

AUDITION INFORMATION PACK

Audition Dates: Thursday, March 20th 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
and Saturday, March 22nd 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm



PRESENTS

MAMMA MIA!™

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

BENNY ANDERSSON
BJÖRN ULVAEUS

AND SOME SONGS WITH STIG ANDERSON

BOOK BY CATHERINE JOHNSON

ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED BY JUDY CRAYMER

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MAMMA MIA!

Following the huge successes of *The Wizard of Oz* (2022), *The Addams Family* (2023), and *Once Upon a Mattress* (2024), we're proud to announce our upcoming 2025 community production of *Mamma Mia!*

ABOUT MAMMA MIA!

Mamma Mia is a romantic comedy, contrasting the dreams and aspirations of a 70s girls and a 90s girl. Through the storytelling magic of the songs of ABBA, we meet Donna, a feisty, independent single parent, who doesn't need a man to make her life complete; and her twenty-year old daughter Sophie, who wants romance, babies and a big, white wedding. If only her father could give her away...

If only her mother could tell her who her father is...

Sun, sea, sex and subterfuge are the backdrop to this tale of the women who wanted to have it all, and the girls who want happy ever after. And has anyone asked what the men want?

A mother. A daughter. Three possible dads. And a trip down the aisle you'll never forget!

THE MAMMA MIA! PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer	Hays Community Theatre, Inc.
Director	Pamela Grizzell
Assistant Director	Bill Gasper
Musical Director	Amy J. Staab
Choreographer	
Stage Manager	
Costume Designer	Sharona Fondoble

AUDITION DATES & PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

Auditions, rehearsals, and performances will be at the Hays Community Theatre, 121 E. 8th Street, Hays, Kansas.

Thursday, March 20, 2025 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Sunday, March 22, 2025 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Callbacks: **Sunday, March 23, 2025**
NOTE: Not all characters will be required for callbacks.

Regular rehearsals: **Sunday – Thursday, 6:30 pm-9:30 pm**
Rehearsals will commence on Sunday, June 1, 2025

Pre-rehearsal sessions: May take place during May - TBD



MAMMA MIA!

Production Week:
(times TBD)

Sunday, July 20, 2025
Monday, July 21, 2025 (dress rehearsal)
Tuesday, July 22, 2025 (dress rehearsal)
Wednesday, July 23, 2025 (dress rehearsal)

Performances:

7:30 pm Thursday, July 24, 2025
7:30 pm Friday, July 25, 2025
7:30 pm Saturday, July 26, 2025

SHOW COMMITMENT

- We strive for the highest standard possible in our productions. This requires a substantial commitment from those involved to attend rehearsals and spend the necessary time away from rehearsals reviewing music, lines, and choreography. By accepting a role in this production, cast members are committing to attend rehearsals as well as publicity appearances, photo shoots, or media calls as required.
Cast agreements will be provided to all cast members to reflect this commitment, performers under 18 will need their agreement signed by a legal guardian. All cast and crew will also be required to sign a code of conduct.
- Mamma Mia is a huge costume show and whilst the vast majority of these will be supplied to the company, all cast members will be required to supply some costume and show items like makeup, character shoes, tights, etc.
- All cast must be available for all performance and production week dates.
- If successfully cast, any unavailable dates coinciding with rehearsals must be discussed with the production team ASAP. Unexplained absences from rehearsal will forfeit your position in the show.
- Dance and (off-stage) vocal ensembles may not be required to attend every rehearsal.
- Please do not commit to this show if you are unable to accept and fulfill these conditions and commitments.

THE AUDITION PROCESS

- To be eligible to be cast, all auditionees must have turned 15 years of age by 1 January 2025
- You will be filmed and/or photographed during the auditions.

Booking Your Audition

You must book an audition slot by completing the online form on the Mama Mia page at www.hctks.com by 11:59 pm, Wednesday, March 19th, 2025.

***** All auditionees will be required to prepare up to two minutes of a song of your choice from *Mamma Mia!* that will demonstrate your singing abilities. *****

A laptop will be supplied to open a track link (from YouTube etc.), a USB, or you can connect your phone using a 3.5mm headphone jack to a speaker, please bring a headphone jack adapter if your phone requires one.

You can include your track link in your audition form to simplify the process.



MAMMA MIA!

Recommended Song Selections

If you are auditioning for a lead role, please familiarize yourself with the excerpts found in the Audition Packet. You will be asked to sing one or more of the excerpts from the songs listed below during your audition.

Donna	One of Us / Mamma Mia / Money, Money, Money
Sophie	Honey, Honey / Under Attack / I Have a Dream
Sam	S.O.S / Knowing Me, Knowing You / I Do, I Do, I Do
Harry	Our Last Summer / Thank You for the Music
Bill	Knowing Me, Knowing You
Sky	Lay All Your Love on Me / Knowing Me, Knowing You
Tanya	Does Your Mother Know / Chiquitita / Dancing Queen
Rosie	Take a Chance on Me / Chiquitita / Dancing Queen
Ali/Lisa	Honey, Honey

Some tips for your singing audition:

- Make sure you're comfortable with the song. Choose something you know you can nail.
- Learn the lyrics to your song. Showing us that you're prepared for your audition will be to your advantage and will help you perform your song!
- If you're predominantly a dancer or actor, don't worry! Everyone in the production will likely be taking risks and trying things that are out of their comfort zone (singing, acting, dancing). Do your best, and just show us what you've got!

Acting Audition

Those auditioning for principal roles are asked to prepare to read a short 'side' at their audition immediately after singing. Please note that not all auditionees may be asked to read at the audition.

Attached are seven sides for the principal roles. You should familiarize yourself with all sides, as you may be asked to read for a role that you have not specified. There will be a reader during the audition (to read the other character lines on each side).

Accents

All readings can be performed in your own accent. However, please feel free to give the following accents a go during the audition. Please select an accent according to the character you are auditioning for, or similar.

- Donna: American
- Sophie: American
- Tanya: British
- Rosie: British
- Ali & Lisa: British/American
- Sam: American
- Bill: Australian or British
- Harry: British
- Sky: American



MAMMA MIA!

Callbacks

We may be doing callbacks for some parts. Please keep Sunday, **March 23, 2025 (time TBD)** free just in case. Those required for callbacks will be contacted by phone on Saturday evening or Sunday morning.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF I HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY CAST?

All auditionees will be notified by email in a timely manner following auditions.

CHARACTERS

Sophie Sheridan – Born & raised on the island, aged 20

Donna Sheridan – Sophie’s mother, aged 40

Sam Carmichael – Maybe Sophie’s father, aged

40’s Bill Austin – Maybe Sophie’s father, aged 40s

Harry Bright – Maybe Sophie’s father, aged 40s

Sky – Sophie’s fiancé, age 20’s

Tanya – Donna’s friend/former Dynamo, 38

Rosie – Donna’s friend/former Dynamo, 40

Lisa – Sophie’s friend – aged 21

Ali – Sophie’s friend – aged 20

Pepper – barman at Taverna – aged 20s

Eddie – Helps Sky with water sports – aged 20s

Chorus / Ensemble – islanders, staff, wedding guests – all ages

NOTE: Ages above are the ages of the CHARACTERS, actors of different ages can be considered for these roles. Characters have no specified racial or ethnic background.

FAQ’S

Are there any other ways to be involved in the show, I’m not a performer?

Absolutely! We’ll be looking for backstage crew, hair & makeup artists, and a range of volunteers. Register your interest by emailing the Hays Community Theatre, Inc. at contact@hctks.com.

I can’t make the audition dates, can I still be part of the show?

Yes, of course you can. Please contact us at hctmammamia@gmail.com by March 17, 2025 to make arrangements for a livestream video audition.

I can’t make a performance date, can I still be involved?

No. All cast and crew must be available for all the performances and Production Week dates.

Do I have to do a singing and acting audition? I can’t SING!

Don’t worry. We will be working with everyone on skills throughout the show, just try your best in your audition. You’ll be asked to match pitch to find your vocal range and read at least one of the sides.



MAMMA MIA!

Do I have to audition for a specific role?

No, you can audition to be part of the ensemble. There are also many featured ensemble roles. The production team may also choose you for a role if suitable.

Do I have to audition with an accent?

No. You can give it a go but it is not a requirement.

How many people will get cast?

We are looking for 30 - 40 people. This will include main characters, featured roles, dancers, non-speaking roles, and off-stage vocal ensemble.

Who will be on the audition panel?

The panel will consist of:

- Director – Pamela Grizzell
- Musical Director – Amy J. Staab
- Assistant Director -

What if I have more questions?

If you've read our pack thoroughly and still have questions, don't hesitate to contact Hays Community Theatre by emailing contact@hctks.com.

BREAK A LEG!

****Please see audition sides and vocal excerpts in the following pages****

SIDE 1: SOPHIE, ALI, LISA

LISA: So this guy Sam is your dad?

SOPHIE: The plot thickens. Sam told Mum he was going back home to get married...

LISA: ...bastard...

ALI: ...typical bloody man...

SOPHIE: ...hang on... *(flicking through to another page in the diary and reading again)*
... 'August 4th. What a night! I was still feeling depressed about Sam, but after the show, Bill rented a motor-boat, and I took him over to the island. One thing led to another and ... dot, dot, dot...'

LISA: Bill?

SOPHIE: *(finding another page)* ... 'August 15th. What a night! Harry turned up out of the blue, so I said I'd show him the island. I must need my head examined, but he was so sweet, I couldn't help it and —'

**SOPHIE /
ALI / LISA:** *(together)* Dot, dot, dot

ALI: Harry...

SOPHIE: Yes. The sperm donor has a name. Well, three names. Sam, Bill or Harry.

ALI: And they're all arriving for the wedding!

SOPHIE: Yes

LISA: Flippin 'eck Sophie - do they know?

SOPHIE: What do you write to a total stranger? 'Come to my wedding - by the way, you might be my Dad'? No, they think Mum sent the invitations - and after what's written in here I'm not surprised they all said yes!

SIDE 2: DONNA

- SAM:** Donna, what's the rush?
- DONNA:** The small matter of a wedding
- SAM:** Oh yes - about this wedding...
(Noticing the bag-pipes on the table)
...you kept my bag-pipes.
- DONNA:** They scare off unwanted visitors.
- SAM:** You don't need my bag-pipes to do that.
(Sam takes a step towards her, Donna takes a step back)
- DONNA:** I wouldn't. My bite is worse than my bark.
- SAM:** Yeah, I know - I've got the scars. Want to see them?
- DONNA:** What do you want Sam?
- SAM:** *(Indicating the sketch book)* I've had an idea for an extension
- DONNA:** I don't want your stupid extension! What are you doing here?
- SAM:** You're living my dream - remember? - The island, the Taverna - my dream.
- DONNA:** Well, this is my reality. Hard work and a crippling mortgage.
- SAM:** Would you like me to take a look at that roof, it won't last through the winter.
- DONNA:** I'll fix my own damn roof!
- SAM:** OK. Fine. Be a martyr! I've got kids, I know it's hard for you doing it on your own.
- DONNA:** Don't you patronise me. I love doing it on my own - every morning I wake up and thank Christ I haven't got some middle-aged, menopausal man to bother me - I'm single, I'm free, and it's great!

SIDE 3: ROSIE, TANYA

- TANYA:** Heads.
(Rosie flips a coin (and wins the toss). She puts the air mattress on the floor. Tanya begins blowing it up and making a meal of it, Rosie is unpacking on the bed).
- ROSIE:** Blow. Don't suck. *(Tanya gives her a look and abandons the air-bed)*
- TANYA:** All right, let's see what you're wearing for the wedding.
(Rosie holds up a pair of battered, baggy shorts) You're joking!
- ROSIE:** *(All innocence)* What? Oh - as if!
- TANYA:** Well. You could have been making some sort of statement on the tyranny of wedlock.
- ROSIE:** You'd know more about that than me.
- TANYA:** Oh darling, you'll meet your Mr. Right.
- ROSIE:** I have. I did ... and all they wanted was to settle down and have babies. No thanks.
- TANYA:** No ... children can become such subversive little buggers! I mean, who'd have thought that Donna, the icon of female independence, would have a daughter committing matrimony at twenty.
- ROSIE:** White weddings are trendy.
- TANYA:** What's wrong with these kids? Do you remember those T-shirts we used to wear? 'Marriage is an institution -
- ROSIE:** - for people who belong in an institution'
- TANYA:** Girls today seem to think that a woman's greatest achievement is getting a man.
- ROSIE:** You've had three husbands.
- TANYA:** I rest my case.
- ROSIE:** *(Rosie, finding the trunk under the bed...)* Ooh, look.
- TANYA:** Oh my Lord! *(Rosie finds a poster showing DONNA AND THE DYNAMOS 1976)*
(Tanya, taking the poster) Oh...
(Suddenly wistful) We were so young.
- ROSIE:** *(Rosie is back in the trunk. She holds up a slinky little number)*
I don't know what the gals at the 'Whole Woman' Press would say about my outfit.
- TANYA:** Hey - we should do a number tonight for Sophie's party.
- ROSIE:** I'll have to let out a few seams. *(Laughing together)*

SIDE 4: HARRY

HARRY: I'm Bright. Harry Bright.

SOPHIE: *(staring)* Harry ...
(to Sam) ... so you must be -

SAM: Sam Carmichael
(Sophie nods, staring at Sam)
You are expecting us?

SOPHIE: Yes, of course. I'll get the keys.

(Sophie exits to fetch the keys. Harry turns to Sam. During the following dialogue Sophie spies on the men from the Taverna.)

HARRY: Charming. But I hope I get the chance to get my tongue around a little Greek. I haven't spoken it for twenty-one years.

SAM: Twenty-one years? You know, this is beginning to feel like a set-up - hey, Bill - here's a story for you. Three men - strangers - receive an invitation to a wedding. They are invited to a place they haven't seen for twenty-one years, by a woman they haven't seen for twenty-one years ... why are they here?

BILL: That's not bad ... ok, Harry - what's your story? What's torn you away from the Bank of England?

HARRY: Oh, is this an interview? OK, well, for me, Donna's invitation brought back many happy memories ... *(Spotting the guitar hanging on the wall)* Bloody Nora!!

BILL: Is that a quote?

HARRY: *(Taking the guitar down)* No, no, I know this guitar!
(Indicating a carving) HB - 'Head Banger', that's what they used to call me in those days - and DS - Donna Sheridan - I bought this for her! Ten quid and my Johnny Rotten T-shirt ... so now who says I'm an unadventurous old stick-in-the-mud?

SAM: Who says that?

HARRY: My other half. A big house, a fast car and a season ticket to Chelsea isn't enough for some people, is it? They want The Great White Hunter, too. Well, I can do spontaneity. That's why I'm here. Donna knew my wild side. I was on my sixth-form trip to Paris when we met, and I just followed her to Greece - spontaneously ... hang on ...
(he finds a plectrum in his pocket) Ah ha! *(Harry strums the guitar).*

SIDE 5: SAM

- SOPHIE:** I don't care if you've slept with hundreds of men, you're my mother and I love you.
- DONNA:** Oh Sophie - *(suddenly indignant)* - I haven't slept with hundreds of men!
- SAM:** Hold it - am I getting this right? Sophie might be mine, but she might be Bill's or Harry's?
- DONNA:** Yes that's right and don't you go getting all self-righteous on me, you've only got yourself to blame...
- SAM:** What?
- SOPHIE:** If you hadn't dumped my Mum, and gone off and married some other woman ...
- SAM:** It wasn't like that! I was engaged. I had to go back home, I thought it was the right thing to do ... but I came back!
- DONNA:** What?
- SAM:** I told Lorraine I couldn't marry her, and I came right back.
- DONNA:** Why didn't you call me?
- SAM:** Because I was stupid enough to think you'd be sitting in your room, pining for me. Only when I arrived, they told me you were off with some other guy. I went straight back home. Lorraine told me what an idiot I was, and married me to prove it ...
(Donna stares at him)
- HARRY:** Sorry, if I might just cut in for a moment -
- DONNA:** Oh Harry the cheque! Of course!
- HARRY:** No - stuff the cheque - it's yours. Donna, you were the first girl I loved, but you were also the last girl I loved. There's all kinds of families, aren't there? Yours is you and Sophie. Mine is me and Nigel. It's great to have a third of Sophie - I never thought I'd get even that much of a child.
- SAM:** *(To Sophie)* I agree with Harry - being a third of your Dad is great by me.
- BILL:** Me too.

SIDE 6: BILL

The courtyard is ready for the wedding. Rosie is putting the final touches to the arrangements. Bill comes on, holding a note from Sophie.

BILL: Rosie —

ROSIE: Go and wait with the others, till I've finished.

BILL: *(Holding out the note)* I got this note from Sophie. She wanted me to give her away, but now she's changed her mind. I'm confused. I don't know where I am - I don't know who I am. I just came here for a wedding. I'm Sophie's Dad.

ROSIE: Whoa! You need a conversation with Donna.

BILL: Yes, I'll go tell her now —

ROSIE: You'll do no such thing! Sophie's getting married in five minutes!
Take a pew - and button it.

BILL: *(Sitting)* Will it be all right for me to be here?

ROSIE: Oh, for God's sake!

BILL: Well, to tell you the truth - I was dreading walking down the aisle. I may come across as the intrepid traveler, but I come over all faint at the thought of a wedding.

ROSIE: Tell me about it.

BILL: Marriage. Children. Responsibility.

(He shakes his head)

I'm a writer. I made up my mind a long time ago - I walk a lone path.

SIDE 7: SKY

- SOPHIE:** *(Sophie rushes on.)* Sky!
- SKY:** *(Turning away)* It's bad luck to see each other.
- SOPHIE:** It's all gone wrong anyway - Sky, look - you've got to help me.
- SKY:** Why, what's happened?
- SOPHIE:** It's a mess and it's all my fault - I know I shouldn't have read Mum's diary. I've got three possible Dads.
- SKY:** Oh my God!
- SOPHIE:** I invited them to the wedding. I thought I'd know who my father was as soon as I saw him, but I didn't, and now all three think they're my Dad and they're all expecting to give me away.
- SKY:** What a minute - go back a bit - you did what?
- SOPHIE:** I invited my Dads to our wedding. It was three months ago, I wasn't even sure they'd come.
- SKY:** Three months?
- SOPHIE:** You've got to help me.
- SKY:** Why didn't you tell me?
- SOPHIE:** I knew you wouldn't like it.
- SKY:** I thought we talked about everything, I thought we had trust, but you went behind my back for some stranger ...
- SOPHIE:** No it wasn't like that.
- SKY:** Is this what this big white wedding's for? A set-up so you could find your Dad?
- SOPHIE:** No - it's not that at all —
- SKY:** I wanted to take a boat to the mainland and just get married with a couple of witnesses, but you insisted on this fantasy wedding so you could play 'Happy Families' —
- SOPHIE:** — it's knowing who I am - I want to get married knowing who I am.
- (During the following dialogue, Sam enters, unseen, and overhears -)*
- SKY:** Well, that doesn't come from knowing who your Dad is Sophie. That comes from you. How would you feel if I lied to you? I was marrying you because I loved you and I thought that was what you wanted. But I just don't know anymore.
- SOPHIE:** You don't know if you love me?
- SKY:** I don't know if it's what you really want.
- (Sam continues his entrance. He stops, pretending to see them for the first time)*
- SAM:** Sorry - I'm interrupting...
- SKY:** *(Stepping away from Sophie)* No *(To Sophie)* Listen, you think about it.
- SOPHIE:** *(Sky exits. Sophie stares, then starts to follow -)* No, Sky - wait —