

AUDITION PACK

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Odyssey Juniors show is open to children in Years 4 to 8 and the cost for participation is **£160 per child**, which covers all rehearsals, insurance and show participation. It also includes a course T-shirt.

The key dates for all cast are...

## AUDITIONS & WORKSHOPS

- **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November:** AUDITIONS 1pm - 4pm
- **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January:** WORKSHOP 1 1pm - 4pm
- **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January:** WORKSHOP 2 1pm - 4pm
- **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February:** WORKSHOP 3 1pm - 4pm

*All workshops take place at St Mary's Primary School in Banbury*

## SHOW WEEK

- **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February:** SONGS 2pm - 4pm
- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February:** REHEARSALS 10am - 3pm (4.45pm for main characters)
- **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February:** REHEARSALS 10am - 3pm (4.45pm for main characters)
- **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February:** REHEARSALS 10am - 3pm (4pm for main characters)
- **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February:** REHEARSALS 10am - 5pm
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February:** SHOW DAY 1 2pm - 9pm
- **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February:** SHOW DAY 2 1pm - 4pm then 6pm - 9pm

*All show week rehearsals take place at Wykham Theatre, Banbury*

As we are doing this show in reduced rehearsal times, if your child cannot attend any day of the half-term show week they will not be able to be part of the show. As part of the formal application form please confirm if your child cannot attend any of the advance workshops, as this will be important for us to know so that we can be prepared for the show week.

Some children may find our approach to rehearsals difficult, given the focus on producing a show rather than a traditional "teaching" environment. This is another reason why we encourage all to attend the taster day, audition workshops and read-through. If we do not feel your child is ready for Odyssey Juniors, we will let you know as soon as possible and refund the full participation fee.

The children may be supported during the week by some of our Youth members, who have now moved on from the Junior age group to our Youth section.

If after 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 you withdraw your child from the show we reserve the right to withhold some of the course fee to cover costs already incurred.

## WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO TO HELP WITH THE SHOW?

We will ask parents to support the group in various ways to help us put this on the stage.

This may include:

- Providing some of your child's costumes
- Practising with your child before the week – in particular, learning the words to some of the songs that we will share in advance
- Helping us advertise tickets for the show (in particular helping to organise groups from other organisations, for whom we would offer group deals)
- Helping us build scenery / put together the stage at our "get-in" on Saturday and Sunday (15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> February 2025)
- Support in the show week with chaperoning, hair, make-up, front-of-house support and much more
- Donations of raffle prizes and sponsorship of the programme

We also know that sometimes you have good ideas of how you can support us. Please let us know your ideas, by emailing [admin@odysseytheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@odysseytheatre.co.uk), or speaking with a member of the team.

Finally, please work with us on ensuring that we can manage all health-and-safety requirements for the show. Please read the Health and safety information below and if you are unsure, speak to a member of the team.

### **Covid-19**

We will continue to follow latest education setting guidance on Covid-19.

Therefore, if your child tests positive for Covid, they are to stay away from the event for 3 days.

They can return after the 3 days if they are well enough and they do not have a temperature.

We will aim to keep all rooms well ventilated. Therefore, if the weather requires it, please make sure that your child has additional layers of clothing with them.

Odyssey Theatre Production's policies and procedures can be found on our website.

If on the day of an event you have any change of plans or need to get in touch, please use either [admin@odysseytheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@odysseytheatre.co.uk) or contact Andy on 07971 854450.

# ABOUT THE SHOW

## Act One

Once upon a time in a faraway land, an Enchantress turns a cruel, unfeeling Prince into a hideous Beast. To break the spell, the Beast must learn to love another and earn her love in return before the last petal falls from an enchanted rose.

Ten years later, in a small village far below the Beast's castle, a beautiful and intelligent young woman, Belle, yearns for adventure ("Belle"). On his way to show his invention at a fair, Belle's father, Maurice, gets lost and seeks shelter in the Beast's castle. Enchanted servants - Cogsworth, Lumiere, Babette, Mrs. Potts and Chip - try to make Maurice comfortable, but the Beast imprisons the intruder.

Meanwhile, back in town, Gaston, the village brute, proposes to Belle, to the dismay of Les Filles De La Ville, who fawn over him. Belle turns Gaston down ("Belle - Reprise"). When Belle notices Gaston's sidekick, LeFou, wearing her father's scarf, Belle runs off to search for him. Belle finds her missing father at the castle and offers herself in exchange for his freedom. The Beast agrees, sending Maurice back to the village, and then escorts Belle to her bedroom, where she considers what she has done ("Home"). Seeing their guest forlorn, Mrs. Potts and Madame de la Grande Bouche comfort Belle ("Home - Tag").

In the village tavern, Lefou and the Villagers try to lift Gaston's spirits ("Gaston"). When "crazy old" Maurice barges in claiming that he has seen a Beast, Gaston and Lefou form a plan to win Belle ("Gaston - Reprise").

At the castle, the servants coach the Beast on how to act like a gentleman. When Belle refuses to accept the Beast's invitation to dinner, he loses his temper and tells her to starve. However, Lumiere and the SERVANTS offer Belle an extravagant feast anyway ("Be Our Guest"). After, Cogsworth gives Belle a tour of the castle and she wanders off into the forbidden west wing. The Beast discovers her there and loses his temper, which causes the frightened Belle to flee the castle.

## Act Two

In the forest, Belle is attacked by wolves. The Beast comes to her rescue, but is injured in the process. Having a change of heart, Belle helps the Beast back to the castle and dresses his wound. The servants recognize something different between Belle and the Beast ("Something There") and express their hope that the spell may soon be broken ("Human Again"). The Beast asks Belle to have dinner with him and they share a romantic evening together ("Beauty and the Beast").

Despite this new friendship, Belle longs to see her father. Using the Beast's magic mirror, Belle sees that Maurice is in trouble, so the Beast frees her. Belle finds Maurice in the forest and takes him home to the village, where Gaston has arranged for Monsieur D'Arque to take him away. Belle proves that her father is not crazy by showing the Beast in the magic mirror. Jealous of Belle's affection for someone else, Gaston whips the villagers into a frenzy. They storm the castle to kill the Beast ("The Mob Song").

While the servants defend the castle from the villagers' attack, Gaston confronts and stabs the Beast in the west wing. The Beast, while still much stronger than Gaston, refuses to kill him and Gaston runs away in shame. Belle arrives and tells the dying beast she loves him ("Home - Reprise"), which breaks the spell. The Beast transforms back into the Prince, the servants become human again, and they all live happily ever after.

## ABOUT THE AUDITIONS

If you want to audition for a main character, you should familiarise yourself with the roles (listed below) and think about which ones you want to audition for. You may or may not be cast as a speaking role or in the role you initially want - please keep an open mind about casting. The Odyssey team spends hours on the casting process and it is an important balancing act between putting on the best production possible, whilst ensuring that every one of our members has the chance to shine in roles that are right for them.

*Remember, the art of theatre is not about getting lead roles. It is about working together as an ensemble to tell a story through which the audience can emotionally respond. We strive to make our productions a fun and exciting learning experience for everyone involved.*

This show is all about CHARACTER so it is vital that you can demonstrate to us at the auditions that you have the potential to bring these characters to life. Accents, mannerisms, facial expressions and clarity of spoken voice are essential.

The audition process is very relaxed and we are not looking for the perfect audition. We are looking for potential and, as such, will help you through the entire process. If you go wrong and need to start again, that is absolutely fine.

## CHARACTERS

**Belle** is a smart, confident young woman from a small village. Must be able to stand up to Gaston and the Beast, as well as show compassion to those who don't understand her.

**The Beast** is a young prince who was hideously transformed by the Enchantress' s spell. This actor must be able to handle a complex character: a dictator, a hurt child, a hero, a defender, and a smitten prince.

The **Narrators** provide great opportunities to involve students who are more comfortable speaking than singing. These roles are non-singing.

The **Old Beggar Woman/Enchantress** should be an actor with the ability to be visually dramatic.

**Gaston** is pompous and dim-witted and will do whatever it takes to win Belle's hand. Gaston has all the confidence in the world but lacks the humility to balance it.

**Maurice** is an aging and eccentric inventor, but more importantly, the adoring and protective father of Belle.

**Lefou** is Gaston's equally dim-witted lackey.

**Les Filles De La Ville** are in love with Gaston and will do almost anything just to be near him.

**Lumiere** is a confident, charming French maître d' who (under the enchantress's spell) is becoming a candelabra. He has an incessant bickering rapport with Cogsworth.

**Cogsworth** is the British major-domo of the castle who is becoming a clock. Like all of the castle's Servants, he shows a fatherly compassion for Belle yet is perfectly submissive to the master, the Beast. Cogsworth has no problem "getting into it" with Lumiere.

**Mrs. Potts** is the castle's endearing cook who has been enchanted to become a teapot. Mrs. Potts needs a strong, sweet voice and should be able to convey comforting, maternal qualities amidst the chaos that is breaking out in the castle.

**Chip** is Mrs. Pott's son who is becoming a teacup. Chip has a wonderful naivete that endears him to all of the servants.

**Madame De La Grande Bouche** is an opera singer who is becoming a wardrobe. Madame is larger-than-life in everything she does, including her singing and dancing.

**Babette** is the maid of the castle who is turning into a feather duster. She misses the finer things in life. She is happy to be at Belle's service at a moment's notice.

**Monsieur D'Arque** is the dark, creepy proprietor of the lunatic asylum.

The **Servants** of the castle are made up of a variety of household items and kitchenware.

The **Villagers** are the inhabitants of Belle's town and provide colourful background singing throughout the show, and several also step into the action when needed in certain scenes.

**NOTE: The gender of the characters is set by the story, but we will allocate all parts to the best performer, regardless of gender.**

# AUDITION PIECES

- *If you are interested in these roles, please select one or two of the following monologues to read at your audition.*
- *Learning it by memory is helpful, but not required.*
- *All characters are British, but you might want to think whether your character is posh or poor, and use an accent that you think best suits the character.*
- *If the role you are interested in is not listed, choose any monologue.*
- *If you would like to audition for more than one part, then you can choose to read a second monologue.*

## **BELLE:**

(Speaking to the Bookseller) Good Morning! I've come to return the book I borrowed. I couldn't put it down. I wondered if you have got anything new? If not, I will just borrow one I have already read. It's my favorite. Far-off places, daring sword fights, magic spells, a prince in disguise... Mine? You are giving it to me? Well, thank you! Thank you very much!

## **GASTON:**

(To Belle, Handing her flowers) for you...Mademoiselle. I know I shouldn't have, so don't mention it. Belle, this is the day your dreams come true! I know all about them. Picture this. A rustic hunting lodge. My little wife massaging my feet while the strapping boys play on the floor with the dogs. We'll have six or seven. Boys, not dogs. So Belle, what'll it be? (Belle leaves.) That Belle, always playing hard to get. She turned me down for now, but I'll have Belle for my wife. Make no mistake about that!

## **LEFOU:**

(To Gaston) You didn't miss a shot, Gaston. You're the greatest hunter in the whole world. No beast alive stands a chance against you! And no girl for that matter. The inventor's daughter? But, she's – I know, but – Well, of course you deserve the best!

## **BEAST:**

There's a stranger here! Who let him in? You have all betrayed me! Who are you? What are you doing in my castle? You're not welcome here! I am hideous aren't I? You've come to see the Beast, haven't you? I'll give you a place to stay! (Grabs Maurice) (Pause, change mood.) (To Belle) Belle, are you happy here? With me? Is something wrong? You miss your father? There is a way to see him again. This mirror will show you anything ...anything you wish to see. He is lost? You should go to him. You're not my prisoner, Belle. You haven't been for a long time. Take the mirror with you. So you'll always have a way to look back...and remember me. Go...Go. (She exits) I'll never see her again.

## **LUMIERE: (CANDLE):**

(Kissing Belle's hand) Enchante' Mademoiselle. Remember, Cogsworth, she is not a prisoner. She's our guest! We must make her feel welcome here! Oh, and what is a dinner without a little music? Ma Chere mademoiselle, it is with deepest pride and greatest pleasure that we welcome you tonight. And now we invite you to relax. Let us pull up a chair as the Dining Room proudly presents...your dinner?

**COGSWORTH (CLOCK):**

(To Belle) Hello, I am Cogsworth, head of the household. And this is Lumiere...If there is anything we can do to make your stay more comfortable, anything...anything at all! Except feeding you! Can't do that. You heard what the Master said! Oh fine. A glass of water, crust of bread and then... Oh all right, dinner. But keep it down! It the Master finds out, it'll be our necks! What?? You want music too??

**MRS POTTS (TEAPOT):**

(To Beast) Try to be patient, sir. The poor girl has lost her father. We won't be human again that soon. These things take time. Master, you must help her see past how you look. You could start by trying to make yourself more presentable. Be gentle. And above all.... you must control your temper! Deep breaths, Master. Deep breaths.

**BABETTE (FEATHER DUSTER):**

I was so scared! The master was so angry! I needed someone like you to protect me. Imagine if the girl does break the spell. We can return to our old selves. I will be beautiful again, and not made of these feathers and fluff. Achoo!!

**Madame De La Grande Bouche (WARDROBE):**

I know it is ... but here we are! Well now, what shall we dress you in for dinner? (She lifts up Belle's sleeve) This is nice. But how would you like to borrow one of my gowns? Let's see what I've got in my drawers ... (She opens her drawers and pulls out bloomers. She reaches in again and takes out a gown.) Ah, here we are. I wore this the night I performed at the Royal Opera. The King himself was there! Of course, I wouldn't have a prayer of fitting into it now. Take it!

**LES FILLES DE LA VILLE:**

It can't be true! I don't believe it. Why would he go and do a thing like that? I simply can't bear it! Oh Gaston, say it isn't so. it's true, he's getting married? Waaaaaahhhhh! Oh no! No! Never! Waaaaaahhhhh! (runs off sobbing)

**CHIP:**

Mama, you're not gonna believe what I saw... not in a million thousand years... not in a trillion million thousand years! No really... this is the greatest thing... it's the thing that everybody's been waiting for since... since... since...I don't know when! There's a girl in the castle! But Mama there is! I saw her! And she's real pretty too!

**MAURICE:**

Belle? Is that you? (Cough) How did you find me? Belle, you must leave this place. (Belle offers to replace her father) No! Belle, you don't know what you're doing. No! Belle, listen to me. I'm old...I've lived my life.

**NARRATOR:**

Once Upon a Time In a faraway Land, A young prince lived in a shining castle. Although he had everything his heart desired, the Prince was spoiled, selfish and unkind. But then, one winter's night, and old beggar woman came to the castle and offered him a single rose in return for shelter from the bitter cold. Repulsed by her haggard appearance, the Prince sneered at the gift and turned the old woman away.



# SOLO SINGING ROLES

All audition tracks and sheet music can be found in the OneDrive.

Please click the link to access the files - [Audition Pieces](#)

There are 5 audition songs, but many singing roles. If you are auditioning for the listed character, you should sing the song (e.g. for Belle, you will sing this bit of the song "Home"). If you would like to be considered for a character who does not have a song here, or for one of the solo singing lines, you should pick one of the songs that you like and sing that in the audition.

## Song 1 - Something There (Beast)

She glanced this way, I thought I saw...  
And when we touched, she didn't shudder at my paw.  
No it can't be... I'll just ignore.  
But then, she's never looked at me that way before.

28 **BEAST:**

She glanced this way, I thought I saw... And when we

31

touched, she did-n't shud-der at my paw. No, it can't

33


be... I'll just ig - nore. But then, she's

35

nev - er looked at me that way be - fore.

# Song 2 - Home (Belle)

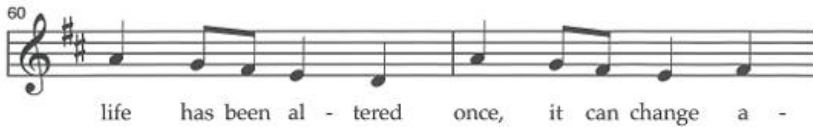
Is this home? Am I here for a day or forever?  
Shut away from the world until who knows when?  
Oh, but then, as my life has been altered once, it can change again.  
Build higher walls around me! Change ev'ry lock and key.  
Nothing lasts, nothing holds all of me.  
My heart's far away, home and free.

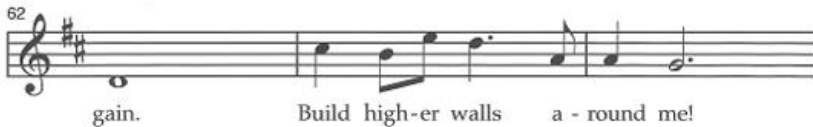
50  Is this home? Am I

52  here for a day or for - e - ver? Shut a -

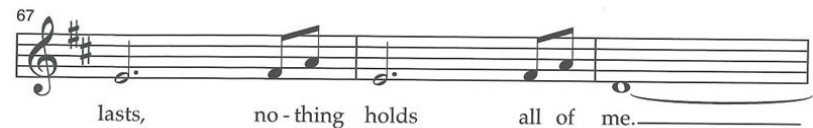
55  way from the world un-til who knows when?

58  Oh, but then, as my

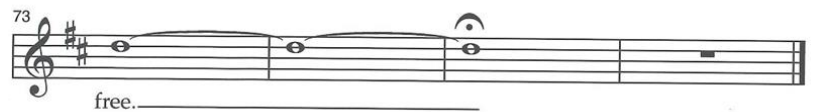
60  life has been al - tered once, it can change a -

62  gain. Build high-er walls a - round me!

65  Change ev - 'ry lock and key. No - thing

67  lasts, no - thing holds all of me.

70  — My heart's far, far a - way, home and

73  free.

# Song 3 - Human Again (Lumiere, Cogsworth)

When I'm human again, only human again,  
When the world once more starts making sense,  
I'll unwind for a change. Really, that'd be strange.  
Can I help it if I'm t-t-tense?

In a shack by the sea, I'll sit back sipping tea.  
Let my early retirement commence!  
Far from fools made of wax, I'll get down to brass tacks  
And relax! When I'm human again.

87

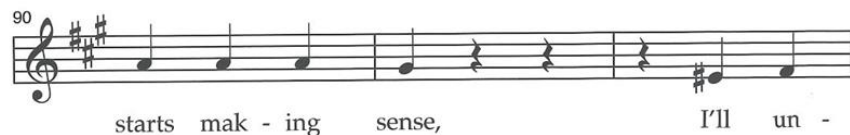


When I'm hu-man a-gain, on - ly

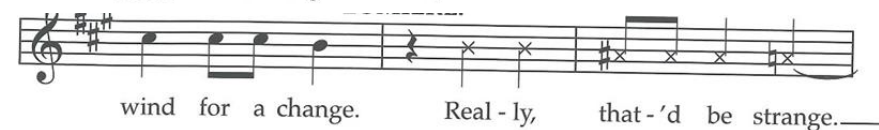


hu-man a-gain, when the world once more

90



starts mak - ing sense, I'll un -



wind for a change. Real - ly, that - 'd be strange.

93



Can I help it if I'm t - t - tense?

100



In a shack by the sea, I'll sit

103



back sip - ping tea. Let my ear - ly re -

106

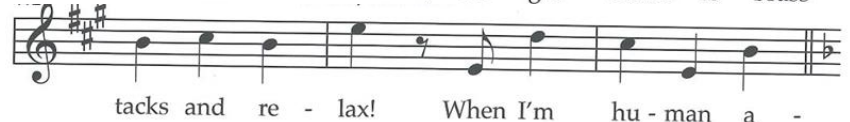


tire - ment com - mence! Far from

109



fools made of wax, I'll get down to brass



tacks and re - lax! When I'm hu - man a -

115



gain.

# Song 4 - Beauty and the Beast (Mrs Potts)

Tale as old as time, true as it can be.  
Barely even friends, then somebody bends unexpectedly.  
Just a little change, small to say the least.  
Both a little scared, neither one prepared...  
Beauty and the Beast.

9 MRS. POTTS:

Tale as old as time, true as it can be.

13 Bare-ly e-ven friends, then some-bod-y

15 bends un-ex-pect-ed-ly. Just a lit-tle

18 change, small, to say the least. Both a lit-tle

21 scared, nei-ther one pre-pared... Beau-ty and the

23 Beast.

# Song 5 - Gaston (Gaston, Lefou, Les Filles)

No one's slick as Gaston. No one's quick as Gaston.  
No one's neck's as incredibly thick as Gaston.  
For there's no man in town half as manly.  
Perfect! A pure paragon!  
You can ask any Tom Dick or Stanley,  
And they'll tell you whose team they'd prefer to be on.



No one's

80 **A tempo**

slick as Gas - ton. No one's quick as Gas -

83

ton. No one's neck's as in - cred - i - bly  
thick as Gas - ton. For there's no man in

89

town half as man - ly. Per - fect! A pure par - a -  
- gon! You can ask an - y Tom Dick or Stan - ley,

and they'll tell you whose team they'd pre - fer to be

103

on!