

NEW MEMBER AUDITIONS

Because the demand for membership is so high, we normally hold auditions in December or April each year. **Prior to the audition** you will be invited to attend **two workshops** at the **WOW Studio, 25-27 Park Street, Weymouth**. You will be taught **3 songs** from which you will be asked to choose one to perform at your audition along with a **short dance routine**, which will be choreographed by our dance mistress. Finally you will be asked to learn a short piece of **Drama/Poem** of your choice, lasting no longer than one minute. At the second workshop you will be given a specific time for your audition.



You should arrive at least 10 minutes before your allotted time and please remember to bring a passport sized photograph with you. These are the attributes we Look for:

- A) a good singing voice
- B) The ability to follow a basic dance routine
- C) A confident performance
- D) Personality (A smiley face!)

Sometimes the auditionees can be badly affected by nerves, this is quite natural. We do make allowances for this and we must impress on you that:

"we are on your side and want you to do well!"

PARENTAL SUPPORT

WOW cannot be run without the help and support of parents. We run a rota where you will be asked to chaperone at one or two rehearsals. Help during the week of the show is also necessary. Parents are always needed front of house, selling programmes and most importantly backstage chaperoning.

The 'Building Fundraising Committee' are always looking out for new members to help raise money to help pay off our mortgage at Park Street.

We do ask parents to collect members on time (we do try to finish on time!). Your child will not be left alone, but please remember we also want to get home!

Committee members are always available at rehearsals to answer any queries you may have. Please feel free to come in and wait in the Green Room at the end of rehearsal.



....and finally we would like to say 'Thank You' for taking an interest in WOW. If you are not successful you may audition again if you wish to. Some members in the past have been accepted on their third attempt! If you do become a member we hope that you will enjoy your time with us and that you will make lots of new friends and enjoy what WOW has to offer.



Youth Musical Theatre New Member Audition Information

WOW was formed in 1982 as a result of Weymouth Operatic Society's production of 'Oliver' and the interest generated by the youngsters in show. The intention is to introduce young people between the ages of 10 and 18 years to the musical stage and everything involved with it. Gradually over the years the company has developed a very high standard of performance. WOW has won several 'accolades of excellence' from the National Operatic and Dramatic Association for it's productions.



For further information please contact:
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www.wow.btck.co.uk

WOW MEMBERSHIP

Before you are accepted as a member of WOW, if you pass the audition, you need to know what will be expected of you and how WOW runs:

- 1. COMMITMENT:** You will be issued with a detailed schedule well in advance and every member will be expected to attend all rehearsals when called. **If you can not commit yourself** due to other Activities apart from sickness and school exams etc **WOW is not for you.**
- 2. REHEARSALS:** The regular rehearsal night is **Tuesday** from 6.30pm-9.00pm. When our Professional Director arrives we have 3 rehearsal a week **Sun/Mon/ Tues**. These are the floor rehearsals and you will find that if you are a member of the chorus you will not be called to all three rehearsals all of the time. It is most important that you are at the floor rehearsals when the Director is setting the scenes, as if you are not there you may not be included. It is always difficult for other cast members if people are missing. During the week of the show you will find that you may not finish very early (aprox 10-10.30pm). If you feel this will be too much for you, it may be better not to audition. The Education Authority issues us with an exemption certificate to allow the youngsters to perform the week of the show. Part of the agreement is that the members **DO NOT MISS SCHOOLING** due to the production, so you do need to be aware of this. It is not unheard of for a show to be cancelled by the Educational Authority if it is found that children are absent from school.



Normally we produce two shows a year, the spring show is optional due to exams etc, however the November show is not. If you take your holidays between **September and November** then WOW would not be suitable to you and you **should not audition.**

3. ATTENDANCE: If your attendance is irregular you may be asked to forfeit your place. Please remember if you are successful at the audition, others will not be and it would be unfair to take a place away from someone who would be willing to give full commitment.

4. APOLOGY: If you are sick or have an exam and cannot attend you must inform WOW before the Rehearsal.

5. REHEARSAL WEAR: You will be expected to wear the appropriate clothing and shoes for dancing, both girls and boys. Once we are on floor rehearsals we ask members not to wear Jeans.



6. REHEARSAL DISCIPLINE: WOW is hard work!! You will be expected to learn a lot in one evening, Therefore you will be expected to remain focused at all times and not "chat". We do usually have a break when you can socialise. **Members must not leave the hall during a rehearsal unless by prior arrangement with parents and a committee member. We are responsible for all under 16s at all times.**

7. TRIAL PERIOD: If you are successful at your audition you will then serve a trial period during which time your behaviour will be of paramount importance. Parents will be notified of any problems and you may be asked to leave if necessary - we call this our "Get Out" clause! Equally if, after the trial period you have

decided that WOW is not for you then we will agree to part amicably!

8. WORKSHOPS: The music for the shows is learnt first, but we do try to fit in workshops to give variety and introduce members to the many aspects of the musical stage, these are taken by professional tutors. You may be asked to make a contribution to the workshops. These include drama, dance, stage fighting, technical stage craft and audition technique.



9. CABARET: We receive several invitations a year to perform cabaret all over the County. There are of course extra rehearsals for these, usually on a Sunday or Monday. It would be difficult for you to fit into this in your first year as you will not know the music and routines from the previous season.

10. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: There is an annual membership fee of £120. This is reviewed yearly and is due in May.

11. COSTUMES: Members are required to pay a 'Production fee' this is currently £20 per show.

12. POLICIES: wow has Health and Safety, Child Protection and Anti-Bullying policies in place.

ALL OUR COMMITTEE ARE CRB CHECKED.

