

Audition Notice - The Gift of the Magi

When: Friday July 3rd at 7pm and Sunday July 5th at 2pm

Play Run: December 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 2026

Rehearsal schedule: First Read-through on Thursday July 9th at 7pm. Scripts will be handed out at that time so the cast can take some time over the summer to memorize their lines. Regular rehearsals will begin in September with the intention of having folks mostly off book at this point. A rehearsal schedule will be sent out at the end of August.

Directors: Kathryn McKeigan, Taylor Gilligan, Anne-Marie Laferrière
Stage Manager: Marc Laferrière

To arrange an audition please email Anne-Marie at amdoyon@gmail.com

For most roles, the audition will NOT include a prepared monologue. There will be line readings from sections of the script and other activities to demonstrate skills and willingness to collaborate and accept direction. However, for the role of the **Little Matchgirl**, we would like you to come with a prepared monologue so we can see your ability to memorise lines and to portray emotional depth. We also ask that everyone comes ready to sing **Silent Night**. Sheet music and the Little Matchgirl monologue will be provided when you arrange for an audition.

If you are unable to attend one of the scheduled audition dates, but would still like to be considered for a role, please email anyway. We can try to schedule another time to meet.

Play: The Gift of the Magi - and other festive stories to warm the heart
by Robert Tsonos and Alan Kinsella

The Gift of the Magi, a short story by O. Henry, is one of several holiday stories adapted for the stage in this festive play for the whole family. Full of songs, laughter and well known tales of the season it's sure to delight audiences young and old.

Story One: The Gift of the Magi by O. Henry
Story Two: The Little Match Girl by Hans Christian Andersen
Story Three: The Christmas Present by Richmal Crompton
Story Four: A Hint for Next Christmas by A.A. Milne
Story Five: The Fir Tree by Hans Christian Anderson
Story Six: Christmas at Red Butte by Lucy Maud Montgomery
Story Seven: The Greatest Gift by Philip Van Doren Stern
Story Eight: The poem A Visit from St. Nicholas by Clement Clarke Moore

We are looking for 7 men, 4 women, 1 adult of any gender, 1 teenage girl, 1 girl and 1 boy. (see specifics below) Please note that all are welcome to audition regardless of gender, age, or nationality. You simply need to be able to portray the characters as written and directed. All characters also need to be able to sing as the show will include some Christmas carols.

Cast / Character Descriptions

1. Adult, any gender
 - Stories 1 & 2: Beggar 2 (A beggar in the early 1900s, tattered, thin clothing, and an overall untidy appearance.)
 - Story 8: Actor 2
2. Man, adult, any age
 - Story 1: Beggar 1 (A beggar in the early 1900s, tattered, thin clothing, and an overall untidy appearance.)
 - Story 7: Art (Married to Mary Thatcher in George's alternate reality. Appears drunk)
 - Story 8: Actor 1
3. Man, 50s to 60s
 - Story 3: Uncle James (Set in the 1920s. Mary's uncle, who seems accustomed to his wife's perceived deafness and often handles things himself.)
 - Story 6: Mr. Benson (Set in early 1900s Saskatchewan. Jewellery store owner.)
4. Man, 30s to 40s
 - Story 2: Father (1840s, cruel, neglectful, and abusive)
 - Story 4: Owner (a stall owner in the 1920s trying to sell their wares.)
5. Man, 30s to 40s
 - Story 3: John (Set in the 1920s. Mary's loud, demanding husband who enjoys hearing his own voice.)
 - Story 7: Stranger (Set in the 1940s. A mysterious, stout man with kind eyes who grants George's wish.)
6. Man, 30s
 - Story 7: George (Set in the 1940s. A small-town bank clerk who contemplates suicide on Christmas Eve before being shown a world where he was never born.)
7. Man, 20s to 30s
 - Story 1: Jim 1 (Set in the early 1900s. A hardworking, responsible young husband who sells his treasured pocket watch to buy a gift for his wife.)
 - Story 7: Jim 2 (Set in the 1940s. A real estate agent in town. George visits him to find out what happened to the bank.)

8. Man, 20s
 - Story 4: Customer (Set in the 1920s. A Customer who humorously critiques gift-giving customs.)
 - Story 6: Donald (Set in early 1900s Saskatchewan. Theodora's older brother. Described as handsome and warm-hearted, but he left four years prior to the story's events to join the Klondike Gold Rush.)
9. Woman, 50s to 60s
 - Story 3: Aunt Jane (Set in the 1920s. Mary's aunt, who appears to have been profoundly deaf for years.)
 - Story 7: Mother (Set in the 1940s. George's mother, who does not recognize him in the alternate timeline.)
10. Woman, 30s to 40s
 - Story 3: Mary 1 (Set in the 1920s. A quiet, reserved woman who loves silence, but is worn down by years of marriage to John)
11. Woman, 30s
 - Story 7: Mary 2 (Set in the 1940s. George's wife. In the alternate timeline where George doesn't exist, she is unhappily married to Art Jenkins.)
12. Woman, 20s to 30s
 - Story 1: Della (Set in the early 1900s. A selfless and impulsive young wife who cuts her long hair to buy a chain for her husband's watch.)
13. Girl, late teens, early 20s
 - Story 5: Elf (Set in a modern shopping centre. A college aged elf trying to teach a kid about appreciating current blessings by telling the story of The Fir Tree by Hans Christian Anderson.)
 - Story 6: Theodora (Set in early 1900s Saskatchewan. A 16-year-old orphan described as jolly and brave, though she struggles with the weight of poverty and helping her aunt's family.)
14. Girl, character is roughly 10 years old but actor has a fairly long monologue
 - Story 2: Matchgirl (Set in the 1840s. A poor, barefoot girl forced to sell matches in the cold on New Year's Eve. She is imaginative and hopeful, seeking comfort in visions, but eventually passes away due to her circumstances.)
15. Boy, but could be any gender, 10 to 12
 - Story 5: Kid (Set in a modern shopping centre. A sarcastic and disgruntled kid waiting to see Santa.)
 - Story 6: Jimmy (Set in early 1900s Saskatchewan. The younger optimistic cousin of Theodora. Representing innocent childhood faith by confidently asserting that Santa Claus will visit despite the family's poor harvest.)