



RED  
TREE  
THEATRE

*RED TREE THEATRE PRESENTS*

**The Sound of Music**

**Information Pack**

# KEY DETAILS

## Cast Size

Children Roles: Stage age 7yrs – 17yrs  
3x casts (including Rolf and Liesl)  
24 total

Adult Cast: 6 Leads, 8 Company (who play multiple roles)  
plus a swing/standby Maria

Total Cast Size: 41

Total Cast Size at  
each performance: 22

**Auditions** Jan 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2023, Red Tree Theatre, Tuggerah

**Rehearsals** Feb 6<sup>th</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup>, Red Tree Theatre, Tuggerah  
Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30pm - 9:30pm  
Some Sundays for all von Trapp casts

**Production Week** May 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Performances**

1. Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm Preview (TBC)
2. Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm Preview (TBC)
3. Friday 12<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm - Opening Gala
4. Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> - 12pm
5. Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm
6. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> - 4pm
7. Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> - 12pm - Midweek Matinee
8. Friday 19<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm
9. Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> - 12pm
10. Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm
11. Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> - 4pm
12. Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm
13. Friday 26<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm
14. Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> - 12pm
15. Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm

**Production Fee:** \$50

**WWCC Required:** Yes, for all cast over 18 years old at the start of rehearsals

Director - Joshua Maxwell  
Musical Director - Vivienne McLaren  
Producer – Ruth Jordon  
*Further team to be announced in January*

# AUDITION DETAILS

## **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan: Von Trapp Children + Rolf Auditions**

3 x two-hour workshops including vocal, acting, and dance.

You will be allocated one workshop and are only required to attend that one.

9:30am – 11:30am,

12pm – 2pm; or,

2:30pm – 4:30pm

## **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Jan: Adult Cast Auditions**

9am – 11am Female Ensemble Only Auditions (including a brief dance call)

12pm – 6pm Solo Auditions in 5–10min allotments, for vocal and a character read.

Auditionees will be asked to pick a 30-minute timeslot in which their audition will be held.

## **Video Auditions:**

Must be submitted before 9am on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> to be assessed by the team.

## **Dance:**

Female Ensemble, von Trapp and Rolf will be taught at the auditions

Other roles do not require a dance audition and will be more movement-based.

## **Dialogue:**

You will be given an extract from the script to cold read at the auditions. These will be available at the auditions in the foyer, so if you require more time to become familiar with the text, then we advise arriving earlier to your audition. This does not need to be memorised, it is just a good sign if you are familiar with the text.

# CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

**Captain Georg von Trapp** (baritone, moves well, 35-45)

A retired Austrian naval captain. Polished, yet very military in the way he runs his life to repress his sadness over the death of his wife; underneath, he is warm, understanding, and determined.

**Max Detweiler** (tenor or baritone, moves well, 30+)

Charming and vital; a man of sophistication who enjoys the good life; true and loyal friend to the von Trapp family.

**Elsa Schrader** (soprano or mezzo soprano, moves well, 35-45)

A baroness of taste and elegance, sophisticated, dignified and mature.

**Mother Abbess** (high soprano, wide vocal range, 40+, very strong actress)

Motherly, understanding, strong and authoritative, but kind.

## FEATURED CHARACTERS:

**Sister Berthe** (alto, moves well)

Mistress of Novices, prudish, straight-laced with a quick tongue, she is less tolerant than other nuns. (Also in the company)

**Sister Margaretta** (mezzo, moves well)

Mistress of Postulants, very kind, understanding and concerned. (Also in the company)

**Sister Sophia** (soprano, moves well) Neither demanding nor critical, sticks with the rules. (Also in the company)

**Franz** (non-singing, 30+)

The von Trapp butler, rather formal but not without spirit, he is very German and loyal to the Fascist cause. (Also in the company)

**Frau Schmidt** (non-singing, 30+)

The housekeeper, stoic, very little personality; she does her job efficiently but without affection. Strong and somewhat dominating. (Also in the company)

**Herr Zeller** (non-singing, 40+) Stern and unsmiling, a typical Nazi official whose primary concern is to see that everyone toes the line. (Also in the company)

## **YOUTH ROLES:**

**Please not for youth roles we are open to young people who can look the stage age even if they are not that age.**

**Liesl von Trapp** (mezzo soprano, dance, stage age 16)

The oldest child, blossoming into a young lady with an interest in boys. She has a maternal edge to her and cares very deeply for her younger siblings.

**Rolf Gruber** (tenor, dance, stage age 17)

Suitor to Liesl, telegram delivery boy, later Nazi soldier. A very pleasant young man, somewhat aggressive but in a gentle way.

**Friedrich von Trapp** (stage age 14)

Tough exterior, very much trying to be "the man" of the family.

**Louisa von Trapp** (stage age 13)

Rebellious attitude.

**Kurt von Trapp** (stage age 10, boy soprano/falsetto)

Gentle and mischievous.

**Brigitta von Trapp** (stage age 9)

Smart, reads a lot.

**Marta von Trapp** (stage age 7)

Very sweet and gentle.

**Gretl von Trapp** (stage age 6)

Must have the cute factor.

# MUSIC AUDITION MATERIAL

For solo auditions, you will be singing with a pre-prepared instrumental track, supplied by our team. For ensemble auditions, you will be singing in a group, never on your own.

## **Captain Georg von Trapp** (baritone)

42 – Edelweiss – b1-36

<https://youtu.be/EIYuSAVUYFo> (0:00 - 1:08)

## **Max Detweiler** (tenor or baritone)

33 – No Way To Stop It – b88-120

<https://youtu.be/NwoNxvASVXA> (1:20 - 1:53)

## **Elsa Schrader** (soprano or mezzo soprano)

33 – No Way To Stop It – b45-80

<https://youtu.be/NwoNxvASVXA> (0:46 - 1:21)

## **Mother Abbess** (high soprano)

28 – Climb Ev'ry Mountain – b33-end

<https://youtu.be/SWr45vbyHeA> (1:24 - 3:02)

## **Rolf Gruber** (tenor)

11 – Sixteen Going On Seventeen – b19-53

[https://youtu.be/\\_Eu96FKFb7U](https://youtu.be/_Eu96FKFb7U) (0:32 - 1:40)

## **Female Ensemble** (soprano, mezzo soprano, alto)

1b – Morning Hymn - all

<https://youtu.be/bDK2MaHuJdo> (1:02 - 1:51)

*(This will be taught on the day to assess your learning and listening, please know your voice type, if possible. If not, don't worry)*

## **All Youth Cast (not Rolf)** (all types)

31 – Incidental – The Sound of Music

<https://youtu.be/5bGfekKQXAY> (0:00 - 0:37)

*(This will be taught on the day to assess your learning and listening, please know your voice type, if possible. If not, don't worry)*

# FAQs

## **Is Red Tree like other production companies, in that I need to become a member?**

No, Red Tree is an independent producer and does not require membership.

## **How are you handling three sets of young people?**

The young people will be rehearsing together, and, as we work through the schedule they will learn from each other, and the rest of the cast.

Each cast will have a Liesl and Rolf who will also be the youth Cast Captains.

Each set of young people get 5 performances

## **Will I be required for all rehearsals?**

No, there will be a fairly detailed schedule, so we won't require everyone for everything. But we ask you do not audition if you know you'll have large absences during the process as this disrupts others in the cast as well as you.

Please note any and all planned absences on your audition form.

## **I am going for Rolf or Liesl, do I only get 5 shows?**

No, Rolf and Liesl will also have a "second track" for 5 other performances, This will be a company track, to support company/ensemble vocals. So, at each performance there will be two people on as Rolf or Liesl, two people in company/ensemble tracks, and two people off. Each duo will have 10 performances.

## **Given the political climate, how are you handling the Nazi costuming and material?**

This question has come up a lot. We've made the following adjustments, that do not affect the plot or artistic integrity:

- There will be no use of the swastika, but instead another symbol in similar colours
- There will be no Nazi Salutes, but an equally-powerful motion