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Witham Operatic Workshop! 18th - 23rd February 2019 Witham Public Hall



New Music by JEANINE TESORI

Book by RICHARD MORRIS and DICK SCANLAN

New Lyrics by DICK SCANLAN

Original Story and Screenplay by RICHARD MORRIS for the Universal Pictures Film

With

Yasmin Sharp

Ben Collins Poppy Fisher

Tom Nicoll Lily Downes Ryan Wuyts

William Hackett Hattie Phillips Mia Nichols

Georgina Hackett Emily Birt Poppy Taylor Lily Follett

Jenni Hunt Grace Puckey Hannah Ireland Bethany Bird Sophie Hill

Fraser McLauchlan Emily McNeill Ben Rolph Louisa Turnbull

Alex Cheek Felicity Doran Anna Escott Ruby Rose McKay

Lizzy Mills Izzy Roberts Lily Rodgers
Maddie Smith

Director/Choreographer

Musical Director

Assistant to the Director OLIVIA BENTLEY

Graham Green - President



Welcome to WOW!

This year we welcome Claire Carr, directing her first show for WOW!, and Susannah Edom as Musical Director, a familiar face in the Witham Public Hall orchestra pit.

We hope you will agree that we have been able to bring together a fantastic cast for 'Thoroughly Modern Millie', a musical spoof of the roaring 20s. The show is based on a 1967 film of the same name and starred Julie Andrews in the title role. The stage musical opened on Broadway in April 2002 and won six Tony Awards that year including Best Musical.

We are always looking for young people between 11 and 21 years of age to join this award winning youth musical theatre group and we will be auditioning for our 2020 show, 'Legally Blonde', in September.

We are also keen to hear from anyone interested in joining our production team, whether it's help with costumes, scenery, chaperoning or making the tea. You can contact us by email: Steve Rogers (steve.rogers@digitalrf.net) or Graham Green (graham@grachris.co.uk).

We hope that you will enjoy the show, please feel free to write in our comments book as you leave the theatre!

Synopsis

It's 1922, and small-town girl Millie Dillmount has just arrived in New York City, ready to make her dreams come true. Millie's plan is simple: find a job as a secretary for an eligible bachelor, and then marry him. As Millie walks along the street she is mugged and seeks help from Jimmy Smith who advises her to head home to Kansas.

It doesn't take long, however, for Millie's "thoroughly modern" plan to go awry. Her conniving landlady plots to kidnap Millie's best friend and sell her into slavery in Hong Kong, her wealthy boss seems entirely uninterested in her flirtations, and – worst of all – the man with whom she falls head over heels in love doesn't have a penny to his name.

Production History

Thoroughly Modern Millie has music written by Jeanine Tesori, lyrics by Dick Scanlan, and a book by Richard Morris and Scanlan. It is based on the 1967 film starring Julie Andrews which was itself based on the British musical Chrysanthemum which opened in London in 1956.

The show began several workshops in New York in 1999 starring Kristin Chenoweth in the titular role. It eventually started out-of-town try outs in San Diego in October 2000, Chenoweth left the show to film her own sitcom and was replaced by Erin Dilly, but eventually her understudy Sutton Foster was chosen to assume the role, a move that propelled her to stardom. The show opened on Broadway at The Marquis Theatre in April 2002 where it won six Tony Awards and five Drama Desk Awards including Best Musical at both ceremonies.

The show opened in London's West End at the Shaftesbury Theatre in 2003 with Amanda Holden taking on the role of Millie before closing in June 2004 and embarking on a UK tour in 2005.

Recent UK tours have starred Strictly favourite Joanne Clifton and soapstar Hayley Tamaddon.



Yasmin Sharp - 18
Millie Dillmount
First WOW! Show:
Loserville
Past Roles:
Bombalurina in CATS,
Cinderella in Into the
Woods, Dorothy in The Wiz,
Angie in Our House
Dream Musical Role:
Cassie in A Chorus Line
Plans for the Future:
Auditioning for drama
schools and doing more
shows!
Favourite Character in Millie:

Mrs Meers - she is just so

charasmatic!



Jimmy Smith First WOW! Show: **CATS** Marius in Les Misérables. Rum Tum Tugger in CATS, Joseph in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Favourite Musical: Les Misérables Elder Price in The Book of Mormon Favourite Song in Millie: The Speed Test Favourite Millie Character: Trevor Graydon



Poppy Fisher - 15
Miss Dorothy Brown
First WOW! Show:
Loserville
Favourite WOW! Memory:
The opening night of CATS!
Past Roles:
Marta in The Sound of
Music, Kate in Annie,
Bielke in Fiddler on the
Roof, Young Cinderella in
Cinderella
Favourite Musical:
Les Misérables
Favourite song in Millie:
How the Other Half Lives

Favourite Millie Character:

Miss Dorothy (of course!)



Trevor Graydon

First WOW! Show:

Grease

Past Roles:

Old Deuteronomy in CATS,
Eddie in Loserville
Favourite Musical:
Young Frankenstein
Dream Musical Role:
Frank Abagnale Jr. in
Catch Me If You Can
Hobbies:
Cycling
Favourite Song in Millie:
Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life
Favourite Millie Character:
Trevor, obviously!



Lily Downes - 19 Mrs Meers First WOW! Show: CATS Past Roles: Jennyanydots in CATS, Jan in Grease. Mrs Bumble in Oliver! Favourite Musical: American Idiot Dream Role: Viola in Twelfth Night Plans for the Future: To hopefully get in to drama school this year! Favourite Song in Millie: Not For the Life of Me Favourite Millie Character: Muzzy!



Ryan Wuyts - 15
Ching Ho
First WOW! Show:
CATS
Favourite WOW! Memory:
Opening night of CATS

Gus in CATS
Favourite Musical:
Heathers or Legally Blonde
Hobbies:
Sailing, art
Training:
Currently studying GCSE
Music & Drama
Favourite Song in Millie:
Muqin
Favourite Millie Character:
Mrs Meers



William Hackett - 14

Bun Foo
First WOW! Show:
Loserville
Favourite WOW! Memory:
The opening night of CATS
Past Roles:
Wayne in Loserville,
Bustopher Jones in CATS
Favourite Musical:
Jesus Christ Superstar
Dream Musical Role:
Judas Iscariot in Jesus Christ
Superstar
Hobbies:
Gaming, singing
Favourite Millie Moment:
Will has enjoyed learning

Mandarin for the show!



Muzzy Van Hossmere
First WOW! Show:
CATS
Favourite WOW! Memory:
The final curtain call for
CATS will always be a very
special moment
Favourite Musical:
Les Misérables
Hobbies:
Baking, art, piano
Training:

Iraining:
I attend Aspire Dance
Academy and Tomorrow's
Talent
Favourite Millie Character:
Mrs Meers



Mia Nichols - 14 Miss Flannery First WOW! Show: Half a Sixpence Past Roles:

Young Anne in Half a Sixpence, Exotica in CATS Favourite Musical: A Chorus Line

Currently studying GCSE
Dance alongside French,
History and Business Studies
Favourite Song in Millie:
Forget About the Boy as it
represents girl power!
Favourite Character in Millie:
Muzzy because she is so
glamorous!



Georgina Hackett - 14
Gloria/Tapper
First WOWI Show:
CATS
Past Roles:
Wicked Witch in The Wizard
of Oz, Cassandra in CATS

of Oz, Cassandra in CATS
Favourite Musical:
Heathers
Dream Musical Role:
Rizzo in Grease
Plans for the Future:
To go to college to study
musical theatre and work in

Favourite Millie Song: They Don't Know Favourite Millie Character: Ching Ho & Bun Foo

the West End



Emily Birt - 17
Alice/Tapper
First WOW! Show:
Our House
Favourite WOW! Memory:
The last night of CATS
Favourite Musical:
The Book of Mormon

Reading and sloth appreciation Plans for the Future: Perhaps some youthful gallivanting before settling into my true form as a crazy

cat lady!
Favourite Song in Millie:
I really enjoy dancing in The
Nutty Cracker Suite



Poppy Taylor - 11
Ruth/Tapper
First WOW! Show:
Thoroughly Modern Millie
Favourite WOW! Memory:
Costume fittings and making
new friends
Past Roles:
Duffy in Annie, Alice in Alice
in Wonderland
Favourite Musical:
Les Misérables
Dream Musical Role:
Eponine from Les Misérables

Dance, drama, netball, singing, comedy, painting Favourite Song in Millie: How the Other Half Lives



Lily Follett - 16
Ethel Peas/Ensemble
First WOW! Show:
Thoroughly Modern Millie
Favourite WOW! Memory:
The 1st audition workshop everyone was so welcoming!
Favourite Musical:

Come From Away
Dream Musical Role:
Anastasia in Anastasia

Cooking, eating out Training:

Theatre Train, Ballet and studying Drama A Level Plans for the Future:

To hopefully go to drama school



Jenni Hunt - 16 Rita/Tapper First WOW! Show: Grease

Favourite WOW! Memory: Screaming at the end of Rum Tum Tugger in CATS Favourite Musical: Hairspray or Waitress

Dream Musical Role:
Dawn in Waitress

Dance, watching Netflix Training: BTEC Dance, GCSE Drama & LAMDA Exams Favourite Song in Millie:

Forget About the Boy



Grace Puckey - 13
Cora
First WOW! Show:
Thoroughly Modern Millie
Favourite WOW! Memory:
WOW! summer school 2017
Favourite Musical:
Wicked

Dream Musical Role: The Narrator in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Hobbies:

Playing hockey
Plans for the Future:
To become an actor

Favourite Millie Character:

Mrs Meers



Hannah Ireland - 14 Lucille First WOW! Show: CATS

Favourite WOW! Memory:
Doing my first show and
meeting everyone!
Past Roles:
Coricopat in CATS

Favourite Musical:
Heathers

Plans for the Future:
I'd like to go in to special
effects make up - although I
do love performing!
Favourite Song in Millie:

They Don't Know Favourite Millie Character: Dorothy - she's so positive!



Bethany Bird - 13 Pearl Lady/Principal Dancer First WOW! Show:

Thoroughly Modern Millie Favourite WOW! Memory: Meeting everyone for the first time at pre-auditions Favourite Musical:

42nd Street

Currently training at Complete Dance & White **Court Dance**

Plans for the Future:

To study performing arts at college Favourite Millie Song: The Speed Test



Sophie Hill - 15 Dancer/Tapper First WOW! Show: **CATS**

Favourite WOW! Memory: Listening and dancing to music with everyone whilst getting ready for the show **Past Roles:**

Mr Mistoffelees in CATS Favourite Musical: Everybody's Talking About Jamie

Currently training at White Court Dance Plans for the Future: To attend dance college



Fraser McLauchlan - 14 Dancer/Tapper First WOW! Show: Half a Sixpence Favourite WOW! Memory:

CATS

Kurt in The Sound of Music, Pugsley in The Addams Family, Huey in Loserville, Skimbleshanks in CATS. Fyedka in Fiddler on the

Roof Favourite Musical: The Addams Family

Dream Musical Role: Tevye in Fiddler on the Roof Favourite Millie Character: The Chinese brothers



Emily McNeill - 14 Dancer/Tapper First WOW! Show: Loserville Favourite WOW! Memory: Getting to know the new cast

Past Roles: Pepper in Annie, Dancer in Pirates of Penzance. Orphan in Oliver!, Chorus in Loserville, Rumpleteaser in CATS Dream Musical Role:

members

Glinda in Wicked Favourite Song in Millie: Thoroughly Modern Millie Favourite Millie Character: Ching Ho & Bun Foo



Ben Rolph - 16 Dancer/Tapper First WOW! Show:

Grease Favourite WOW! Memory: Performing Mungojerry & Rumpleteaser in CATS Past Roles:

Mungojerry in CATS, Ensemble in Grease, Our House & Loserville

Les Misérables Marius in Les Misérables

Plans for the Future: To be a personal trainer Favourite Millie Character: Ching Ho & Bun Foo



Dancer/Tapper First WOW! Show: Half a Sixpence Favourite WOW! Memory: Playing Patrice in 13 at the

WOW! summer school Past Roles:

Etcetera in CATS, Sprintze in Fiddler on the Roof

Les Misérables **Dream Musical Role:** Eponine in Les Misérables Plans for the Future: To direct theatre shows

Favourite Millie Character: Miss Dorothy



Ensemble First WOW! Show:

Thoroughly Modern Millie

Ensemble in Les Misérables. Oliver! & Peter Pan

> Wicked **Dream Musical Role:** Faain in Oliver!

> St John's Ambulance, trampolining & I love animals!

Plans for the Future: To be a paramedic Favourite Millie Song Dorothy, she's so caring!



Favourite Song in Millie: The Speed Test Favourite Millie Character:

Mrs Meers



Anna Escott - 16
Ensemble
First WOW! Show:
CATS

Favourite WOW! Memory:
Being backstage with
everyone before the shows

Veternum in CATS Favourite Musical: Mamma Mia!

Acting, dance, media, music Plans for the Future:

To study musical theatre at university

Favourite Millie Ćharacter: Miss Flannery



Ruby Rose McKay - 12 Ensemble First WOW! Show:

Thoroughly Modern Millie
Favourite WOW! Memory:
Ryan's audition as it was
really good and very funny!
Favourite Musical:
Legally Blonde, Dreamgirls,

Wicked, 42nd Street Hobbies: Contortion, dance and WOWI

Training:

Dance and singing lessons Plans for the Future:

To be Serena in Legally Blonde on Broadway!



Lizzy Mills - 13 Ensemble First WOW! Show: Thoroughly Modern Millie

Favourite Musical: School of Rock or Hairspray Dream Musical Role:

Katie in School of Rock Hobbies:

Playing bass guitar Plans for the Future:

To go on tour with my band across the world! Favourite Song in Millie: They Don't Know



Izzy Roberts - 14 Ensemble First WOW! Show:

Thoroughly Modern Millie Favourite Musical: Legally Blonde Dream Musical Role:

Elle Woods in Legally Blonde Hobbies: Horse riding, drama, dancing

Favourite Song in Millie: Thoroughly Modern Millie Favourite Millie Character: Mrs Meers



Lily Rodgers - 16
Ensemble
First WOW! Show:

Thoroughly Modern Millie Favourite Musical: The Rocky Horror Picture

Show
Dream Musical Role:
Sister Mary Roberts in
Sister Act

Currently studying Musical Theatre at Colchester Institute Favourite Song in Millie:

Miss Dorothy

Muqin Favourite Millie Character:



Maddie Smith - 14 Ensemble

First WOW! Show: Loserville

Ensemble in Loserville & 13
Favourite WOW! Memory:

The show week for Loserville Favourite Musical:

Everybody's Talking About Jamie

Ice-skating, basketball Favourite Song in Millie:

Muzzie's Party
Favourite Millie Character:
Mrs Meers

Creative Team



Claire Carr - Director/Choreographer

Dancing from the age of 3, Claire has been actively involved in dance and musical theatre all her life - both on and off stage as part of the creative production teams. Claire is delighted to be working with WOW! for the first time with these talented kids and the most supportive and hard-working adults making everything work behind the scenes.

After completing a Dance Studies degree in London, Claire joined Chelmsford society CAODS and has been fortunate to play many lead and dancing roles over the last 20 years. She has assisted professional directors for many productions, taking the helm to direct the 2013 CAODS concert 'From Stage And Screen', and choreographing their 2017 production of the toe-tapping 'Anything Goes'. Claire has recently directed and choreographed both 'Return To The Forbidden Planet' and Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'Cinderella' for WOW!'s adult society, WAOS, which was a real privilege.

Being part of the team at WOW! has been a wonderful experience and Claire is thrilled to have such a fun, talented and hard-working cast to work with on this huge production. From explosive tap numbers to dancing on a window ledge and, for some, learning Mandarin, this show has definitely challenged our performers' dancing, acting and comedy skills. Claire would like to say a huge thank you to the entire production team and crew for their hard work during this process, making her vision come to life. Special thanks must go to her assistant, Olivia Bentley, to Sue and Anne who have worked tirelessly on her huge costume plot, to Dave, Graham and Steve who have built the set, and to everyone else who has worked on the show. Massive thanks to Susannah Edom as MD, a real pleasure to work with on the very big score. Claire hopes you enjoy the show!



Susannah Edom - Musical Director

Susannah lives near Witham and is CEO of Attain Multi Academy Trust and Director of the Chelmsford Teaching Schools Alliance, working with many local schools. Susannah works regularly with Barnardo's as conductor for their Young Supporters Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Barbican and at Wembley. She is also involved with the Annual National Choral Competition as an adjudicator. She continues to work with young people and adults regularly both as a conductor, pianist and adjudicator and is an official accompanist for the Chelmsford Music Festival.

Susannah studied music at Bulmershe College, Reading receiving piano tuition under Eric Parkin and singing in the internationally renowned Girls Choir under Gwyn Arch. She also worked as a choral specialist at the County Music School which led to involvement in the National Festival of

Music for Youth and the Aldeburgh Festival as conductor.

Susannah has wide experience of musical theatre as Musical Director of societies locally. Susannah particularly enjoys working with the talented youngsters in WOW! and wishes them a wonderful production of Thoroughly Modern Millie.



Olivia Bentley - Assistant to the Director

Olivia lives in Witham and is involved in a number of local societies. Having been a member of both WOW! and WAOS, Olivia has a lot of great experience so was a perfect fit for helping the cast with everything from ensemble dancing to one on one assistance. For WOW! and WAOS, Olivia performed in High School Musical, Footloose and The Producers amongst many others. Olivia has a passion for all things dance, particularly tap, and she most recently performed in Top Hat at the Chelmsford Civic Theatre. When Olivia is not performing, she is a committee member for WOW!, helps with the publicity team and, during show week, will be found backstage doing makeup for the cast. Olivia has thoroughly enjoyed her first experience as part of the production team and cannot wait for the curtain to go up on this talented group of young performers!

Act 1

Scene 1 - 1922 Manhattan

Not for the Life of Me

Thoroughly Modern Millie

Scene 2 - Lobby of the Hotel Priscilla

Not for the Life of Me Reprise

How the Other Half Lives

Scene 3 - Laundry Room of the Hotel Priscilla

Not for the Life of Me Reprise

Scene 4 - Sincere Trust Insurance Company
The Speed Test

Scene 5 - 12th Floor of the Hotel Priscilla They Don't Know

Scene 6 - A Street in New York & a Speakeasy Club
The Nutty Cracker Suite

Scene 7 - A New York Police Station

Scene 8 - Jail Cells at the Police Station What Do I Need With Love?

Scene 9 - 12th Floor of the Hotel Priscilla

Scene 10 - The Penthouse of Muzzy Van Hossmere
Only in New York

Scene 11 - The Terrace of Muzzy's Apartment Jimmy

Scene 12 - 12th Floor of the Hotel Priscilla

Millie Millie & Company

Millie, Lucille, Rita, Alice, Cora, Gloria & Ruth Millie & Miss Dorothy

Ching Ho & Bun Foo

Trevor, Millie, Miss Flannery & Tappers

Mrs Meers

Jimmy, Millie, Miss Dorothy, Priscilla Girls & Company

Jimmy

Muzzy

Millie



Act 2

Scene 1 - Sincere Trust Insurance Company
Forget About the Boy
Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life/
I'm Falling in Love with Someone

Scene 2 - Window Ledge Outside Millie's Office
I Turned the Corner
Falling in Love Reprise

Scene 3 - 12th Floor of the Hotel Priscilla Muqin

Scene 4 - The Floorshow at the Café Society
Long as I'm Here with You

Scene 5 - Muzzy's Dressing Room
Gimme Gimme

Scene 6 - Dining Room of the Café Society

Scene 7 - Lobby of the Hotel Priscilla

Scene 8 - Laundry Room of the Hotel Priscilla
The Speed Test Reprise
Ah! Sweet Mystery Reprise

Scene 9 - Manhattan Finale Millie, Miss Flannery & Tappers Trevor & Miss Dorothy

Jimmy & Millie
Millie, Jimmy, Trevor & Miss Dorothy

Mrs Meers, Bun Foo & Ching Ho

Muzzy & Dancers

Millie

Millie, Trevor, Muzzy & Jimmy Miss Dorothy & Ching Ho

Full Company



Cast

Yasmin Sharp
Ben Collins
Jimmy Smith
Poppy Fisher
Tom Nicoll
Lily Downes
Ryan Wuyts
William Hackett
Millie Dillmount
Miss Dorothy Brown
Trevor Graydon
Mrs Meers
Ching Ho
Bun Foo

Hattie Phillips
Miss Flannery
Georgina Hackett
Gloria/Tapper
Emily Birt
Poppy Taylor
Lily Follett
Alizzy Van Hossmere
Miss Flannery
Gloria/Tapper
Alice/Tapper
Ruth/Tapper
Ethel Peas/Ensemble

Lily Follett Ethel Peas/Ensemb Jenni Hunt Rita/Tapper

Grace Puckey Cora Hannah Ireland Lucille

Bethany Bird Pearl Lady/Principal Dancer

Sophie Hill Dancer/Tapper
Fraser McLauchlan Dancer/Tapper
Emily McNeill Dancer/Tapper
Ben Rolph Dancer/Tapper
Louisa Turnbull Dancer/Tapper
Alex Cheek Ensemble

Felicity Doran Ensemble/Tapper

Anna Escott Ensemble
Ruby Rose McKay Ensemble
Lizzy Mills Ensemble
Lizzy Roberts Ensemble
Lily Rodgers Ensemble
Maddie Smith Ensemble





Bo

Susannah Edom
Sandy Tate, Jessie Tabor
Steve Hopper
Bex Ransome/Bob Osbourne
Mike Appleton/Graeme Atkinson
Dave Healy
Emma Nash
Nick Tate
Phil Langstone
James Stirling
Paul Codling



Production Team

Director/Choreographer Assistant to the Director Production Manager Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager Stage Crew

Scenery
Lighting Designer
Lighting Operator
Followspot Operators
Sound
Properties Managers

Properties Assistants

Wardrobe Team

Make Up Team

Wigs Box Office Manager Front of House Manager Publicity Manager Publicity Team

Photography Programme Bar Manager Claire Carr Olivia Bentley Kathryn Adkins David Hunt Graham Green

Dean Hirst, Jeremy Lee, Keith Radley, Ben Sawyer, Georgina Sawyer,

Darryl Warnaar

David Hunt, Graham Green, friends of WOW!

Jeremy Naunton Constance Lawton

Rhuddian Davies, Anne Dyster, Jack Joslin Event Sound & Light, Paul Galley, Jason Fenn

Annette Maguire, Denise Scrivener

Elizabeth Chapman, Anita Goold, Charli Piper,

Anne Wilson

Sue Rogers, Anne Howe, Debbie Stirling,

Alison Carlyle, Tracey Hackett

Liz Watson, Olivia Bentley, Matilda Bourne,

Leonie Bradford-Doig, Shelley Moore

Patsy Page Janice Hawkes Debbie Rolph Rhianna Howard

Olivia Bentley, Matilda Bourne, Donna Goddard, Tracey Hackett,

Michael Watling Matilda Bourne Rhianna Howard Ron Howe



Musical Director Woodwind First Trumpet Second Trumpet French Horn Trombone Keyboards Cello Bass Guitar Drums





Chinese Restaurant and Home Banquet



We have been serving Chinese food for over two decades and pride ourselves on creating dishes prepared with exacting care using only the finest produce available. Our menu includes such diverse inspiration as Pekinese, Szechuan and Malaysian cuisine. The Lian team are always delighted to discuss the menu with you and recommend a compatible wine from our cellars.



Opening Times

Closed Every Monday

Tuesday - Sunday

Lunchtime Service: 12pm Until 2:30pm Dinner Service: 5:30pm - 10:30pm

Please note, during bank holidays the restaurant is open (Including bank holiday Mondays)

Takeaway Menu

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR TAKEAWAY MENU IS COLLECTION ONLY

Order online and collect your food 30 minutes later.







Contact Us

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The Helen Temperley Award

After the Saturday night performance we shall be awarding one of our cast members the Helen Temperley Memorial Award. The award was first presented in 2013 after being created in Helen's memory. The winner will be the member of WOW! who embodies the positive qualities that Helen exhibited, namely loyalty, hard work and selfless commitment while maintaining a great sense of fun and enjoyment.

Previous Winners: 2013 - Michael Watling 2015 - Ed Tunningley

2017 - Faye Broadbent

2014 - Charlotte Watling 2016 - Charlotte Tofts

2018 - Ciaran Brewer & Christopher Tierney

About Us!

Witham Operatic Workshop! is an award-winning musical youth theatre group based in Witham, Essex. Our talented & enthusiastic performers' ages range from 11 to 21. WOW! is the junior section of Witham Amateur Operatic Society (WAOS, registered charity number 265029) & has been performing a variety of challenging & outstanding musical theatre productions every year since 1996. WOW! was founded by Nicholas Clough after the huge success of WAOS' Oliver! that saw over 90 children audition. He concluded that there was a demand for a theatre group for young people in Witham & set about making it a success! Nick sadly passed away in 2015 but his legacy lives on through the passion seen in all of WOW!'s members and those that work tirelessly behind the scenes.

WOW! is committed to ensuring that our productions are accessible for as many young people as possible and our audition panel all agree to cast as diversely and inclusively as they can.

We perform one full length show a year & we hope you will join us for our 2020 offering 'Legally Blonde'!

Prospective members are warmly welcomed at our spring & summer workshops, our summer school weeks (5th - 9th
August for 8-13s, 12th-16th August for 13-21s) & for auditions in September each year. If you'd like any further
information please contact Steve Rogers our Chairman (contact details on the back cover).

National Operatic & Dramatic Association

WOW! is proud to be affiliated with NODA. Founded in 1899, NODA is the leading representative body for amateur theatre in the UK. The Association has a membership of approximately 2400 amateur theatre groups and over 2000 individual members staging musicals, operas, plays, concerts and pantomimes in a wide variety of venues ranging from the country's leading professional theatres to village halls. NODA Aims: To give a shared voice to amateur theatre; to help societies and individuals achieve the highest standard of best practice and performance; to provide leadership and advice to enable amateur theatre to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. WOW! was most recently awarded the Best Youth Production Award 2017 for 'Loserville' (District 11, NODA East). WOW!'s 2018 production of 'CATS' has nominations for Best Youth Production and Best Young Performer for Cerys Wilkin who played Grizabella, the winners will be announced at the NODA East Awards in May.

North Essex Theatre Guild

WOW! is also a long standing member of NETG. NETG aim to help amateur dramatic groups in Essex by adjudicating shows to give professional comments on the quality of local shows. They also stage a One Act Play festival to encourage group integration and host an annual Awards evening to credit exceptional performances throughout the year.

The last awards evening took place in September and WOW! received 6 nominations for our 2018 show 'CATS'. On the night we took home the Adjudicator's Award for Choreography & Make-Up.

EL PULPO

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Walk-ins encouraged however, if you wish to make a booking, please contact us: Phone: 01376 337122 | Email: infor@elpulpo.co.uk Web: www.elpulpo.co.uk El Pulpo, 33 Newland Street, Witham CM8 2AF Open 7 Days a week

Inside the Reh























earsal Room...



























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The Society's grateful thanks are extended to:

- Those involved with box office, stewarding, programme and raffle ticket selling
- Those involved with the bar
- Those involved with chaperoning
- Those involved with dressing
- Those involved backstage and with transportation
- Those who have helped to build the scenery
- Those who have helped with publicity banners and boards
- Spotlight Productions, Dressing Up Box, CAODS Costume Department, Springers Costume Department, members and friends of WAOS for supplying costumes
- David Mitchell, Ed Montgomery & Emma Nash for their musical assistance
- Janet Hawkes for helping to source props
- Solopress for printing the publicity material and programmes
- Essex Sign & Print for producing the publicity banners & Montrose TC Ltd for producing the publicity boards
- Witham Art & Framing Centre for printing the display photos
- Witham Dramatic Club for the use of the raised seating
- Spring Lodge and the Witham Public Hall for the use of their rehearsal facilities
- All those who helped in the supply of props
- Chelmsford Library, Witham Tourist Information Centre & Witham Library for permission to display photographs
- Cofunds, The Railway Tavern and the Witham Public Hall for allowing us to display banners
- Those who have freely donated window space for the display of our posters
- St John Ambulance service for being on hand at all shows to provide assistance when needed

Anyone else who has contributed in any way to the preparation and production of this show!

Previous Productions

1996 - Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

1997 - West Side Story

1998 - Annie

1999 - The Boy Friend 2000 - 42nd Street

2001 - The Wiz

2002 - Bugsy Malone

2003 - Oliver!

2004 - Crazy For You

2005 - Little Shop of Horrors

2006 - Fame

WOW! Committee

President

Production Manager

Secretary Treasurer

Publicity Manager

Members

2007 - A Knight to Remember

2008 - High School Musical

2009 - Les Misérables

2010 - Hot Mikado

2011 - West Side Story

2012 - Footloose

2013 - The Boy Friend

2014 - Grease

2015 - Our House

2016 - Half a Sixpence

2017 - Loserville

2018 - CATS

Graham Green Steve Rogers

Kathryn Adkins Debbie Rolph

Anita Goold

Rhianna Howard

Olivia Bentley, Matilda Bourne, Donna Goddard,

Keith Radley, Sue Rogers, Gary Rolph

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GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S



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Want to Join Us?

Please visit our website at www.wow.org.uk for details of upcoming workshops, summer schools and pre-audition rehearsals.

For further information please contact Steve Rogers, Chairman steve.rogers@digitalrf.net 01621 928653