

SHOW REQUIREMENTS

Costumes

Most are hired by the Society and cast members must be prepared to make any adjustments if directed by the Director or Wardrobe Mistress. Members are sometimes required to provide some costumes themselves.

It is important to note that in addition to the show fee, cast members may also be asked to provide at their cost:

Men: *stage footwear, any other necessary accessories. Men may also be asked to cut their hair or grow beards if appropriate for a show and may have to wear a wig (which can be hired) or facial hair if deemed necessary. Theatrical make-up must be worn as appropriate.*

Ladies: *wigs (which can be hired), stage footwear, costume jewellery, and any other accessories as requested by the Wardrobe Mistress. Theatrical make-up.*

Props: *If you are set to work with a prop you will be expected to provide something to use during rehearsals. Props for the run will be provided in consultation with the Props Team. Please note that under our hire agreement cast must not take it upon themselves to take props from the Dock area.*

PLEASE NOTE- Rule 14 of our Society
Members will be requested to attend an audition for each production and shall attend rehearsals regularly and punctually, otherwise they will be liable to forfeit their right to take part in any performance for which they have been selected.

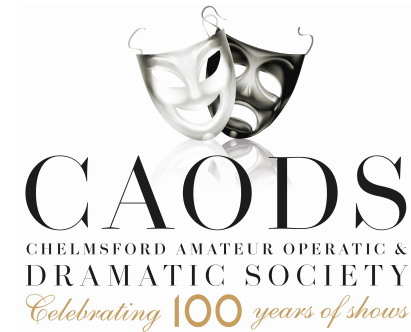
Our shows may contain strobe or flashing lights, special effect smoke or pyrotechnics, loud noises, tall staging with high steps and photography.

CAODS branded T shirts & Hoodies are available to buy and are used for all Publicity Days.

Our AGM is held in December and all members are encouraged to attend as this is an important meeting for our charitable status.

Revised 1st June 2023

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY



Welcome to CAODS

This leaflet will give you most of the information of what is involved in belonging to one of the most successful amateur groups in the area. New members aged 16+ both on stage or backstage are always welcome, but please consider all the information and be aware of the commitment required.

THE SOCIETY

The society is a registered charity and currently performs two shows a year (each of six performances, including a Saturday matinee) at the Civic Theatre in Chelmsford at a cost of around £45,000 per show. Occasionally other fund-raising shows are staged in either the Civic theatre or other venues in the area. There is also a wide range of social activities, e.g. workshops, outings, fun-days, social events etc. and bulletins are produced regularly. Members of the Executive Committee act as the Trustees to the charity and current members details are listed on the website.

FEES

The Society's financial year runs from 1st June to 31st May of the following year. All renewal fees must be paid by 1st July.

Members appearing in one or both shows in any financial year are required to pay the full Acting Membership fee currently set at £45. Membership Fees are reduced by 50% for anyone still undertaking full-time study.

Non-Acting members pay £20 per financial year.

There is also a Show Fee currently set at £50 for each show and this must be paid prior to auditioning. You will receive a full show fee refund if you are unsuccessful in getting into a show, but as per our rules, show fees will only be returned to anyone not continuing with the show within 2 weeks post auditions.

If someone is asked into a show later, then that person will have to pay at least a non-acting membership fee and the relevant show fee.

All members will receive the Society's Bulletin and information on all its activities. Membership forms can be downloaded from the website and once completed should be passed to the Membership Secretary, together with the appropriate fee. The forms can also be completed online, and the fee transferred to the bank account of the Society.

AUDITIONS

Auditions are held for all prospective cast members for every show and take place in private in front of a panel which will include the Director, Musical Director, and sometimes the Production Assistant and or the Dance Captain A selected person from the CAODS Committee will chair the auditions with no vote.

Scores and libretti for each show will be made available to the cast to hire at a set price each show. There will be no refund when they are given back.

Anyone wishing to audition for a show must be either an Acting or Non-Acting member of the Society. Auditionees for Principal roles will be expected to learn any music and/or dialogue required for the audition(s). Auditionees for chorus will be expected to learn the set audition music and sometimes a dance routine. Those wishing to

audition as Dancers will be expected to learn a set dance routine either on the day of the audition or before.

Those accepted into the show cast must then upgrade to full Acting membership.

REHEARSALS

Most rehearsals take place at the Young Generation Headquarters, Meteor Way, Chelmsford as follows:

Pre-audition music calls and music calls are on Wednesday and Friday evenings.

Setting calls are on Wednesdays 7.30 pm – 10.30 pm, Fridays 7.30 – 10.30pm and some Saturdays half or whole days.

There is also a Band call on the Sunday of the start of the week of the show starting at 10 am, before the Technical Run which starts late afternoon and generally finishes around 11.30 pm.

*The cast are expected to attend all setting and revision calls **AS PER THE SHOW REHEARSAL SCHEDULE** unless there is a very good reason for their absence. e.g. holiday, illness, work etc. Any absences must be advised to the Production Assistant. If you cannot attend a setting call you must arrange for someone to stand in and take notes for you otherwise you may not be included in the relevant scene(s). This is **IMPORTANT**.*

The cast are expected to take their own flooring notes at the setting calls and use them for revision calls and home revising. Rehearsal Dress

Ladies: rehearsal clothes are worn appropriate to the show being performed. Shoes appropriate to the show and a suitable rehearsal skirt. No jewellery and hair tied back.

Men: relaxed/casual wear. Shoes appropriate to the show.

Any special rehearsal clothes will be advised by the Director.