

Fiddler on the Roof Audition Information

Vocals-

Please come prepared to sing-

16-32 Bars of a song in the style of the show (30 seconds)

*****Please choose a song from a show other than Fiddler on the Roof***

Please bring a musical accompaniment track to sing along with downloaded on a Phone, IPOD, IPAD, Computer, etc....

*****Please make sure it is downloaded to your device. Wifi can be a challenge.***

Please make sure there are no words on the track

No acapella auditions. Please and thank you!

Need help finding songs for the audition? Below are some suggestions to help guide you...

****Classic Music Theatre is the style of this show. Avoid contemporary musical theatre songs, pop songs, rock songs, and any and all riffing.**

*****Please feel free to choose songs different from the ones listed below...these are just some suggestions.**

General audition songs-

(Female)

"Feed the Birds" —Mary Poppins

"I Enjoy Being a Girl" – Flower Drum Song

"In My Own Little Corner" —Cinderella

"Papa Can You Hear Me?" – Yentl

"Would You?" – Singin' in the Rain

(Male)

"Anthem" – Chess

"Everybody Says Don't" – Anyone Can Whistle

"I Have Dreamed" —The King and I

"Singin in the Rain" — Singin in the Rain

"Ten Minutes Ago" —Cinderella

Here are also some specific songs by character to help guide you in the right direction-

Chava

“How Lovely to Be a Woman” – Bye Bye Birdie
“In My Own Little Corner” – Cinderella
“This is All Very New to Me” – Plain and Fancy

Fruma Sarah

“City on Fire” – Sweeney Todd
“Red Shoes Blues” – The Wizard of Oz

Golde/Grandma Tzeitel

“Aldonza” – Man of La Mancha
“Feed the Birds” – Mary Poppins
“No Wonder” – Yentl
“Only Love” – Zorba

Hodel

“A Little Bit in Love” – Wonderful Town
“Home” – Beauty and the Beast
“Home” – Wonderland
“Over the Rainbow” —The Wizard of Oz

Motel

“Fidgety Feet” – An American in Paris
“I Turned the Corner” – Thoroughly Modern Millie
“Tonight at Eight” – She Loves Me

Perchik/Mendel

“Do I Love You Because You’re Beautiful?” – Cinderella
“On the Street Where You Live” – My Fair Lady
“Ten Minutes Ago” – Cinderella
“What Would I Do?” – Falsettos

Lazar Wolf/Mordcha/Rabbi/Avram

“A Puzzlement” – The King and I
“Days Gone By” – She Loves Me
“I’ve Come to Wive it Wealthily in Padua” – Kiss Me Kate
“Like a Young Man” – Milk and Honey
“The Colors of My Life” – Barnum

Tevey

“How to Handle a Woman” – Camelot
“I Am Free” – Zorba
“In My Own Lifetime” – The Rothschilds
“Song on the Sand” – La Cage aux Folles
“The First Time” – Zorba

Tzeitel

“People” – Funny Girl

“Someone Else’s Story” – Chess

“Where Is It Written?” – Yentl

“Will You?” – Grey Gardens

Yente

“So What?” – Cabaret

“The Cake I Had” – Grey Gardens

“What Would You Do?” – Cabaret

Acting-

Please come prepared with **one** of the attached monologues. There are many to choose from with varying levels of humor, depth of understanding, dramatic intentions, accents, etc... Choose the one that you feel best showcases your acting abilities and be ready to present it at auditions.

Memorization is highly encouraged

For anyone-

A Fiddler on the Roof...sounds crazy no? But here in our little village of Anatevka, you might say, everyone of us, is a Fiddler on the Roof. Trying to scratch out a pleasant, simple tune, without breaking his neck. It isn't easy.

And how do we keep our balance...that I can tell you in a word...TRADITION!!

Males

TEVYE (speaking to God after the constable and Russian soldiers have caused a commotion at Tzeitel's (his daughter) wedding)

That was quite a dowry you gave my daughter Tzeitel at her wedding. Was that necessary? ...Anyway, Tzeitel and Motel have been married almost two months now. They work very hard. They are as poor as synagogue mice...But they are both so happy they don't know how miserable they are. Motel keeps talking about a sewing machine. I know you're very busy, God – wars and revolutions, floods, plagues – all those little things that bring people to You – couldn't You take a second away from your catastrophes and get it for him? How much trouble would it be? Oh, and while you're in the neighborhood, my horse's left leg ...Am I bothering You too much? I'm sorry. As the good book says... Why should I tell you what the good book says?

PERCHIK (speaking to Hodel)

Great changes are about to take place in this country. Tremendous changes. But they can't happen by themselves.

Many people, Jew, Gentiles, many people hate what is going on. Don't you understand? Hodel, your father, the others here, think what happened at Tzeitel's wedding was a little cloudburst and it's over and everything will be peaceful again. It won't. Horrible things are happening all over the land ... pogroms, violence; whole villages are being emptied of their people. And it's reaching everywhere, and it will reach here. I have work to do. The greatest work a man can do.

Before I go (he hesitates, then summons up courage) there is a certain question I wish to discuss with you, A political question. The question of marriage. And I personally am in favor of it. Do you understand?

MOTEL (speaking to Tevye)

Reb Tevye, may I speak to you? I would like to speak to you about your problem. I think I can help. Reb Tevye, I hear you are arranging a match for Tzeitel. I have a match for Tzeitel. A perfect fit. Like a glove. This match was made exactly to measure. (Tevye shouts at Motel). Please, don't shout at me. (Tevye asks.. Who is it?) Who is it? It's me – myself. As for being my own matchmaker, I know it's a little unusual. Times are changing, Reb Tevye. The thing is, your daughter Tzeitel and I gave each other our pledge more than a year ago that we would marry. I have wanted to ask you for some time, Reb Tevye, but first I wanted to save up for my own sewing machine.

Reb Tevye, even a poor tailor is entitled to some happiness.

FYEDKA (speaking to Chava)

I'm sorry that... They mean no harm. I'd like to talk to you. I've often noticed you at the bookseller's. Not many girls in this village like to read (A sudden thought strikes him. He extends the book he is holding). Would you like to borrow this book? It's very good. Oh..why not? Because I'm not Jewish? Do you feel about us the way they feel about you? I didn't think you would. And what do you know about me? Let me tell you about myself. I'm a pleasant fellow, charming, honest, ambitious, quite bright and very modest. Go ahead, take the book. After you return it, I'll ask you how you like it, and we'll talk about it for a while. Then we'll talk about life, how we feel about things and it can all turn out quite pleasant.

LAZAR WOLF (speaking to Tevye)

Tevye, this is very important to me. I'm lonesome. I'm talking about your daughter. Your daughter, Tzeitel. I see her in my butcher shop every Thursday. She's made a good impression on me. I like her. And as for me, Tevye, as you know, I'm pretty well off. I have my own house, a good store, a servant. Look Tevye, why do we have to try to impress each other? Let's shake hands and call it a match. And you won't need a dowry for her and maybe you'll find something in your own purse, too.

Females

GOLDE (speaking to her daughters and Yente)

It's almost Sabbath. When will Papa be home? All day long riding on top of his wagon like a prince. Yes, I know he works hard, but his horse works harder! And you don't have to defend your Papa to me, I know him a little longer than you. He could drive a person crazy. Shprintza (pronounced "sprin-za") , go bring me some more potatoes. Chava (pronounced "ha-va" - the H is guttural), did you finish milking? (she sees the book Chava was reading) You were reading again? Why does a girl have to read? Will it get her a better husband? I see Yente (pronounced "yen-ta") coming down the road. Maybe she has good news. Go finish in the barn. I want to talk to Yente alone. Tzeitel (pronounced "z-eye-tul"), stop complaining about the kind of men Yente finds. A poor girl without a dowry can't be so particular. You want hair, marry a monkey.

YENTE (speaking to Golde)

Ah, children, children! They are your blessing in your old ago. But my Aaron, may he rest in peace, couldn't give me children. Believe me, he was good as gold, never raised his voice to me, but otherwise he was not much of a man, so what good is it if he never raised his voice? But what's the use of complaining. Other women enjoy complaining, but not Yente. Well, I must prepare my poor Sabbath table, so goodbye Golde, and it was a pleasure talking our hearts out to each other.

TZEITEL (speaking to Tevye after he tells he she will marry Lazar Wolf)

A match?? The butcher? Lazar Wolf? I know you think it is a blessing, but, Papa, I don't want to marry him. I can't marry him. I can't! Papa, if it's a matter of money, I'll do anything. I'll hire myself out as a servant. I'll dig ditches, I'll haul rocks; only don't make me marry him, Papa, please. I will be unhappy with him. All my life will be unhappy. I'll dig ditches, I'll haul rocks. Is your agreement more important than I am, Papa? Papa, don't force me. I'll be unhappy all my days.

HODEL (speaking to Tevye at train station before she leaves to join Perchik in Siberia)

You don't have to wait for the train, Papa. You'll be late for your customers. Perchik has been arrested and convicted, but he did nothing wrong. He cares nothing for himself. Everything he does is for humanity. I know he has troubles, but what wrongs did Joseph do, and Abraham, and Moses? And they had troubles. Where is he? It is far, Papa, terribly far. He is in a settlement in Siberia. He did not ask me to go to him. I want to go. I don't want him to be alone. I want to help him in his work. It is the greatest work a man can do. Papa, I promise you, we will be married under a canopy. Goodbye, Papa, God alone knows when we shall see each other again.

CHAVA (speaking to Fyedka and Tevye)

My family still does not know about us. I will tell them, but I'm afraid. No Fyedka (pronounced "fee-yed-ka"), don't talk to my father. That would be the worst thing, I'm sure of it. I'll talk to him, I promise. (Fyedka leaves as Tevye enters). What were we talking about? Nothing, we were just talking. Papa, Fyedka and I have known each other for a long time and I...(Tevye interrupts). He has a name, Papa and Fyedka is not a creature, Fyedka is a man. Papa, the world is changing, I know you think some things will never change, but we don't feel that way. Fyedka and I want to be married. You say that I should never talk about this again? Yes, Papa, I understand you.

BIELKE & SHPRINTZE (speaking to Golde)

Mama, where should I put these logs? And where is Chava ((pronounced "ha-va") ? Is she in the barn milking? When will Papa be home? It's almost Sabbath. Look Mama, Yente's (pronounced "yen-ta") coming. She's down the road. Maybe she's finally found a good match for Tzeitel (pronounced "z-eye-tul"). Mama, can I go out and play?

Dance-

This show has a heavy dance component in many different styles.

All those auditioning should bring jazz shoes/boots to the audition and be prepared to learn choreography at PCR. If you do not have jazz shoes/boots, ballet shoes or sneakers will be acceptable.

Looking for-

Strong ballet dancers-Chavelah Dream Ballet (7 girls and 3 guys) (One girl to play Dream Chava who is well trained in ballet-turns, leaps, etc...and can be lifted) (One guy to play Dream Fyedka who is capable of lifts)

Russian dancing- Footwork, strength, flexibility, lifts, flips, turns, toe touches, etc...

Bottle dancers-Able to balance a bottle on your head while turning and dragging your knees across the floor

Banshees-In the Dream-Lyrical/contemporary dancers to act as banshees. Highly athletic dancing.

Musical Theatre Choreo-All actors will dance in various group numbers. Dance will be adjusted to accommodate all.

Please bring your headshot and resume to the audition.

Roles available-All roles are open. The show will be double cast where possible.

Fiddler on the Roof Characters

Bielke (pronounced "bee-el -ka") F/6-12-Tevey and Golde's youngest daughter. A typical child. Lots of on stage time.

Chava (pronounced "ha-va" - the H is guttural)F-13-16 (Singing/Speaking B3 - D5) An introspective, rather shy young woman who seems to favor books over other pursuits. Her love for the young Russian, Fyedka, tests her father's love to the limit and provides the largest conflict in the story. The actor playing Chava must be able to display a wide emotional range.

Fruma Sarah F-35-45 (C4 - Eb5) Lazar Wolf's deceased first wife. She becomes enraged when her husband plans to wed Tzeitel. Must be able to present a fearful appearance, loud voice and do general stage movements for the role.

Golde (pronounced "goal-deh") F/40-50 (Singing Speaking A3 - Eb5) Tevey's strong-willed wife who wishes for her daughters to have good husbands and live easier than she and Tevey. She is the backbone of the family. She has a rather gruff exterior, but in her heart is sheer dedication to her family. She runs the household and keeps Tevey's more emotional side in check. Conversely, she should be able to show a softer side when dealing with Chava and Tevey's rift. Golde is an efficient helpmate and traditionalist, faced with changes of a "new world." She has a sharp tongue and wit. Her love of family helps her face the challenges that her family encounters. Good Comic timing.

Grandma Tzeitel F/60-75 (Singing Non-speaking C#4 - D5) Golde's late grandmother who endorses the marriage between Tzeitel and Motel. A ghost figure who appears in the dream scene.

Hodel (pronounced "hudd-ul") F 14-22 (Singing Speaking B3 - E5) A strong, independent middle child of the three older daughters. She is outspoken, but respectful. She has her eye on the Rabbi's son at the outset of the story, but she is taken with the revolutionary Perchik from the moment she meets him. Hodel proves that her dedication to and love for Perchik is real as she follows him to Siberia after his arrest.

Shandel F/40-60- Motel's mother and also part of the ensemble. Loves her son. Solo in "the Rumor."

Shprintze (pronounced "sprin-za") F/6-12 Ensemble Speaking B3 - D5 Tevey and Golde's fourth daughter. A typical child. Lots of on stage time.

Tzeitel (pronounced "z-eye-tul") F/16-22 (Singing/Speaking B3 - D5) The oldest daughter of Tevye and Golde. She is the first to be matched by Yente and sets the plot of Fiddler into action by pleading with her father to let her marry Motel the Tailor, to whom she has pledged her love. She is determined to marry Motel and knows how to manipulate her father. She has a desperate crying scene with Tevye. Strong dramatic actress.

Yente (pronounced "yen-ta") F/50-60 (Speaking/Singing F3 - F5) The meddling matchmaker. She is a widow and village busybody who knows all of the town gossip. The comedian of the show.

Tevye (pronounced "tev-yeh") M 40-60 (Singing Speaking Ab2-F5) Lead role -narrator and main character in the show, likable, hardworking, pious man, dairyman, who sees the positive side of life. Strong patriarch but gentle father of five daughters, closely raised according to the scriptures. Husband to Golde. He is humorous and relaxed, but when pushed, can show stubbornness and rage. Strong actor must carry the show and have a good connection with the audience. Should be able to show the wide range of conflict, joy and pain that his character feels throughout the story. Large amounts of dialogue and singing, solo and with others.

Avram (pronounced "ah-va-rom) M/40-60 (This role can be played by a female-the character will remain Male) Mostly Ensemble singing with a few solo lines (Speaking D3 - Eb4) Runs the local bookshop and keeps the town advised of all the news in the area.

Constable M 35-50 Non-singing (Speaking) Russian military official stationed near Anatevka who knows the villagers well. He has a good relationship with Tevye, but this relationship does not prevent him from carrying out violence against the villagers. Non-singing and dancing role. Powerful presence needed. Russian accent needed.

Fyedka (pronounced "fee-yed-ka") M/16-25 Russian soldier, non-Jewish. Tevye and the rest of the men are distrusting of him, but he is actually a very kind and gentle man, despite being a soldier. He is strong and confident. He must be a good, strong dancer. Could have the Russian solo in TO LIFE if voice matches the part, but could be played as a non-singing role.

Lazar Wolf (pronounced "lay-zer") M/40-50 (Singing/Speaking C3 - F#4) The feisty, brawny butcher. The town's wealthiest citizen. Widower of Fruma-Sarah, and the man Yente the matchmaker sets as a match for Tzeitel. Tzeitel is frightened to marry Lazar Wolf and she should have reason to be so. Lazar Wolf has featured singing in, "To Life" and must be able to sell the song.

Motel (pronounced "mah-tul") M/16-25 Singing Speaking E3 - F#4 The poor and meek tailor who shares a deep love with Tzeitel. Sensitive and nervous, but sincere and friendly. He is an endearing sort of Woody Allen type. He is a strong singer/dancer: able to dance at his wedding. A young man with good comic timing and a vulnerable quality is ideal.

Perchik (pronounced "per-chick") M/16-30 (Singing/Speaking B2 - E4) An outspoken young student who leans toward a revolutionary, or as Tevye calls him, "A radical." Perchik should be able to hold his own with Tevye. Being a strong character, he clashes with Tevye idealistically, but is likable, charming, and ultimately, a member of the family. Requires an actor who can show intensity and an unfailing commitment to his ideals. Some ensemble dancing and a small dance scene with Hodel.

Mordcha (pronounced "Moor-dekai") M/30-60 Mostly Ensemble singing with a few solo lines Innkeeper - (This role can be played by a female. Character will remain a male) runs the bar in town, Tevye's friend. Big personality.

Rabbi M/40-80 (This role can be played by a female. Character will remain a male) Anatevka's Jewish spiritual leader. Comic role.

Mendel (pronounce with accent on 2nd syllable) M/ 18-25 Mostly Ensemble singing with a few solo lines. (This role can be played by a female. Character will remain a male) The Rabbi's son. Strong about following his faith.

Nahum (pronounced "Nay-hem") The Beggar. Small comic bit in the opening song. (Male of Female)

Rifka (Female-20-40) Ensemble member that Has a solo verse in "The Rumor"

Yussel (pronounced "Yu-zel")A hatter. Ensemble featured role. (Male of female)

The Priest —Walk on role in Tradition

Russian Tenor -M (G5) Strong tenor soloist in To Life-Dances with Russians after.

Two young boys M/6-10 Yente's matches for remaining daughters. Walk on role.

Sasha M/F 17-25 Ensemble Small Speaking N/A Russian soldier- Fedyka's friend. Good dancer required for To Life. May cast a good female dancer in this role. Bullies Chava.

The Fiddler M/F Ensemble/Opens the show - must be unafraid of heights and able convince audience that he/she is actually playing violin. Requires some dance steps. Fiddler on the Roof

Russian dancers/Bottle Dancers/Ballet Dancers/Banshees-Strong dancers in various styles. Need many to fill these roles.

Featured singers/dancers in "The Dream".... Many opportunities for solo singing lines and musicians as well. Featured number for all ages.

Featured villagers- Solo speaking lines throughout the play in various ensemble scenes.