



Audition Information
Pirates of Penzance
St. Luke's Wesley Players
Performances – February 25 - 27, 2022

The Wesley Players is excited to announce auditions for Gilbert & Sullivan's classic comedic opera, *The Pirates of Penzance*. Set sail with this classic comedy that boasts one of the most famous patter songs in musical theatre history. A fresh take on one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular comic operas, this updated version of *The Pirates of Penzance* took New York by storm when it premiered in Central Park in 1980, leading to a subsequent smash-hit Broadway run.

Gilbert and Sullivan's hilarious, hopeful farce follows young Frederic, an orphan who has mistakenly been apprenticed to an ineffectual but raucous band of pirates. He disavows the pirates' way of life and falls for the beautiful Mabel. Frederic's melodious tones win over the heart of Major-General Stanley's songbird daughter, Mabel, but when the Pirate King discovers that General Stanley has lied about being an orphan to keep the pirates from stealing all of his belongings and carrying off his bevy of beautiful daughters, an "ingenious paradox" may prevent the budding romance and lead to the death of "The very model of a modern Major-General."

Auditions are at 9 am on Saturday, December 4 and are open to everyone. Rehearsals and performances will be held at St. Luke's UMC in Highlands Ranch. Regular rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6 - 9 pm, Saturdays from 9 am - noon and Sundays from 1 pm - 4 pm. Not every actor will be called for every rehearsal. A rehearsal schedule will be available at auditions.

Key Dates

Dates	What's Happening
Saturday, December 4, 2022	9 am. Auditions. If you are unable to attend, please contact Melanie Kirkpatrick for information on how to submit a video audition.
Saturday, December 18, 2022	9 am - 12pm. Sing through
Wednesday, January 5, 2022	6 - 9 pm. Regular rehearsals begin.
January 5 - Saturday, February 19, our regular Wednesday evening, Saturday morning, Sunday afternoon rehearsals begin.	6 - 9 pm Wednesdays, 9 - Noon Saturdays, 1 - 4 Sundays
Sunday, February 20, 2022	12 - 6 pm. Tech Week Begins
Monday - Thursday, February 21 - 24, 2022	5 pm - 10 pm. Tech/Dress
Friday - Sunday, February 25 - 27, 2022	Call times TBD. Performances at 7 pm on Friday and Saturday; 2 pm on Sunday, followed by Strike.

Characters

- **Pirate King** (Bass-Baritone) – Charismatic leader with great showmanship. A big ham. Strong character actor and big singing voice.
- **Ruth** (Alto) – big singing voice, comedic actress, matronly but vibrant and bigger than life.
- **Samuel, the Pirate King's Lieutenant** (Baritone) – Confident and fearless.
- **Frederic** (Tenor) – Naïve, idealistic, sincere, handsome young man – the ingénue.
- **Pirate Chorus** (Baritone) – rowdy! Loud! Fun! Rollicking band of hooligans with a soft side. (May be cast with women/girls)
- **Major-General Stanley** (Baritone) – Wealthy widower raising his daughters. Delivers the rapid fire patter song. Must have great timing and diction.
- **Police Sergeant** (Bass) – leader of the police sent out to fight the pirates.
- **Police Chorus** (Baritone/Bass) – Think “KeyStone Cops.” Bumbling, funny, expressive. May be cast with girls/women.
- **Mabel** (Soprano) – Beautiful and independent – ingénue; Frederic's love interest. Requires excellent, strong soprano.
- **Kate** (Mezzo Soprano) – leader of General Stanley's daughters. Great singer. Strong personality.
- **Edith** (Mezzo Soprano) – leader of the daughters. Soloist. Big personality.
- **Daughters** (Alto/Soprano) – All the daughters are fun, with distinct personalities. Will dance and sing with the pirates and perform the rapid fire songs in the first act.

Song List

1. "Pour, oh pour, the pirate sherry" (Samuel and Chorus of Pirates)
2. "When Fred'ric was a little lad" (Ruth)
3. "Oh, better far to live and die" (Pirate King and Chorus of Pirates)
4. "Oh! false one, you have deceiv'd me" (Frederic and Ruth)
5. "Climbing over rocky mountain" (Daughters)
6. "Stop, ladies, pray" (Edith, Kate, Frederic, and Daughters)
7. "Oh, is there not one maiden breast?" (Frederic and Daughters)
8. "Poor wand'ring one" (Mabel and Daughters)
9. "What ought we to do?" (Edith, Kate, and Daughters)
10. "How beautifully blue the sky" (Mabel, Frederic, and Daughters)
11. "Stay, we must not lose our senses" ... "Here's a first-rate opportunity to get married with impunity" (Frederic and Daughters and Pirates)
12. "Hold, monsters" (Mabel, Major-General, Samuel, and Ensemble)
13. "I am the very model of a modern Major-General" (Major-General and Ensemble)
14. Finale Act I (Mabel, Kate, Edith, Ruth, Frederic, Samuel, King, Major-General, and Ensemble) (Including "Oh, men of dark and dismal fate," "I'm telling a terrible story," "Hail, Poetry," "Oh, happy day, with joyous glee," "Pray observe the magnanimity" (reprise of "Here's a first-rate opportunity"))

Act II

15. "Oh, dry the glist'ning tear" (Mabel and Daughters)
16. "Then, Frederic, let your escort lion-hearted" (Frederic and Major-General)
17. "When the foeman bares his steel" (Mabel, Edith, Sergeant, and Chorus of Policemen and Daughters)
18. "Now for the pirates' lair!" (Frederic, Ruth, and King)
19. "When you had left our pirate fold" [The "paradox" trio] (Ruth, Frederic, and King)
20. "Away, away! My heart's on fire!" (Ruth, Frederic, and King)
21. "All is prepar'd; your gallant crew await you" (Mabel and Frederic)
22. "Stay, Fred'ric, stay" ... "Ah, leave me not to pine" ... "Oh, here is love, and here is truth" (Mabel and Frederic)
23. "No, I'll be brave" ... "Though in body and in mind" (Reprise of "When the foeman bares his steel") (Mabel, Sergeant, and Chorus of Police)
- 23a. "Sergeant, approach!" (Mabel, Sergeant of Police, and Chorus of Police)
24. "When a felon's not engaged in his employment" (Sergeant and Chorus of Police)
25. "A rollicking band of pirates we" (Sergeant and Chorus of Pirates and Police)
26. "With cat-like tread, upon our prey we steal" (Samuel and Chorus of Pirates and Police)
27. "Hush, hush, not a word!" (Frederic, King, Major-General, and Chorus of Police and Pirates)
28. Finale, Act II (Ensemble)

Production and Artistic Staff

Producer	Melanie Kirkpatrick
Director/Choreographer	Madeline Shaffer
Musical Director	Dr. Jim Ramsey
Set Design	
Costumes	
Tech	Ken Fong, Tim Boles
Audition Accompanist	

Questions and Answers

Q: Who can audition?

Everyone is welcome to audition for the Wesley Players. For this particular production, we welcome anyone age 8 by February 25, 2022 and older. (Please note, children ages 8 – 10 may need to be supervised backstage during performances and tech/dress rehearsals. Parents may be asked, and must be available, to be present during these times).

Q: What is the audition process?

Auditions will be held at St. Luke's United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 4 at 9 am. We need to have a completed, signed audition form, including conflicts before we hear you sing. (These will be available at auditions)

Please choose a musical theatre song of 16 - 32 bars to sing for your audition. You need to bring in sheet music in the correct key. We will have an audition accompanist there to play for auditions. If you are only interested in being in the ensemble, we will have a short piece that you can sing in a group.

Please bring something comfortable to wear that you can move in, as well.

If you are unable to attend, please contact Melanie Kirkpatrick at Melanie.kirkpatrick@gmail.com to arrange for a video audition.

When is the cast list posted?

We will email the cast list to everyone who auditions and post it to the St. Luke's website at www.stlukeshr.com as soon as we are able following auditions.

When are the rehearsals?

Please see the list of key dates above.

What if I have conflicts?

We understand people are busy and have commitments. However, given the very short rehearsal schedule, if you are absent for a rehearsal, you won't be included in the numbers rehearsed that day. We will have a rehearsal schedule available at auditions and will ask you to list conflicts so we can take those

into account when assigning songs and solos. Please note that you cannot miss any rehearsals beginning Saturday, February 19.

What is required of me as a cast member?

- **Attendance.** Please list any conflicts you have on your audition form. These will be taken into account during casting.
- **Strike and load-in.** Every cast member is required to attend load-in and strike. Load in will be on Sunday, February 13. Strike is immediately following the final performance on Sunday, February 27.
- **Fees.** There is a \$50 participation fee for *Pirates of Penzance!* There is a \$125 max per family. You will receive your script/music once the fee is paid.

Q: Who do I contact with questions?

Contact Melanie Kirkpatrick with questions.

Melanie.kirkpatrick@gmail.com

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