

MAMMA MIA!

MUSIC & LYRICS BY
BENNY ANDERSON
BJÖRN ULVAEUS
AND SOME SONGS WITH STIG ANDERSON

BOOK BY CATHERINE JOHNSON
ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED BY JUDY CRAMER

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The smash hit musical based on the songs of ABBA

How can you resist it?

AUDITION INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Centre Stage Taupo's Mamma Mia! audition pack. Thank you for taking the time to read this information and for considering being a part of this show. Please read all information carefully, particularly regarding rehearsals, show dates and character descriptions.

All roles available in Mamma Mia are limited to age 16 and above. Diversity is encouraged and all ethnic groups are welcome to audition.

PRODUCTION TEAM

This is our production team:

Director:	Sharon Shanks
Musical Director:	Elise Rohde
Choreographer:	Dean McKerras
Vocal Coach:	Kaylene Carson
Production Manager:	Tanya Durrant

PERFORMANCE DATES

19th June – 26th June 2021 (9 performances) at the Great Lake Centre. Centre Stage Taupo reserves the right to add an extra performance.

THE STORY

A mother - a daughter - three possible dads - and a trip down the aisle you'll never forget!

ABBA's hits tell the hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father. This sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago.

The story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship and every night everyone's having the time of their lives! A large cast, non-stop laughs and explosive dance numbers combine to make Mamma Mia! a guaranteed smash hit - and you can be part of it!

AUDITION DATES

Audition bookings will be online and will be open for booking from Monday, 11th January 2021. Go to www.centrestagetapu.co.nz for a link to audition bookings.

Auditions will be held at the **Centre Stage Playhouse, 2 Matai Street, Taupo** as follows:

AUDITIONS 2021	
Friday 5 th February	6pm – 9pm
Saturday 6 th February	9am – 8pm
Group dance/movement:	
Monday 1 st February	2pm – 4pm
<i>(it is compulsory for all auditionees to complete a dance audition, if you are unable to attend this session please indicate this in your audition form)</i>	
Call backs (if needed): Sunday 7 th February from 9.30am	
If you are unable to attend auditions on 5 th /6 th February but are still keen to be part of this show please email us at:- mm2020taupo@gmail.com	

You will be auditioning before a panel consisting of the director, musical director and a committee representative from Centre Stage Taupo.

Please be prepared for the possibility of a call back (on Sunday, 7th February). Timing will be dictated by the total number of those auditioning. Getting a call back does not guarantee a role. Likewise, you may be cast even if you are not called back. Please ensure that you have entered a contact telephone number on your audition application form where we can easily reach you during the audition dates.

CHARACTER DETAILS – *The ages listed are of the role, not the actor*

Principal Characters

Donna Sheridan	The mother of a 20-year-old girl, attractive and free-spirited, a former lead singer in a group called “Donna and the Dynamos” who now owns and runs a hotel on a small Greek island, a strong feminist who also has a zany and vulnerable side. Age 30s – 50s Mezzo-Soprano, Alto
Sophie Sheridan	A very special young woman who is determined to find the romance and happiness she feels eluded her mother. Has a wild, zany spirit even though she pursues a conventional marriage. Age 18 – 25 Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Alto
Tanya	A former singer in the "Dynamos," rich, sophisticated, acerbic, funny and witty. Age 30s to 50s Mezzo-Soprano, Alto
Rosie	Also a former singer in the "Dynamos" who now writes for and runs a feminist press, confident, strong, and funny on the outside but shy underneath, kooky and fun, good comic actress, bit of a clown, actress who sings. Age 30s to 50s Alto
Sam Carmichael	May be Sophie's father, left Donna 20 years ago because he was engaged to another woman, charming and a successful architect. Age 35 - 50s Baritone
Harry Bright	May be Sophie's father, British financier, wealthy, buttoned-up and conservative but trying to reconnect with his freer, youthful self. Age 35 – 50s High Baritone, Tenor
Bill Austin	May be Sophie's father, a travel writer with no possessions or strings, good-natured, always ready for adventure, funny. Age 35 - 50s Baritone
Sky	Sophie's fiancé, athletic, attractive, has given up his life as a successful young businessman in order to makeover Donna's taverna and marry Sophie. Age 20s Tenor, Baritone

Featured Roles

Lisa	Sophie's friend who arrives to be a bridesmaid, very energetic and kooky. Should sing and dance well. Age 18 - 25 Mezzo
Ali	Sophie's friend, impulsive and fun, should contrast to Lisa and Sophie. Should sing and dance well. Age 18 – 25 Mezzo
Pepper	Sky's friend, helps run the hotel, charming, loves women, always flirting, must be a good mover/dancer, acrobatic skills a plus. Age 20s Baritone, Tenor

Eddie	Another friend of Sky and hotel worker, laid-back, easy going, also a mover/dancer role. Age 20s Baritone, Tenor
Father Alexandrios	The minister of the Island. Age 30 – 60 Vocal Range - any

Ensemble and Backing Vocalists

Ensemble We are looking for a versatile mixed age ensemble, men and women, some who look like they are in their 20s, with a contemporary, hip look who sing and move well and Greek islanders who work at the Taverna, friends and wedding guests. Ages 16-65

The ensemble needs to move and groove, sing and have 5 star energy. Some men have dance specialties for which any acrobatics are a plus and encouraged.

Total ensemble size 20-24 people.

Backing Vocalists We are looking for a vocally strong group of up to 10 people to be backing vocalists and support the on stage cast for the show every night. We will need a mix of Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Baritone.

PREPARATION FOR AUDITION

MAKE AUDITION APPOINTMENT ONLINE www.centrestagetaupo.co.nz

COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR AUDITION FORM www.centrestagetaupo.co.nz

Audition bookings and audition application form will be available on Monday, 11th January

- **Everyone auditioning** must attend the group dance/movement audition on Monday, 1st February between 2pm – 4pm (wear appropriate shoes and comfortable clothing). If you are unable to attend this day, please indicate this in your audition form
- **Bring a photograph of yourself – headshot printed on paper is suitable**
- Please arrive early for your audition allowing time to sign-in and ensure you are vocally and physically warmed up
- Bring fluids
- Prepare your audition to the best of your ability – this shows you are serious about being involved and that you have given considerable thought to your audition. Nothing will frustrate the creative team more than those people who come unprepared
- Have some understanding of the character(s) you are auditioning for
- Be professional and bring lots of energy to your performance
- Dress appropriately
- And enjoy yourself!

Song choice

- Audition song (approximately two minutes or less) should show off your vocal range and be a similar pop style to ABBA, or from that era.
- Please come prepared with a backing track (without vocals on it) on a USB or on your phone (but not part of a playlist please).

- If you are auditioning for a principal character, you may be asked to do a reading for your character.

Dancers

- We are looking for between 6-8 strong female dancers and 2-8 men with dance ability who have possible gymnastics/Kapa Haka experience that can lift female dancers and/or perform acrobatic stunts. Aged 16 – 30 years with the rest of the cast being “movers”.
- Dancers are required in all Full Company numbers as well as three specialised dance numbers.
- Dancers should be prepared to give partnered lifts and tricks or acrobatic stunts a go (no prior experience is needed).
- *Please note that all dancers will also need to have a vocal audition – this can be an individual audition (please book a slot) or as part of a group vocal audition (this will be held on Saturday, 6th February at 5.30pm and no booking is required). Please indicate in your audition form whether you’ll be doing an individual or group vocal audition.*

Dance/movement Call on Monday 1st February 2pm – 4pm – Everyone who is auditioning is required to attend this session

- For the dance call, please wear appropriate fitted clothes and shoes to be able to dance in.

Band

- Orchestration for Mamma Mia includes keyboard x 3, drums, bass electric guitar, acoustic guitar, electric guitar, percussion.
- Interested band members please contact 027 742 1237 or email: mm2020taupo@gmail.com

REHEARSAL DATES

Rehearsals begin on Saturday, 20th February 2021.

Later in the schedule rehearsals will be up to four times per week, though generally not all cast would be required for all four. Rehearsals will take place on Wednesday and Thursday nights (7pm – 9.30pm) and Sundays with occasional Saturdays.

All rehearsals will be scheduled. Rehearsals will take place at The Playhouse, 2 Matai Street, Taupo.

A rehearsal schedule will be presented at the first cast meeting prior to rehearsals.

The show runs from 19th – 26th June 2021 – nine shows. You must be available for all evenings and weekends during this time, including pack in on the weekend of 12th/13th June and pack out on 27th June 2021.

PRODUCTION EXPECTATIONS

Your participation in this production requires your undivided commitment in order to ensure a production of the highest possible quality. If cast, you cannot commit to any other production during the rehearsal period and production season. You should not audition if you are unable to commit to the rehearsal and production schedule. If you have any other commitments (personal or work) that may impact on your ability to attend 4 rehearsals, you must provide full details in your

audition application form. Not all performers will be required at all rehearsals, and rehearsals will be scheduled as carefully as possible to make the best use of your time.

CASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

Performers will be notified by email or phone of the outcome of their audition as soon as possible following casting. Feedback will not be given. A full cast announcement will be subsequently made via the Centre Stage media channels.

All cast and crew are considered to be goodwill ambassadors for Centre Stage Taupo and for the show and we expect all cast and crew to meet that responsibility both in person and online.

OTHER INFORMATION

All cast involved in this production will need to become a financial member of Centre Stage Taupo, and are required to agree and adhere to a code of conduct that covers health and safety, personal wellbeing and responsibilities to fellow cast and crew members.

Current membership rates are:-

Student	\$30	Adult	\$45
Senior	\$30	Family	\$65
Single Parent Family	\$55		

You must complete and submit the audition application form (obtained from our website). This form must be submitted by 9.00am Friday 5th February 2021 at the latest.

Please direct any queries that you may have to mm2020taupo@gmail.com or phone our Director, Sharon Shanks on 027 742 1237

Centre Stage Taupo
January 2021