

GUYS & DOLLS – AUDITION PACK

Edge Hill Players is delighted to be producing GUYS & DOLLS this September. This pack includes everything you need to know to get involved in what will be an incredible show.

SYNOPSIS

Set in the Manhattan of Damon Runyon's short stories, *Guys and Dolls* tells of conman Nathan Detroit's efforts to find a new life for his illegal but notorious crap game, while trying to avoid finally tying the knot with his long-suffering fiancée, nightclub performer Adelaide, who he has been engaged to for 14 years. When Nathan's trusty venue is found out by the police, Nathan has to find a new home for his crap game quickly – but he doesn't have the dough to secure one. Enter Sky Masterson, a high-rolling gambler willing to take on any honest bet with a high enough reward attached. Nathan bets Sky that Sky can't take the "doll" of Nathan's choosing to Havana with him on a date. When Sky agrees to the bet, Nathan chooses uptight Evangelist Sarah Brown, head of Broadway's Save-a-Soul Mission. Sky thinks he's been duped, but he's in for even more of a surprise when his efforts to woo Sarah are so successful that he falls in love with her himself.

KEY DATES

PERFORMANCES:

THURSDAY 10th, FRIDAY 11th, and SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2026, 7pm

REHEARSALS:

- Starting Tue 30th April: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7-10pm
- From July onwards: Sundays, 2-5pm

Cast members are required to be generally available for all dates in the published rehearsal schedule. We expect commitment from all cast members. One-off instances e.g. holidays can be catered to, if we are told in advance via the application form. There will be a full rehearsal schedule published to the cast so that you know which rehearsals you are required at.

The **FULL CAST** will be required on the following **mandatory** rehearsals:

- **Sunday 23 August**, all afternoon (full run through)
- **Sunday 30 August**, all afternoon (technical rehearsal)
- **Sunday 1 September**, all afternoon (Tech Run)
- **Tuesday 8 September**, 6-10pm (Dress Run)
- **Thursday 10, Friday 11, Saturday 12 September**, 6-10pm (Performances)

AUDITIONS

To sign up for an audition please fill out [this form](#).

NB there is a minimum age of 16 to audition for this show.

Please also read the Code of Conduct [here](#) before you complete the form.

GROUP AUDITION: SATURDAY 26th APRIL, 11am-12pm **SACRED HEART CHURCH, [THE LOUNGE](#), SW19 4LU**

Anyone who is **not** auditioning for a Principal or Supporting role must attend this group audition (this includes smaller roles, the Dancers, and the small Ensemble). Anyone auditioning for Principal/Supporting roles is more than welcome to join this session as well as their individual slot!

There is nothing to prepare, just make sure you are wearing comfortable clothes and shoes and be ready to have some fun! *Details of all roles are found on the next few pages.*

Not all characters will need to dance, but there will be some level of movement needed by everybody so we will teach you a very easy dance combination, just to check what you are capable of – but there is no need to worry, it will cater to all levels!

Everyone is required to sing (it is a musical after all!) so we will also hear you sing in groups.

HOT BOX & HAVANA DANCE AUDITION: SATURDAY 26th APRIL, 12pm-1pm **SACRED HEART CHURCH, [LOWER HALL](#), SW19 4LU**

Anyone who wishes to audition to be a **Hot Box & Havana Dancer** should then stay on for an additional hour to attend this dance audition.

NB: if you are auditioning for this you must also have attended the Group Audition at 11am.

INDIVIDUAL AUDITIONS: 1:20pm-7pm **SACRED HEART CHURCH, [THE LOUNGE](#), SW19 4LU**

Individual auditions will be held for **Principal and Supporting Characters** – details on each role are listed on the next pages, please read the requirements carefully before signing up.







Your audition will last up to 20 minutes – we will ask you to read an extract(s) from the script and perform at least one of the songs. If you have not performed in one of our shows before, we may also take you through a very simple dance combination.











Please prepare the materials [found here](#) depending on the part(s) you're auditioning for.














Nothing needs to be off book for the audition. We will have copies for you to use, but please feel free to print out and bring with you if you prefer. Bob Rathbone (Musical Director) will accompany your singing audition on the piano.








If you are auditioning for more than one role, you don't need to learn more than one song (just pick one role to sing) though we may want to hear your script extract for different characters if there is time.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: PRINCIPAL & SUPPORTING

 Principal |
  Supporting |
  Small |
  Crapshooter |
  Mission |
  Hot
 Box

	NAME & CHARACTER DESCRIPTION	SINGING	DANCING
 	<p><u>SKY MASTERSON</u></p> <p>Suave, mysterious and utterly charming, Sky is a high-rolling gambler who unexpectedly falls in love with Sarah. He has genuine charisma, but underneath is thoughtful and surprisingly introspective and observant.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> A versatile singer with several styles</p> <p><u>Range:</u> B3-E5</p>	<p>A strong mover, does not need to be dance trained but someone up for a challenge, with good stage presence!</p>
 	<p><u>SARAH BROWN</u></p> <p>A dedicated missionary, Sarah is earnest and passionate about her work, but she unexpectedly finds herself falling for Sky Masterson and discovering a freer, more expressive version of herself.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> Classical, lifted tone, able to confidently hold harmony lines</p> <p><u>Range:</u> B3-G5</p>	<p>Dancing preferred but no big dance solos required. Should have a graceful and tender quality about her movement. Will need to move in <i>If I Were A Bell</i>.</p>
 	<p><u>NATHAN DETROIT</u></p> <p>An exhausted, neurotic organiser of illegal crap games. Nathan is dodging both the police and his fiancée Adelaide, and he's not very good at either. But there's a lot of love underneath the panic.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> Stylistically a foil to Sky's more classical approach - do not take Sinatra as your example. Sings with grit.</p> <p><u>Range:</u> D4-F5</p>	<p>Not required, but will need to be physically confident and have good stage presence when moving in songs.</p>
 	<p><u>MISS ADELAIDE</u></p> <p>Nathan's long-suffering fiancée, a nightclub performer with a heart of gold and strong sense of what's fair. Adelaide is a comic powerhouse but also carries real emotional stakes from her place as an unmarried woman in the 1950s.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> Shows a contrast between the more introspective and the argumentative.</p> <p><u>Range:</u> A3-E5</p>	<p>Must be confident in classic showgirl dancing, as well as comedy-led choreography.</p>
 	<p><u>NICELY-NICELY JOHNSON</u></p> <p>A loyal friend to Nathan, and one of the most upbeat and loveable gamblers. Nicely is warm, joyful, and a bit of a dreamer, with a brilliant sense of comic timing. He is cheerful and optimistic even when things are tense.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> A strong singer who can carry <i>Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat</i></p> <p><u>Range:</u> D4-B5</p>	<p>Strong physical confidence and comic play. Nicely-Nicely carries a lot of physical humour, particularly in big group numbers.</p>

	NAME	SINGING	DANCING
 	<u>BENNY SOUTHSTREET</u> Benny is loyal, witty, and fast-talking, serving as a primary sidekick to Nathan Detroit. Known for his slick, hustling nature, he often pairs with Nicely-Nicely to provide comic relief and helps open the show with the trio <i>Fugue for Tinhorns</i> .	<u>Musical Direction:</u> Confident character singing and ability to hold a part on his own in the complex <i>Fugue for Tinhorns</i> and solos in other big numbers	We're not fixated on technical dance ability for Benny, but we are looking for strong physical acting with good stage presence in the big musical numbers
 	<u>BIG JULE</u> A tough, intimidating, and menacing gangster from Chicago, known as a big-time craps player. He is often portrayed as a tall, hulking figure who uses his stature, a gun, and his own loaded dice to cheat and dominate Nathan's crap game.	<u>Musical Direction:</u> Able to sing with the ensemble in big group numbers	We're not fixated on technical dance ability for Big Jule, but we are looking for strong physical acting with good stage presence in the big musical numbers
 	<u>ARVIDE ABERNATHY</u> Sarah's wise and kind-hearted grandfather, a senior figure in the mission. Arvide is understated, warm, and genuinely wants the best for Sarah.	<u>Musical Direction:</u> Confident brass-baritone voice capable of holding a one-to-a-part harmony & solo <u>Range:</u> D4-F5	Good movement preferable for ensemble numbers e.g. <i>Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat</i>
 	<u>HARRY THE HORSE</u> A key member of the crapshooter gang. He's a tough guy with dollar signs as his bottom line. Known for his connections, he brings Big Jule into Nathan's craps game and often backs him.	<u>Musical Direction:</u> Able to sing with the ensemble in big group numbers	We're not fixated on technical dance ability for Harry, but we are looking for strong physical acting with good stage presence in the big musical numbers
 	<u>GENERAL MATILDA CARTWRIGHT</u> A formidable, no-nonsense woman from the Salvation Army hierarchy. She doesn't suffer fools.	<u>Musical Direction:</u> Confident singing amongst the Ensemble <u>Range:</u> Sop or Alto	Good movement preferable for ensemble numbers e.g. <i>Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat</i>
	<u>LIEUTENANT BRANNIGAN</u> A tough, no-nonsense police officer, dedicated to closing down Nathan's illegal floating crap game. As a looming presence, he constantly pressures the gamblers but is often outwitted by them.	N/A (Some ensemble singing preferred)	Good movement preferable for ensemble numbers e.g. <i>Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat</i>
 	<u>RUSTY CHARLIE</u> A gambler, who sings as part of the trio in the opening number <i>Fugue for Tinhorns</i> .	<u>Musical Direction:</u> Confident character singing and ability to hold a part on his own in the complex <i>Fugue for Tinhorns</i>	We're not fixated on technical dance ability for Rusty, but we are looking for strong physical acting with good stage presence in the big musical numbers

	NAME	SINGING	DANCING
 	<p><u>AGATHA, CALVIN, MARTHA</u> <u>(MISSION BAND)</u></p> <p>Dedicated to their mission work and slightly over-eager in their attempts to “save” New York’s sinners. These roles carry comedy and truth in equal measure.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> Confident holding a one-to-a-part harmony.</p> <p><u>Range:</u> Agatha/Martha: S/A Calvin: T/B</p>	<p>Good movement preferable for ensemble numbers e.g. <i>Sit Down You’re Rocking the Boat</i></p>
 	<p><u>ANGIE THE OX, JOEY BILTMORE, ETC</u> <u>(CRAPSHOOTERS)</u></p> <p>General crapshooters who form part of the gang in <i>Luck Be A Lady</i>, the Crapshooters Dance, and <i>Sit Down You’re Rockin’ The Boat</i>. Some dialogue between them.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> Able to sing with the ensemble in big group numbers</p>	<p>Good movement preferable for ensemble numbers e.g. <i>Sit Down You’re Rocking the Boat</i> and <i>Luck Be A Lady / Crapshooter’s Dance</i></p>
 	<p><u>HOT BOX GIRLS & HAVANA DANCERS</u></p> <p>Dancers & performers at the Hot Box nightclub and during the Havana party scene. Sassy, glamorous and full of energy, with bold personalities.</p>	<p><u>Musical Direction:</u> Confident holding a tune, with big loud voices. We don’t want any wallflowers!</p> <p><u>Range:</u></p>	<p>Confident showgirl style, expect stylised, cheeky choreography, strong dancing preferred</p>
	<p><u>ENSEMBLE</u></p> <p>There will be a select small number of Ensemble cast who will be involved in numbers such as <i>Runyonland</i> and the Havana scene.</p>	<p>The Ensemble may be called upon to sing in numbers such as <i>Sit Down You’re Rocking the Boat</i> and <i>Luck Be A Lady</i> depending on cast size and requirements.</p>	<p>Good movement preferable for ensemble numbers e.g. <i>Sit Down You’re Rocking the Boat</i></p>