

SHOW REQUIREMENTS

Costumes

Most are hired by the Society and cast members must be prepared to make any adjustments if directed by the Director or Wardrobe Mistress. Members are sometimes required to provide some costumes themselves.

It is important to note that in addition to the show fee, cast members may also be asked to provide:

Men: stage shoes, any other necessary accessories. Men may also be asked to cut their hair, or grow beards if appropriate for a particular show. Theatrical Make-up.

Ladies: wigs (which can be hired), stage shoes, costume jewellery, and any other accessories as appropriate. Theatrical Make-up.

PLEASE NOTE- Rule 14 of our Society

Members will be requested to attend an audition for each production and shall attend rehearsals regularly and punctually, otherwise they will be liable to forfeit their right to take part in any performance for which they have been selected.

Our shows may contain strobe lighting, flashing lights, special effect smoke, loud noises, tall scenery with high steps and photography.

CAODS branded T shirts & Hoodies are available to buy and are used for all Publicity Days.

Our AGM is held on the second Tuesday in December and all members are encouraged to attend.

Revised October 2015

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY



Welcome to CAODS

This leaflet will give you all the information of what's involved in belonging to one of the most successful amateur groups in the area. New members aged 16+ both on stage or backstage are always welcome, but please consider all the information and be aware of the commitment required.

THE SOCIETY

The society currently performs two shows a year (each of six performances, including a Saturday matinee) at the Civic Theatre in Chelmsford at a cost of around £45,000 per show. Occasionally other fund-raising shows are staged in either the Civic theatre or other venues in the area. There is also a wide range of social activities, e.g. workshops, outings, fun-days, social events etc. and newsletters are produced regularly. Current members of the CAODS committee are on the website.

FEES

The Society's financial year runs from 1st June to 31st May of the following year. All renewal fees must be paid by 1st September.

Members appearing in one or both shows in any financial year are required to pay the full Acting Membership fee currently set at £40. . Membership Fees are reduced by 50% for anyone still undertaking full-time study. There is also a Show Fee, presently set at £35 for each show and this must be paid prior to auditioning. You will receive a full show fee refund if you are unsuccessful in getting in to a show.

Non-Acting members pay £15 per financial year.

All members will receive the Society's Newsletter and information on all its activities, together with advance booking forms for all shows. Membership forms can be downloaded from the website and once completed should be passed to the Membership Secretary, together with the appropriate fee.

AUDITIONS

Auditions are held for all prospective cast members for every show and take place in private in front of a selected panel including the Director, Musical Director, Production Assistant, Dance Captain and a selected Chairman from the CAODS Committee.

Scores and libretti for each show will be made available to the cast to hire.

Anyone wishing to audition for a show must be either an Acting or Non-Acting member of the Society. Auditionees for Principal roles will be expected to learn any music and/or dialogue required for the audition(s). Auditionees for Chorus will be expected to learn the set audition music and sometimes a dance routine. Those wishing to audition as Dancers will be expected to learn a set dance routine either on the day of the audition or before.

Those accepted into the show cast must then upgrade to full Acting membership.

REHEARSALS

The majority of rehearsals take place at the Young Generation Headquarters, Meteor Way, Chelmsford as follows:

Pre-audition music calls Wednesday and Friday evenings

Setting calls are on Wednesdays 7.30 pm – 10.30 pm, Fridays 7.30 – 10.30pm and some Saturdays half or whole days.

There is also a Band call on the Sunday of the start of the week of the show starting at 10 am, before the Technical Run which starts late afternoon and generally finishes around 11.30 pm.

The cast are expected to attend all setting and revision calls AS PER THE SHOW REHEARSAL SCHEDULE unless there is a very good reason for their absence. e.g. holiday, illness, work etc. Any absences must be advised to the Production Assistant. If you cannot attend a setting call you must arrange for someone to stand in and take notes for you otherwise you may not be included in the relevant scene(s). This is IMPORTANT.

The cast are expected to take their own flooring notes at the setting calls and use them for revision calls and home revising.

Rehearsal Dress

Ladies: rehearsal skirts are worn appropriate to the show being performed. Character shoes and/or soft jazz shoes. No jewellery and hair tied back.

Men: relaxed/casual wear. Shoes appropriate to the show.

Any special rehearsal clothes will be advised by the Director.

