

To All Cappies Schools

Vocal Auditions

Attached you will find the material for the Cappies vocal auditions in February. There is a Lyric Sheet, a Rehearsal Piano part, a Vocal part, and a music file of the Rehearsal Piano.

The pdf can be opened with Adobe Acrobat and the music files can be opened within your browser, iTunes, Quicktime or Media Player.

There will be a Piano player at the audition to play for your audition. Please learn the melody and the lyrics before you arrive.

Singers - Male and Female (12 boys & 12 girls) Auditions are in February.

The audition song is "Magic To Do" from Pippin

Instrumentalist Positions

I will need the following instrumentalists from within the Cappies schools. The players should be at an accelerated level and at least at a Grade 8 or 10 Conservatory level of playing ability. Good reading ability is a must, good sight reading would be a definite asset. The ability to phrase and articulate in a "pop/show music" style is an absolute necessity.

The Student portion of the Cappies Orchestra consists of:

1/2 Flute/Picc	1 Clarinet
2 Trumpets	1 Tenor Sax
1 Bari Sax	1 Trombone
4 First Violins	4 Second Violins
2 Violas	2 Cellos
1 Guitar	1 Piano/Keyboard
1 Drum Kit /Percussion	

Last year's Cappies Orchestra was fantastic and I salute their enthusiasm and abilities.

Age is of no concern only the ability to produce a good sound, be attentive and have a positive attitude.

I need contact numbers/information to music directors of the shows asap.

Each "student" will have a mentor/lead professional player to follow and emulate. This gala is being done in a very professional manner and I believe that this experience will be an incredible learning opportunity for these musicians. We will be playing the Opening to the show, the opening to the second half & Closing numbers, accompanying some Show Music selections and playing 35 bits of music for the Award Ceremony and anything else that is required of us. Last year we did not get the opportunity to rehearse everything so sight-reading and playing with confidence is essential.

Please have the Music Teachers/Show Music Directors call Gary Morton at 613 824-5099 or email me at gdmorton1104@gmail.com with their recommendations. I want to discuss each potential candidate with the Music Teacher.

Please also email me the recommended names as well so I have a record of candidates. We may not be able to take everyone so please get to me soon.

Most of the rehearsals will be on Sunday Afternoons at Nepean High School

(574 Broadview Ave, Ottawa, ON K2A 3V8) and the Gala, Sunday, June 9 will be all day at the NAC starting at about 11:00 AM and going until after show time – approx 9:30 PM.

Rehearsals

All of these events are at Nepean HS with the exception of June 9 at the NAC.

Sunday April 28 - 1-4pm - Rehearsal 1 – Cappies Chorus & Piano only

Sunday May 12 - 1-4pm - Rehearsal 2 – Cappies Chorus & Piano only

Sunday May 26 - 1-4pm - Rehearsal 3 – Cappies Chorus & Rhythm Section

Sunday June 2 - 1-5pm - Rehearsal 4 – Cappies Chorus & Rhythm Section

Saturday June 8 - 10am-1pm & 2-5pm - Rehearsal 5 – Cappies Chorus & Orchestra

Sunday June 9 - 11am-9:30pm - Gala – Cappies Chorus & Orchestra

Music Teachers/Show Music Directors - If your show/musical is nominated I will need:

- 1) The music to the selection you have chosen to represent your musical. I need to orchestrate the selection for the Cappies Orchestra so having the score and parts is necessary. If you have not chosen a selection as yet – please do as soon as possible. The five nominated musicals will be represented by musical excerpts, each lasting no more than 3 minutes. The score for your excerpt must be available within days of when the nominations are announced.
- 2) If your musical is one of the five nominated, we will need to see a "rehearsal/run through" of the selection at your school at a mutually convenient time. Rehearsals for the excerpt will be fine, just let us know.
- 3) Leads need to be ready and prepared to attend and participate in Sunday rehearsals in late May and early June. Rehearsals are usually 3 hours in length and not everyone is busy all the time. We need to run through each selection at least twice.

The complete Cappies Ensemble consists of:

Singers - Male and Female

Flute/Picc (2?)

1 Clarinet

4 Trumpets

3 Saxes (Alto, Tenor, Bari)

2 Trombones

Violin 1 & 2

Viola

2 Guitars

Piano

Keyboard

Bass Guitar

Drum Kit 1

Drum Kit 2/Percussion

This was an amazing event for all who participated last year.

Gary

FAQ's

1. When are the Chorus auditions, and where? We will hold 4 auditions:

West end of the city; Earl of March HS, 4, The Parkway, Kanata, Monday, Feb 11, 5pm

East end of the city; St. Patrick HS, 2525 Alta Vista Dr, Tuesday Feb 12, 4:30pm

South end of the city; Longfields-Davidson Heights, 149 Berrigan Dr, Nepean, Feb 13, 4:30pm

Central; NAC, Location TBA, Wednesday, Feb 20, 4pm

ALL AUDITIONS will last approximately 1 hour.

Auditionees only need to attend ONE of the scheduled audition times.

2. Should I bring anything to the audition?

You might want to print out the audition song. The more familiar you can be with this song the better. Listen to the mp3 version of it; get a fellow student or teacher to play it for you on a piano; memorize the words. Oh, and it's always a good idea to bring a writing instrument to fill out your information card.

3. How serious are these auditions? I've heard people say that you're expecting professional performances and I feel kind of nervous about even trying. Will I be drummed out in shame if I forget the next line of the song?

The auditions are quite relaxed and a lot of fun. We will go over the song a number of times as a group so everyone feels confident that they know it well, and, when ready, each person gets to sing it alone. Mistakes happen and you are allowed to start over as many times as you like. We want everyone to have a good time and feel that they have been heard to the best of their talent. The ability to read music is always a help but definitely not necessary.

4. How many students are you looking for in the Chorus? We need between 25 and 28 students.

5. OK, this sounds really cool, but let's cut to the chase. How much of my free time do I have to give up to be part of the Chorus?

We will hold 4 3-hour rehearsals at Nepean High School. You will also have to learn the 3 songs that you will be performing at the NAC for the Gala. You will be required at the NAC all afternoon and evening on Gala day June 9

6. So, specifically, when are these rehearsals?

All of these events are at Nepean HS with the exception of June 9 at the NAC.

Sunday April 28 - 1-4pm - Rehearsal 1 – Cappies Chorus & Piano only

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Saturday June 8 - 10am-1pm & 2-5pm - Rehearsal 5 – Cappies Chorus & Orchestra

All of the above rehearsals will be at a Nepean High School, either in the auditorium or the gymnasium. Signs will direct you.

Sunday June 9 - 11am-9:30pm - Gala – Cappies Chorus & Orchestra

You will be needed at the NAC on the day of the Gala, June 9, from 11:00am onward.

7. This sounds like a lot of work. What's in it for me?

A LOT of fun. Chorus members return year after year which proves that people are having a good time. You will get to associate with some of the most talented young people and professional musicians from all over the city. You will perform on one of North America's largest stages in front of over 2000 cheering fans. You also get to see the rest of the show from the front row of Southam Hall at the NAC.

8. I've heard about the Cappies Gala, but I've never been to one. What's it all about? What, exactly, does the Chorus do?

It's like the Oscar presentations in LA – except bigger and more exciting. People are dressed “to the nines”, flash bulbs are popping, the Cappies Orchestra made up of professional and student musicians sets the exciting tone, the Cappies Chorus dazzles the audience with 3 amazing songs, heart throbbing scenes and production numbers from the top five plays and top five musicals are shown, and the humour of MCs Mauler and Rush steer the complex show through the evening. Add to that the heart-stopping announcements of winners, the cheering, and the tearful acceptance speeches, and you have an unforgettable Gala celebrating the best in High School Theatre. How could you miss a chance to be a part of it?

9. Tell me about the Chorus members. Are they all Grade 12s? Were they all in their school shows? What if I don't know any of them?

Chorus members come from all over the city, any grade level. Students from any of the Cappies schools are invited to audition whether their school entered a musical or not. You don't have to be in a musical, or even the school show, to audition for the Cappies Chorus. If you don't know anyone else in the chorus before you try out, you'll have two dozen best friends afterwards. We are looking for people who have a pleasant voice which carries well and who are animated and lively. By the way, we also need Assistant Stage Managers to help run the backstage at the NAC, so if you are genuine techie, let us know. And, we need capable student musicians for the Cappies Orchestra.

10. OK, last question. What else do I need to know about the Cappies Chorus?

Gala Director, Jim McNabb, would be pleased to answer any other questions. Email him at jimcnabb@hotmail.com. Musical Director, Gary Morton, can be reached at gdmorton1104@gmail.com to answer questions about the music or the orchestra.