



Top Box Studios Redditch Adult Theatre Company

Proudly Presents

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Production Information

Hello and thank you for taking an interest in our Adult Theatre Company production of The Sound of Music to be staged at the Palace Theatre Redditch in February 2027. We are looking for a large cast including 7w and 4m principal roles, plus 3 teams of children with 5girl(s), 2boy(s) plus A teen/adult ensemble age 13+.

Summary

The final collaboration between Rodgers & Hammerstein was destined to become the world's most beloved musical. Featuring a trove of cherished songs, including "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "My Favourite Things," "Do-Re-Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" and the title number, The Sound of Music won the hearts of audiences worldwide, earning five Tony Awards and five Oscars. The inspirational story, based on the memoir of Maria Augusta Trapp, follows an ebullient postulate who serves as governess to the seven children of the imperious Captain von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of Nazism take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire von Trapp family must make a moral decision.

All interested in taking part in our show would need to be comfortable singing, dancing and acting!

Get in touch to apply for a place in our company ensemble or book an audition slot for a principal role.

AUDITIONS

Auditions – Sunday 19th July 2026

(You will be allocated a time slot, please arrive 10 mins before)

Rehearsal & Audition Venue – Top Box Studios, Second Floor, Canon Newton House, Kingfisher Shopping Centre, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 4HA.

Performance Dates - 5th February 7pm, 6th February 2pm & 7pm 2027

Performance Venue – The Palace Theatre

Alcester Street, Redditch, Worcestershire. B98 8AE.

Principal Rehearsals start **Sunday 26th July (Time TBC)**

Company Rehearsals start **Sunday 20th September 18:30-20:30pm!**

Weekly rehearsals will be held on Sundays 18:30-20:30pm!

Additional principal rehearsals will be arranged during August and September.

Technical/Dress Rehearsals will also be scheduled during show week.

PLEASE NOTE

Main communication will be through our WhatsApp group with details of rehearsals and any changes to schedule. Accepting a part is a commitment to attend all rehearsals, we ask you to inform the team via private message of any illness or other reason for non-attendance as early as possible to avoid any delay to the start of rehearsals. Missing continuous rehearsals may result in you losing your part in the show.

Audition Form

<https://www.topboxstudios.com/auditions>

Please complete the audition form on our website if you would like to apply for a principal role.

Audition Fee

<https://www.topboxstudios.com/product-page/auditionfee>

We ask for an audition fee to cover costs. The Payment link is now live on our website. Once we receive your audition application form and payment you will then be allocated a time to arrive on the audition day.

Audition application deadline - Midday on Monday 13th July 2026

Membership Fees

Membership fees are required to contribute towards rehearsal and production costs, fees are due at the start of every half term block (5 weeks) via our website memberships page.

Fees are £66 per block (Including VAT) which equates to less than £7 per hour of rehearsal time.

Costume Fee

In order to enable us to stage our productions at a level which is expected from our company we hire in costumes for all performers.

This fee is a one-off payment of £30 (Including VAT) to cover the hire cost. More information on this and details on how to pay will be provided closer to show week.

Please contact us for more details

Top Box Studios

Phone:

Tracy – 07846 116885

Georgie – 07922 180534

Email: office@topboxstudios.com

PRINCIPAL AUDITION DETAILS

No previous performance experience is necessary!

Auditions will consist of one song performance and one script extract. Please prepare one song from the list provided on our website. You will be asked to 'perform' with the backing track provided. You may not be required to sing the whole song. It is recommended that you warm up your voice and sing through your song before arriving at the audition.

During singing auditions, the panel will be looking for the following.

- Vocal ability and range.
- Ability to act/perform your song choice.

When reading the script, please feel free to try out an accent if you are confident with this. During this process you will be given instructions from the directors. This is to understand your approach, openness and receptiveness to direction and performance. You will be auditioning in front of our creative team, and we aim to make this an enjoyable experience so please do not worry, we all have experience of audition nerves!

The Sound of Music — Synopsis

Act I

Salzburg, Austria, 1938, on the eve of the Anschluss. In the cloistered sanctuary of Nonnberg Abbey, the nuns invoke Psalm 110 and sing songs of praise ("Preludium"). One of the postulants, Maria, is nowhere to be found. She is instead out in the hills, where she goes "when her heart is lonely" ("The Sound of Music"). Back at the Abbey, Sister Berthe, Sister Sophia and Sister Margareta debate with Mother Abbess as to whether Maria is prepared for the devout life of a nun ("Maria"). The Mother Abbess calls for Maria, and they discover a shared love of a particular childhood song ("My Favorite Things"). To help Maria mature before committing to the religious life, the Mother Abbess sends her out from the Abbey to serve as temporary governess to the seven children of a former naval officer, Captain Georg von Trapp ("My Favourite Things" Reprise).

Maria arrives and discovers that the Captain has, since the death of his wife, closed himself off emotionally. The Captain introduces Maria to the children, who do not play, but march instead. Realizing they have grown up without music in their lives, Maria teaches the children the basics of singing ("Do-Re-Mi").

That evening, the oldest child, Liesl, sneaks away to meet Rolf, a local boy who's caught up in the political fervor of the times. Warning her of the dangers of her innocence, he offers himself as a suitable protector. Liesl, in her way, accepts ("Sixteen Going On Seventeen"). Meanwhile, a loud thunderstorm causes the frightened children to seek out Maria in her bedroom, where she diverts their attention with a rousing folk song ("The Lonely Goatherd"). Later that night in a dark hallway, Gretl musters up joy while frightened at the continuing sounds of the storm ("The Lonely Goatherd" Reprise).

The Captain returns a month later with Elsa Schraeder, a sophisticated Viennese widow. They are accompanied by Max Detweiler, Third Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Culture, who is on the hunt for the perfect local singing group to perform at the annual Kaltzberg Festival. Elsa finds it charming here in the provinces but is frustrated that the Captain has yet to propose to her. Max explains what's standing in the way: both Elsa and the Captain are rich! ("How Can Love Survive?").

Maria arrives with the children, all wearing clothing that Maria has made from her old bedroom curtains. The Captain is embarrassed and enraged. Maria confronts him and tells him how little he understands his children, and he orders her back to Nonnberg. But when he hears the children singing for Elsa ("The Sound of Music" Reprise), his heart opens up. Moved that Maria has brought music back into his home, the Captain asks her to stay.

The Captain throws a lavish party so the local gentry can meet Elsa ("The Grand Waltz"). However, the political divide is widening between those who support the proposed German takeover and those like von Trapp, who believe in Austrian sovereignty. As the orchestra plays an Austrian Folk dance ("Laendler"), young Kurt tries to remember it with Maria. The Captain steps in and, as they dance, the Captain and Maria recognize their unspoken attraction. Brigitta confirms it to Maria, who promptly breaks away. At Elsa's request, the children sing for the guests ("So Long, Farewell"). Max is thrilled: a singing group of seven children in one family? Perfect for the Festival! The children make their way to bed; the guests make their way to dinner; and Maria, confused by her encounter with the Captain, leaves without saying goodbye, fleeing back to Nonnberg Abbey.

At the Abbey, Maria tells the Mother Abbess that she is ready to take the orders of poverty, obedience and chastity ("Morning Hymn"). But the Mother Abbess, realizing that Maria has fallen in love, encourages Maria to return to the Captain and find the life she was born to live ("Climb Ev'ry Mountain").

Act II

Max, in anticipation of the upcoming Kaltzberg Festival, rehearses with the children. But without Maria, they've lost the joy of making music ("My Favorite Things" Reprise). Suddenly, Maria returns, and they're delighted! But they have news for her: Father is going to be married to Frau Schraeder. Maria's heart is broken, but she resolves to fulfill her duties until arrangements can be made for a new governess.

The political situation is worsening, and Max and Elsa implore the Captain to weather the coming storm by being noncommittal ("No Way to Stop It"). The Captain remains unwavering in his disgust for the Nazis, and he and Elsa realize that they cannot share a future. Elsa returns to Vienna for good. Seeing Maria again, the Captain now understands what he and Maria have both known deep inside for many weeks ("An Ordinary Couple").

In Mother Abbess' office, Mother Abbess and the Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey prepare Maria for her wedding ("Gadeamus Domino"). As the nuns watch, Maria walks down the aisle at her wedding in procession with the children and the Captain ("Maria" Reprise). The procession continues, and the nuns appear behind the family ("Confitemini Domino").

While Maria and the Captain are away on their honeymoon, the Anschluss occurs; Austria is annexed by Nazi Germany. The von Trapp house is the only one in the province not flying the flag of the Third Reich ("You mean the flag with the black spider on it?" asks Brigitta). The Captain and Maria return to find that much has changed: Many have joined ranks with the Nazis, including Rolf and Franz the butler. Max, without the Captain's knowledge, has been readying the children for their performance at the Festival. The Captain refuses to allow his family to perform on behalf of an Austria which no longer exists, and Maria stands by him. Liesl now sees how much Maria truly loves the Captain, and Maria shares her new understanding of love ("Sixteen Going on Seventeen" Reprise).

Admiral von Schreiber of the Third Reich, accompanied by Herr Zeller, the local Nazi leader, arrives to inform Captain von Trapp that he must accept a commission in the German Navy and report immediately to Bremerhaven. Thinking quickly, Maria displays the program for the Festival showing that the Trapp Family Singers – which includes the Captain, of course, as head of the family – are scheduled to perform, so he couldn't possibly leave now. The Captain gets it, and joins in the impromptu rehearsal. Admiral von Schreiber grants permission for the Captain to report to duty several days later.

The Festival begins (“Do-Re-Mi” Reprise) and von Trapp himself sings a quietly defiant hymn to his beloved Austria (“Edelweiss”). But when Max announces that a guard of honor is waiting to escort the Captain away as soon as the concert is over, Maria leads the von Trapp family in more song as they escape, one by one, into the night (“So Long, Farewell” Reprise). Max gives out the concert prizes slowly, buying time. The Trapp Family Singers are announced as winners of the Festival, but they are nowhere to be found.

The family takes refuge in the garden of Nonnberg Abbey as Nazi soldiers swarm the hallowed ground. It is Rolf who discovers the von Trapps, but seeing Liesl, he chooses not to reveal their hiding place. Still there seems to be no way out; the Nazis have closed the border and are guarding every road. The family has no choice but to make their way to freedom by way of the mountain. It is a daunting journey, but Maria, who grew up on that mountain, knows the way. The Mother Abbess reminds them that they will have help: “For ye shall go out with joy and the very hills shall break forth before you into singing” (“Finale Ultimo: Climb Ev’ry Mountain”).

The Sound of Music — Cast List

CHARACTERS

Maria Rainer (Playing age 20-30)

A spirited, kind-hearted young woman training to become a nun at Nonnberg Abbey. Maria is free-spirited, adventurous and often struggles with the strict routines of convent life. Her warmth, optimism and love of music help her form a close bond with the von Trapp children.

Mother Abbess (Playing age 45-70)

The wise and compassionate leader of Nonnberg Abbey. She serves as a mentor to Maria, offering guidance, wisdom and encouragement. Strong yet gentle, she possesses great inner strength and faith.

Sister Berthe (Playing age 30-60)

The Mistress of Novices at the Abbey. She is practical, disciplined and often frustrated by Maria's unconventional behaviour. Although strict, she genuinely cares about the well-being of those in her charge.

Sister Margareta (Playing age 25-60)

The Mistress of Postulants. Warm-hearted, cheerful and compassionate, she is often more understanding of Maria's personality and potential than Sister Berthe.

Sister Sophia (Playing age 20-50)

A thoughtful and gentle nun who often acts as a voice of reason within the Abbey. Kind and supportive, she offers a balanced perspective on Maria's future.

Captain Georg von Trapp (Playing age 35-50)

A distinguished former naval captain and widowed father of seven children. Initially strict, disciplined and emotionally distant, he gradually rediscovers joy, music and love through Maria's influence.

Franz (Playing age 25-50)

The von Trapp family's loyal butler. Reserved, efficient and highly respectful of the Captain, Franz maintains the household's formal standards and is deeply aware of the political tensions developing in Austria.

Frau Schmidt (Playing age 35-65)

The practical and caring housekeeper of the von Trapp household. She is devoted to the children and supportive of Maria, often providing warmth and stability within the home.

Liesl von Trapp (Playing age Age 16)

The eldest von Trapp child. Intelligent, responsible and eager to be treated as an adult, Liesl experiences her first romance with Rolf and struggles between childhood and adulthood.

Friedrich von Trapp (Playing age Age 14)

The eldest son. Serious, polite and determined to live up to his father's expectations, Friedrich enjoys structure and discipline but has a kind heart beneath his reserved exterior.

Louisa von Trapp (Playing age Age 13)

A lively and mischievous girl with a playful sense of humour. Louisa enjoys practical jokes and often joins her siblings in playful schemes.

Kurt von Trapp (Playing age Age 10)

An energetic and imaginative boy with a cheerful personality. Kurt is enthusiastic, curious and enjoys singing and performing.

Brigitta von Trapp (Playing age Age 9)

Highly intelligent, observant and honest. Brigitta is known for speaking the truth, even when it may be uncomfortable, and often notices details others miss.

Marta von Trapp (Playing age Age 7)

Sweet, gentle and affectionate. Marta loves simple pleasures and is particularly fond of the colour pink and spending time with her family.

Gretl von Trapp (Playing age Age 6)

The youngest von Trapp child. Innocent, adorable and trusting, Gretl brings warmth and charm to the family.

Rolf Gruber (Playing age Age 17)

A telegram delivery boy and Liesl's boyfriend. Initially charming and confident, Rolf becomes increasingly influenced by the growing political climate in Austria, creating conflict as the story unfolds.

Elsa Schraeder (Playing age 30-45)

A sophisticated, wealthy baroness and the Captain's fiancée. Elegant, confident and worldly, Elsa values social status and practicality but struggles to connect with the children in the way Maria does.

Ursula

One of Elsa's fashionable friends and social companions. Refined and well-mannered, she represents the upper-class social circle of pre-war Austria.

Max Detweiler (Playing age 35-55)

A charming, witty and opportunistic music promoter. A close family friend of the von Trapps, Max is humorous and sociable, often seeking ways to advance his career while remaining fond of the family.

Herr Zeller (Playing age 35-60)

The local Nazi official. Authoritative, intimidating and politically ambitious, Herr Zeller represents the growing influence of Nazi Germany in Austria.

Baron Elberfeld

An Austrian aristocrat and supporter of the arts. Polite, distinguished and cultured, he appears as part of the festival and social scenes.

A New Postulant

A young woman newly entering religious life at Nonnberg Abbey. Enthusiastic, respectful and eager to learn, she helps establish the atmosphere of the convent.

Admiral von Schreiber (Playing age 40-65)

A high-ranking naval officer in the German Navy. Formal, authoritative and determined, he attempts to persuade Captain von Trapp to accept a commission following the Anschluss.

ENSEMBLE

Neighbors of Captain von Trapp, nuns, novices, postulants, and contestants at the Festival Concert

Note: In this show, the race of the characters is not pivotal to the plot. We encourage diversity and inclusion in our casting choices.

The Sound of Music — Musical Numbers

Act I

1. “Preludium” – The Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey
- 1a. “Dixit Dominus” – The Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey
- 1b. “Morning Hymn” – The Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey
- 1c. “Angelus Bells” – The Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey
- 1d. “Alleluia” – The Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey
2. “The Sound of Music” – Maria
3. Interlude
4. “Maria” – Sisters Berthe, Sophia, Margaretta and Mother Abbess
5. The Scene Continues
6. “My Favorite Things” – Maria and Mother Abbess
7. “The Scene Continues: My Favorite Things” – Maria
8. The Scene Continues
9. “Do-Re-Mi” – Maria and the von Trapp Children
- 9a. Encore: Do-Re-Mi
10. Change of Scene
11. “Sixteen Going on Seventeen” – Rolf and Liesl
12. Change of Scene
13. Incidental: Scene 7
14. “The Lonely Goatherd” – Maria and the Children
15. “After The Lonely Goatherd” – Maria and the Children
- 15a. Gretl’s Crossover: The Lonely Goatherd
- 15b. Change of Scene
16. “How Can Love Survive?” – Max, Elsa, Captain von Trapp
17. “Reprise: The Sound of Music” – The von Trapp Children
18. “The Scene Continues” – Maria, Captain von Trapp
19. End of Scene
20. The Party Crossover: My Favorite Things
21. The Party: Grand Waltz

22. Ländler
23. Fox Trot: Incidental
- 23a. Waltz: Incidental
24. “So Long, Farewell” – The Children, Captain von Trapp
25. End of Scene: Maria’s Farewell
26. “Nun’s Processional: Morning Hymn” – The Nuns
27. Incidental
28. “Climb Ev’ry Mountain” – Mother Abbess

Act II

29. Entr’acte
- 29a. “Opening Act II: The Lonely Goatherd” – Max, The Children
30. Vocal Incidental for Dialogue
31. “Incidental – a cappella: The Sound of Music” – The Children
32. “Reprise: My Favorite Things” – The Children
33. “No Way to Stop It” – Elsa, Captain von Trapp
34. “An Ordinary Couple” – Maria, Captain von Trapp
35. Change of Scene
36. Wedding Preparation
 - I. The Postulants’ Crossover
 - II. The Bride’s Dressing Music
37. “Change of Scene: Gaudeamus Domino” – Mother Abbess, The Nuns
- 37a. “Processional” – Mother Abbess, The Nuns
- 37b. “Confitemini Domino” – The Nuns
38. Change of Scene: My Favorite Things
39. Homecoming Music: An Ordinary Couple
40. “Reprise: Sixteen Going on Seventeen” – Maria, Liesl
41. “Reprise: Do-Re-Mi” – Maria, The Children
- 41a. Change of Scene
- 41b. “The Concert: Do-Re-Mi” – Maria, The Children
42. “Edelweiss” – Captain von Trapp

43. "Reprise: So Long, Farewell" – Maria, Captain von Trapp, The Children

44. The Awards

44a. Change of Scene

45. Incidental

46. "Finale Ultimo: Climb Ev'ry Mountain" – Ensemble

47. Bows and Exit Music