previous credits include *Matilda* and *Bat Out of Hell*. Cedric Neal, Rossanna Hyland and Hugh Coles will join Dobson in the cast of the musical, which transfers to a yet to be announced West End theatre following its run in Manchester next February. The musical is based on the 1985 film written by Robert Zemeckis and Bob Gale which tells the story of teenager Marty McFly who accidentally travels back in time 30 years to the 1950s, where he meets his young parents. Neal, who made his West End debut in *Motown the Musical*, will play Goldie the Mayor of Hill Valley, while Hyland (*SCHOOL OF ROCK*) will play Marty's mother Lorraine and Coles (a recent LAMDA graduate) plays his father, George. *Back to the Future* opens at the Manchester Opera House on 20 February 2020, with a venue, dates and ticket details for a West End transfer yet to be announced.

