

DISNEY'S & CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S



A combined Loreto College and Villanova College production in 2020

We are excited to announce that the combined Loreto and Villanova musical for 2020 will be *Mary Poppins*. This pack contains vital information about the show, the procedures for auditions and the expectations of cast, orchestra and crew if you are successful in your audition/application. You need to read this pack carefully. Any questions can be directed to Curriculum Leader Creative Arts Loreto College, Mrs Lissa Gyte. gytel@loreto.qld.edu.au

The Production Team

A team of dedicated professionals from Loreto and Villanova will work collaboratively to ensure you have a wonderful musical experience. The production team will evolve as the semester progresses and roles are finalised.

Producer – Mrs Lissa Gyte

Director – Mrs Stephanie Tudor

Music Director – Mr Ben Langford

Choreographers – Ms Bronte Devine and Ms Rachel Tiernan (past Loreto pupils)

Vocal Director – Mrs Libby Stockdale

About the musical...

One of the most popular Disney movies of all time is capturing hearts in a whole new way: as a practically perfect musical! Based on the books by P.L. Travers and the classic Walt Disney film, *Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins* delighted Broadway audiences for over 2,500 performances and received nominations for nine Olivier and seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The jack-of-all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910 and the troubled Banks family. Young Jane and Michael have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must teach the family members how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny who advises that, "Anything can happen if you let it."

Mary Poppins is an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers and astonishing stagecraft.

Musical Roles:

There will be an opportunity to be involved in *Mary Poppins* as:

- Principal – lead role, strong characterisation, singing and dancing (basic to sophisticated depending on role)
- Supporting role – strong characterisation, some lines, may sing and/or basic dancing
- Chorus member – singing and basic dancing
- Specialist Dancer – a trained dancer who can demonstrate specific skills (male and female)
- Orchestra - musician
- Crew – backstage, lighting and/or sound working closely with the Stage Manager

AUDITION, REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

The musical is a hugely rewarding experience, but it does involve a large commitment of time both in and out of rehearsals. It is important that you are aware of this before signing up to participate in the musical, so please look at the rehearsal and performance dates carefully before making your final decision.

You will need to balance your commitments with school work, part-time work and other co-curricular activities as the involvement in the musical is very time intensive.

A more detailed schedule will be distributed throughout the rehearsal period to let you know where and when you are specifically required. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, all students scheduled to be at rehearsal are expected to remain there for the entire time.

The week of the show will consist of late and long hours for everyone involved in the production. Be sure your parents understand this before you audition for the show.

You must attend 100% of rehearsals. If you are not able to commit to the dates below **please do not audition.**

Important Musical dates 2019 in blue:

Month	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Oct Wk1	7 <i>Queen's Birthday Holiday</i>	8 <i>Term 4 begins "Register for an audition" closes 3pm</i>	9	10	11	12	13
Oct Wk2	14	15 <i>General Auditions</i>	16 <i>General Auditions</i>	17	18	19	20 Live and Wired
Oct Wk3	21	22 <i>Call backs as required</i>	23	24	25 Loreto - Celebration of Achievement Evening	26	27
Oct- Nov Wk4	28	29 <i>Cast Released 6pm on College APP</i>	30	31	1	2	3
Nov Wk5	4	5 <i>Rehearsal 3:30 – 6pm</i>	6	7	8 <i>Rehearsal 3.30-7pm</i>	9	10
Nov Wk6	11	12 <i>Rehearsal 3.30-6pm</i>	13	14 <i>Graduation Mass Loreto/ Graduation Mass Villa</i>	15 <i>Rehearsal 3.30-7pm</i> <i>Last Day of Year 12s</i>	16	17
Nov Wk7	18	19	20	21	22 <i>Rehearsal 3.30-7pm</i>	23	24
Nov- Dec Wk8	25	26 <i>Rehearsal 3.30-6pm</i>	27	28	29 <i>End of Term 4 Villanova & Loreto</i>	30	1
Dec	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Important Musical dates 2020 in blue:

Month	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Jan Staff Week	20 <i>Rehearsal 9am-5pm</i>	21 <i>Rehearsal 9am-5pm</i>	22 <i>Rehearsal 9am-5pm</i>	23	24 <i>Rehearsal 3.30-7pm</i>	25	26 Australia Day
Jan- Feb Wk1	27 <i>Rehearsal 9am-6pm</i>	28 Term 1 Starts <i>Rehearsal 3.30-7pm</i>	29	30	31 <i>Loreto/Villa Music Camp Mapleton</i>	1 <i>Loreto/Villa Music Camp Mapleton</i>	2 <i>Loreto/Villa Music Camp Mapleton</i>
Feb Wk2	3	4 <i>Rehearsal 3.30- 7pm</i>	5	6	7 <i>Rehearsal 3.30- 7pm</i>	8	9 <i>Rehearsal 9am-6pm</i>
Feb Wk3	10	11 <i>Rehearsal 3.30- 7pm</i>	12	13	14 <i>Rehearsal 3.30- 7pm</i>	15 <i>Crew 9am-1pm START HIRE LIGHTS/AUDIO BUMP IN</i>	16 <i>Rehearsal 9am-6pm</i>
Feb Wk4	17	18 <i>Full Run 4-9pm *catering</i>	19 <i>CREW, SET and LIGHTS Tech run – key roles and orchestra 4-8pm</i>	20	21 <i>Dress Rehearsal 4-9pm *catering</i>	22	23 <i>Dress Rehearsal 9am-6pm *catering</i>
Feb- Mar Wk5	24	25 <i>Primary Advocacy Day 11am – 4pm TBC</i>	26	27 <i>Show 7-10pm</i>	28 <i>Show 7-10pm</i>	29 <i>Show 2pm – 4.30pm (matinee) Show 7.30- 10.30pm Tech Bump Out</i>	1 <i>Set Bump Out Crew 9am</i>

Please note, you will need to self-cater for long rehearsals except where indicated *CATERING.

Every student must bring a named water bottle to every rehearsal.

Auditions - Students eligible to audition

Loreto – girls in Years 8-11 in **2019**, Villanova – boys in Years 8-11 in **2019**.

All auditions will occur at Loreto College. Singers (712), Actors (711) and Dancing (411)

You can register for an audition via the link on this email called "[Register for an audition link](#)"

You can access the [audition scores](#) that are attached to this email.

You must have completed the "[Register for an audition link](#)" by **Tuesday 8th October**. An audition roster will be emailed to you, so you know what date and time you are needed.

All students who wish to perform in *Mary Poppins* **must** audition.

Auditions will be held in front of a panel. The panel will look for strengths of each performer and offer roles accordingly. It may be that you are offered a role that is not one of the ones you audition for. Please keep an open mind, as the panel can sometimes see strengths and capabilities in you, and potential for excellence in certain roles.

Given the youthful role descriptions of Jane and Michael Banks, it may be necessary to hold a separate audition seeking younger students if requirement of the roles cannot be filled by students currently in Years 8 – 11. If this is the case, Loreto students (currently in Year 7) and Villanova students (currently in Years 6 or 7) will be notified.

Given the intensity of some of the lead roles, it may be necessary to nominate understudy roles. If this is the case, these students may have the chance to perform the lead role at the Primary Advocacy Day and/or the matinee performance.

Audition Material

For **Principal, Supporting Roles** and **Chorus** only prepare ONE of the following options best suited to your vocal range:

Male Voices: *Prologue* Excerpt (bars 46 to 86)

Female Voices (High, including Mary Poppins, Winnifred Banks & Mrs Corry): *Practically Perfect* Excerpt (bars 14 to 44)

Female Voices (Low, including Ms Andrews, Bird Lady & Miss Brill): *Brimstone and Treacle* Excerpt (bars 5 to 35)

Young / Unbroken Voices (Jane & Michael): *The Perfect Nanny*

Supporting or Principal Role: In addition to the above, if you wish to be considered for a lead or supporting role, you will also have to showcase your acting ability.

- Perform a **memorised** script excerpt (see attached scenes)
- You may be asked to do a cold reading, time permitting

Specialist Dancer female audition: Students who have studied dance privately and can showcase specific skills and technique may audition as a specialist dancer (no singing required).

- Dancers will be taught a choreographed number at the auditions and will be expected to demonstrate their ability to pick up choreography quickly and execute them to a high standard.

Orchestra: Students who are interested in orchestral roles will need to express interest via the [“Register for an audition link”](#). If selected, you will be notified by the Musical Director, Mr Ben Langford. Auditions will be called for particular parts if required.

Mary Poppins Musical Numbers

Act I

Chim Chim Cher-ee - Bert
Cherry Tree Lane Part 1 - George and Winifred Banks, Jane and Michael, Mrs Brill, and Robertson Ay
The Perfect Nanny - Jane and Michael
Cherry Tree Lane Part 2 - George and Winifred Banks, Jane and Michael, Mrs Brill, and Robertson Ay
Practically Perfect - Mary Poppins, Jane, and Michael
Chim Chim Cher-ee (Park Reprise) - Bert
Jolly Holiday - Bert, Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, Neleus, and the Statues
Let's Hope She Will Stay/Being Mrs Banks/Cherry Tree Lane (Reprise) - George, Winifred, Jane, and Michael
A Spoonful of Sugar - Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, Robertson Ay, and Winifred
Precision and Order - Bank Chairman and the Bank Clerks
A Man Has Dreams* - George Banks
Feed the Birds - Bird Woman and Mary Poppins
Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious - Mary Poppins, Mrs Corry, Bert, Jane, Michael, Fannie, Annie, and Customers
Chim Chim Cher-ee (Rooftop Duet) - Bert and Mary Poppins

Act II

Entr'acte: Run Away - Orchestra
Cherry Tree Lane (Reprise)* - Mrs Brill, Michael, Jane, Winifred, Robertson Ay, and George
Brimstone and Treacle Part 1 - Miss Andrew
Let's Go Fly a Kite - Bert, Park Keeper, Jane, and Michael
Good for Nothing - George
Being Mrs Banks (Reprise) - Winifred
Brimstone and Treacle Part 2 - Mary Poppins and Miss Andrew
Practically Perfect (Reprise) - Jane, Michael, and Mary Poppins
Chim Chim Cher-ee (Rooftop Reprise) - Bert
Step in Time - Bert, Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, and the Sweeps
A Man Has Dreams / A Spoonful of Sugar Reprise - George and Bert
Anything Can Happen Part 1 - Jane, Michael, Winifred, Mary Poppins
Give Us the Word - George, Chairman, Miss Smythe
Anything Can Happen Part 2 - Jane, Michael, Mary Poppins, Company
A Spoonful of Sugar (Farewell Reprise) - Mary Poppins

Characters:

Characters: All required to speak with an English accent! Most of the characters in *Mary Poppins* will speak either with Received Pronunciation (RP), which is a standard British accent that sounds very well-to-do (think of actors like Sir Patrick Stewart or Dame Judi Dench), or with Cockney accents.

Principal Roles

Please note: *If you are successful in securing a Principal role you are expected to organise private tuition either through the Loreto / Villanova Music Performance Programs or from an external vocal teacher. It is expected that you will begin these lessons in Term 4 2019 and that they will continue through to production week. This is an important commitment to ensure you are vocally prepared as private vocal lessons will assist you in developing your singing technique, learning your songs and improve your stamina to cope with a demanding performance season.*

Mary Poppins – (20s) is Jane and Michael Banks' new nanny. She is extraordinary and strange, neat and tidy, delightfully vain yet very particular, and sometimes a little frightening, but always exciting. She is practically perfect in every way and always means what she says. A mezzo soprano with strong top notes, she should be able to move well. She can have a more traditional soprano sound, but precision and diction are key.

Bert – (30s), the narrator of the story, is a good friend to Mary Poppins. An everyman, Bert has many occupations, including hurdy-gurdy player, sidewalk artist, and chimney sweep. Bert watches over the children as well as the goings on in Cherry Tree Lane. He has charm, speaks with a Cockney accent, and is a song- and-dance-man. Baritone.

George Banks – (early 40s), father to Jane and Michael Banks, is a banker to the very fibre of his being. Demanding "precision and order" in his household, he is a pipe-and-slippers man who doesn't have much to do with his children and believes that he had the perfect upbringing by his nanny, the cruel Miss Andrew. His emotional armour, however, conceals a sensitive soul. A baritone, George may speak-sing as necessary.

Winifred Banks – (30s) is George's wife and Jane and Michael's mother. A former actress, she is a loving and distracted homemaker who is busy trying to live up to her husband's desire to only associate with "the best people" as well as be a model wife and mother. She suffers from the conflicting feelings that she's not up to the job of "being Mrs Banks," yet she is, and more. She has a great warmth and simplicity to her tone. Mezzo Soprano.

Jane Banks – (11), the high-spirited daughter of Mr and Mrs Banks, is bright and precocious but can be wilful and inclined to snobbishness. Child soprano.

Michael Banks – (9) is the cute and cheeky son of Mr and Mrs Banks. Excitable and naughty, he adores his father and tries to be like him. Both he and Jane misbehave in order to get the attention of their parents. Male child voice, unbroken.

Supporting Roles

Mrs Brill – (50s) is the housekeeper and cook for the Banks family. Overworked and harassed, she's always complaining that the house is understaffed. Her intimidating exterior is a cover for the warmth underneath. Mrs Brill doesn't have a high opinion of nannies in general and Mary Poppins in particular. She does not have to be a strong singer. Alto.

Robertson Ay – (20-30) is the houseboy to the Banks family. Lazy, sleepy, and grumbling, he never gets things right and believes himself to be useless. He doesn't do a lot of singing, but his "Spoonful" solo can be a fun surprise. Tenor.

Bank Chairman – (50s), the head of the bank where Mr. Banks is employed, is an Edwardian stuffed-shirt. He can speak/sing his lyrics if necessary. Baritone.

Bird Woman – Featured singer. Is covered in a patch-work of old shawls, and her pockets are stuffed with bags of crumbs for the birds. She tries to sell her crumbs to passers by, who ignore her as if she doesn't exist. Sings "Feed the Birds." There can be a gruff, folksy quality to her voice that reflects the hardness of her life. Alto.

Mrs Corry – (40s) owns a magical gingerbread shop. She is a mysterious woman of great age who speaks with a Caribbean accent (or any accent that would make her seem exotic). Soprano.

Miss Andrew – (40s-50s) is George's overbearing and scary nanny. With her bottle of nasty-tasting brimstone and treacle to keep naughty children in line, she is a bully who only knows one way of doing things – her way. A soprano with an alto belt, there can be some heaviness to her voice along with the range.

Park Keeper, John Northbrook – Featured singers.

Neleus – Featured dancer.

Mrs Lark, Policeman, Admiral Boom, Miss Smythe, Von Hussler – Spoken role.

Chorus

The chorus makes up the characters of London both adults and kids. We are looking for strong performers who can create individual, well-drawn characters. Other minor roles will be allocated at the discretion of the auditioning panel or at a later date by the Director.

Specialist Dancers

We are looking for male and female dancers to make up this chorus of performers who back-up our ensemble. Strong dancing is required. They will all double into the chorus ensemble.

Involvement Fee

If you are selected to be a part of *Mary Poppins* an involvement per student will apply. Payment details will be provided once the cast, crew and orchestra are finalised.

This fee will cover photocopying of printed musical resources, some meals, musical t-shirt, a copy of photos taken throughout the production, some costume items, specialist tuition.

Principals, Supporting Roles, Chorus, Dancers: \$100

Orchestra: \$80

Crew: \$50

Costumes

Depending on your role within the musical, you may need to organise your full costume, or part thereof at your own expense.

Some items may be allocated to you through the existing Drama costume cupboard and others can be sourced for minimal cost at your local thrift shop. Additional costume items may be purchased/made for you. You may be given a piece of material to work into your costume. A breakdown of the costumes you require will be published once your role is confirmed.

MARY POPPINS ACTING AUDITION

**Choose from one of these excerpts for your acting audition.
A teacher will read the other part.**

Mary Poppins

MARY: Good morning. I've come in answer to the advertisement. George and Winifred Banks live here, do they not? And you are looking for a nanny? Very well then. Now, let's see. (Reading from letter) "Play games, all sorts." Which I most certainly can. "Take us on outings, give us treats. Rosy cheeks and fairly pretty." There's no objection on that score, I hope? I'm glad to hear it. (Closes letter). I make it a rule never to give references. A very old fashioned idea to my mind.

WINIFRED: But I thought it was usual.

MARY: The best people never require them now.

WINIFRED: I see. You will have every third Thursday evening off from five until nine.

MARY: The best people give every second Wednesday off from six 'till late, ma'am, and that is what I shall take. I'll see the children now, thank you.

Bert

BERT: Wait! Stop! Don't move a muscle. I'd know that silhouette anywhere. Mary Poppins! Well, I must say you do look swell. And you two, I've seen you about; chasing a kite last time, I believe. Where did you say she was taking you?

MICHAEL: (berates BERT) Mary Poppins said it's called a walk in the park. You can't come with us. You're too dirty. And we don't want to go to the stinky park anyway.

BERT: (gives it right back to MICHAEL) Oh, yes you do. 'Cause when you walk with Mary Poppins, you go to places you never dreamed of. And if she says it's a game, she's got something in mind. You can be certain of that. All that it takes is a spark, then something plain as a park becomes a wonderland!

George

Well I never. So that's where I put them. Stars. Gingerbread stars I hid once from my nanny. I always knew I'd put them somewhere no one would find them. Trouble was I couldn't find them either. They're very bright. Even after all this time. I used to dream that when I grew up I'd learn everything there was to know about the stars. Funny. I haven't thought about all that in years. I'm not usually sentimental. It's good to look back sometimes. You know what I think? It's Mary Poppins! From the moment she stepped into the house, things began to happen to me! It's that Poppins woman! She's responsible for all this!

Winifred

WINIFRED: I am not sure about the tea party. It seems so odd to send out invitations to people I hardly know. They're not my friends... Actually, I heard today from Clemmie Bunting. She's rehearsing a new play at the moment and I thought I might ask her-

GEORGE: How many times must I tell you? I wish you to sever all connection with that part of your life.

WINIFRED: George, I was an actress. Lots of people might find that interesting ... though you always talk as if I should be ashamed of it.

GEORGE: Winifred. Dearest. I'm only thinking of you. I want people to admire you, to respect you.

WINIFRED: I know, George. But sometimes it's hard-

GEORGE: It is not hard. It's your job, to be Mrs Banks.

Jane

JANE: It's not fair! You're going out, and we get left on our own! I don't even have any good toys to play with. They're boring! (pause) Why does Daddy get so cross? Fathers are supposed to look after their children, not yell at them all the time. Everything is upside down. I don't want to live in an upside-down family. I wish I could run away, and I wish you'd just leave us alone!

MARY POPPINS: Be careful of the things you wish for. Go inside and make yourself presentable.

JANE: Well, I won't go to sleep, and you can't make me.

MARY POPPINS: In that, as in so many things ...

JANE: Your information ...

MARY POPPINS: Is faulty.

Michael

MICHAEL: Why does Daddy get so cross?

JANE: I wish I could run away.

MICHAEL: Why don't you? Somebody might adopt you. I wouldn't miss you. I could have your toys.

MARY POPPINS: Be careful of the things you wish for. Go inside and make yourself presentable.

MICHAEL: Well, I won't go to sleep, and you can't make me.

MARY POPPINS: In that, as in so many things ...

MICHAEL: Your information ...

MARY POPPINS: Is faulty.

Mrs Brill

WINIFRED: And you're quite sure you know how to ice the cake?

MRS BRILL: Quite sure. And in case you're worried, I have not been exchanged by the fairies for a total nincompoop! All right Robertson Ay, I will give you one task and one task only. And, so help me, if you get this wrong I'll swing for you and sing as they pull the lever! Put the icing tools next to the cake, and I'll need a bowl of hot water to warm them. I will make the icing as soon as I'm back. For you, yes. For me, no. Once the cake's done, I've the sandwiches next because Madam wants them fresh. So, I can't start them until there's no time to finish them. I swear, a slave in ancient Rome was on a pleasure cruise compared to my life in this house!

Miss Andrews

MISS ANDREW: How was my journey? It was thoroughly unpleasant. I never enjoy travel. You must be poor George's wife. Your flowerbeds are disgracefully untidy! Take my advice: plant evergreens. Or better still, have nothing there at all, just a plain cement courtyard.

WINIFRED: But dear Miss Andrew, I am so fond of flowers.

MISS ANDREW: Then you are a very silly woman. It's not much of a house, is it? It doesn't take a lot to keep you happy. Look at the dust! There! And there! Filth!