



4/24/20 - 5/16/20

Music & Lyrics by
Richard M. Sherman,
Robert B. Sherman,
George Stiles & Anthony Drewe
Script by Julian Fellowes

The Farmington Players

Audition Notice

Mary Poppins

Sunday, January 19th, 2020

Registration: 12:00pm

Auditions: 12:30pm

Farmington Players Barn Theater 32332 West 12 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Director: Mary Ann Tweedie

Assistant Directors: Nancy Cooper and Maureen Mansfield

Musical Director: Steve Woznicki

Choreographer: Mary Murphy

Producers: Dave Gilkes and Jarrod Kovach

For show related questions contact: marypoppins@farmingtonplayers.org

Auditions: All those auditioning to sing the solos, these will be noted on our website www.farmingtonplayers.org or on our Facebook page. A pianist will be used to accompany those auditioning.

Bring tap, character and any dance shoes if you own them.

Everyone should be prepared to sing, act and dance.

British accents are required. Bert must speak with a Cockney accent.

Ensemble actors may play multiple parts. Park walkers, kite flyers, children's toys, statues, Mrs. Corry's daughters, Chimney sweeps, etc.

First read thru for cast: Proposed date is Monday Jan 27. It is required that any new members must be paid in full for membership dues at the read-thru.

Synopsis: The jack-of-all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910 and the troubled Banks family. Young Jane and Michael have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must teach the family members how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny who advises that "Anything can happen if you let it."

Performance Dates: April 24, 25, 26 (matinee), May 1, 2, 3 (matinee), 8, 9, 10 (matinee), 14, 15, 16

Mandatory Rehearsal Dates: April 18 (Tech Rehearsal), 20, 21, 22 (Dress Rehearsal)

Rehearsals: Music and dance rehearsals start in February with side rehearsals for blocking. There will be 3-4 rehearsals per week (which probably won't include everyone each time), many will be on the weekends, including weekend rehearsals for dance. There will be some Friday rehearsals.

Mary Poppins Cast

Mary Poppins, Jane and Michael Banks's new nanny. She is extraordinary and strange, neat and tidy, delightfully vain yet, sometimes a little frightening 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 are the key.

Speeches: 144 Songs: 11

Gender: Female

Age: 20 to 40

Vocal range top: C6

Vocal range bottom: Gb3

Bert, the narrator of the story is a good friend to Mary Poppins. An everyman, Bert has many occupations, including hurdy-gurdy player, sidewalk artist and chimney sweep. Bert watches over the children as well as the goings on in Cherry Tree Lane. He has charm, speaks with a Cockney accent and is a song-and-dance man.

Speeches: 61 Songs: 10

Gender: Male

Age: 30's/40's

Vocal range top: F#4

Vocal range bottom: B2

George Banks, the father to Jane and Michael Banks, is a banker to the very fiber of his being. Demanding "precision and order" in his household, 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 armor, however, conceals a sensitive soul.

Speeches: 106 Songs: 5

Gender: Male

Age: 40 to 50

Vocal range top: Eb4

Vocal range bottom: Bb2

Winifred Banks

George's wife and Jane and Michael's mother. A former actress, she is 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 the 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. She has great warmth and simplicity to her tone.

Speeches: 87 Songs: 5

Gender: Female

Age: 30-40

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Jane, the high-spirited daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Banks is bright and precocious but can be willful and inclined to snobbishness.

Speeches: 122 Songs: 9

Gender: Female

Age: 11 to 12

Vocal range top: F#5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Michael, the cute and cheeky son of Mr. and Mrs. Banks. Excitable and naughty, he adores his father and tries to be like him. Both he and Jane misbehave to get the attention of their parents.

Speeches: 195 Songs: 9

Gender: Male

Age: 9 to 10

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: A3

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.

Gender: Female Songs: ensemble

Age: 30 to 30

Policeman, A neighborhood fixture who is respected by and observant of households on his beat.

Speeches: 7 Songs: ensemble

Gender: Male

Age: 30 to 50

Miss Lark, the haughty next-door neighbor of the Banks family who treats her dog, Willoughby, as if her were child.

Gender: Female Songs : ensemble

Age: 30 to 45

Admiral Boom, a retired Royal Navy man and neighbor of the Banks family. A physically large man with a loud and booming voice, he speaks in Navy jargon and has a soft spot for his neighbor, Miss Lark.

Speeches: 6

Gender: Male

Age: 50 to 60

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.

Speeches: 36 Songs: 1

Gender: Female

Age: 40 to 50

Vocal range top: D#5

Vocal range bottom: F#3

Robertson Ay, the houseboy to the Banks family. Lazy, sleepy and grumbling, he never gets things right and believes himself to be useless. Needs to be able to do physical comedy.

Speeches: 18 Songs: 2

Gender: Male

Age: 20 to 20

Vocal range top: G#4

Vocal range bottom: F3

Park Keeper, Uniformed and officious, he makes sure no one breaks park regulations. His life is defined by rules, but he secretly hankers after his childhood.

Speeches: 10 Songs: 1 and ensemble

Gender: Male

Age: 40 to 50

Neleus, the statue of a young boy posed with a dolphin in the park. Neleus was separated from his father, Poseidon, and misses him very much. A small and lonely being, he is very happy to befriend Jane and Michael. Needs to be a strong dancer.

Speeches: 9 Songs: 1 and ensemble

Gender: Male

Age: 16 to 25

Queen Victoria

A statue in the park.

Gender: Female

Age: 40 to 50

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

Speeches: 14 Songs: 2 and ensemble

Gender: Male

Age: 50s to 60s

Vocal range top: D4

Vocal range bottom: C3

Miss Smythe, the Bank Chairman's humorless secretary.

Speeches: 1 Songs: ensemble

Gender: Female

Age: 30 to 50

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

Speeches: 5 Songs: 1 and ensemble

Gender: Male

Age: 30 to 30

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

Speeches: 9 Songs: 1 and ensemble

Gender: Male

Age: 30 to 30

Bird Woman, covered in a patchwork of old shawls, and her pockets are stuffed with bags of crumbs for the birds. She tries to sell her crumbs for the birds. She tries to sell her crumbs to passersby, who ignore her as if she doesn't exist. Sings "Feed the Birds."

Songs: 2

Gender: Female

Age: 40s to 50s

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: Gb3

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).

Speeches: 17 Songs: 1

Gender: Female

Age: 40s to 50s

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 only knows one way of doing things - her way.

Speeches: 17 Songs: 1

Gender: Female

Age: 40s to 60s

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: Gb3

Ensemble

Annie, Fannie, Valentine, Teddy Bear, Mr. Punch, Doll, Chimney Sweeps, Toys, Park walkers, Mrs. Corry's customers and Chimney sweeps.