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## AUDITION INFORMATION

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### The Goshen Players announces auditions for

### “My Favorite Year” OPEN CALL

Monday, February 13, starting at 6:30 pm  
Tuesday, February 14, starting at 6:30 pm

**DIRECTOR:** Janice Luise-Lutkus  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** E. Karl Gallmeyer  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Foster Reese  
**Production Producer:** Barbara O’Connell  
**President of Goshen Players:** Lydia Babbitt  
**Exec Producer:** Lea Dmytryck



**CALLBACK DATE AND TIME:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 6:30pm

Not all roles require call-backs, so not receiving a call-backs is not an indication of whether you have been cast or not.

**REHEARSAL DATES:** Begin SECOND WEEK in MARCH 2012 and run approximately 2-4 evenings a week.

**PERFORMANCE DATES:** May 4, 5, 6,11,12,13,18, and 19, 2012

#### **AUDITION INFO:**

##### **Where:**

Goshen Players  
Old Town Hall  
2 North Street  
Goshen, CT 06756

##### **What to prepare:**

All actors should bring a current headshot (or recent photo) and acting resume or list of theatre/performing experience. You will also fill out an audition form. Actors will be seen in order of arrival.

Please prepare a short, contemporary comedic monologue (1-2 min.).

##### **Vocal Audition:**

For your vocal audition, sing a song a traditional Broadway song. This show is written in a traditional style; pop/rock/r&b songs are discouraged. A capella and self-accompanying should also be avoided. Please do not sing from the show (I know – it sounds like a lot of rules – but it will be fun – promise!)

Choose a selection that demonstrates your tone and vocal strength, and that you know well. Bring sheet music for the accompanist in your key; any cuts should be clearly marked (sheet music should open flat, and stand up). You may also be asked to vocalize to assess your range and note retention.

Dress appropriately for auditions with proper closed-toe shoes, attire of either slacks or dresses. Bring with you dance clothes, tap shoes, jazz shoes or lace-up hard sole shoes.

## ROLES AVAILABLE

The following roles are available. All interested performers age **16 years and older** are welcome and invited to audition. Experience is helpful, but not required. Newcomers are always welcome. Ages are approximate.

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### A Brief Synopsis of the Show...

Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens' nostalgic musical comedy *My Favorite Year*, is based on the beloved 1982 hit film starring Peter O'Toole. The original story line was fondly based on an encounter that Mel Brooks had with Errol Flynn while working together on Sid Caesar's *Your Show of Shows*.

Benjy Stone the freshman writer on the 1954 hit TV show, "The King Kaiser Comedy Cavalcade." When his hero, movie star Alan Swann, is booked as the live show's guest, it is up to Benjy not only to assure that the star is on stage but that he is sober as well! Benjy acts as chaperone, family mediator, bouncer, alcohol treatment counselor, escort, editor and psychiatrist to the wayward actor. Will Swann turn out to be just another failed father figure to Benjy? Or will he turn out to be a real hero in the end.

It is a fast paced production that establishes the excitement experienced by the pioneers of live TV – performing before an audience of 20 million people.

### Casting Note...

We hope to cast a strong ensemble in addition to the principal roles that will take on many unscripted roles to create a rich environment for the principal characters of the play to live. Outside of the principal roles, we hope to cast strong dancing couples, as well as several strong singers and movers in the ensemble.

The age ranges and descriptions are general and it is simply what you can "look like". If you can convince us you can do it – then go for it.

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### Principal Character Descriptions...

#### **BENJY STONE**

Male, early to mid 20's.

The show is narrated by the young Freshman writer who will serve as a chaperone of sorts for the show's replacement guest star for the week – matinee idol Alan Swann. Eager, alert. Lead role, charismatic, lovable, must move well and must be able to carry the show. Vocal range high baritone/tenor to G.

#### **ALAN SWANN**

Male, 40ish.

A handsome, albeit well-traveled Hollywood leading man. Lead role, physical comedy (must do head or hand stand, not afraid of heights, fencing, may fall down because he is often drunk). A "has been" movie star, Errol Flynn -type. Loves women, booze, and the night life. You know he comes from "another place" – larger than life. Must walk fine line between comic and tragic. Charismatic but with a sad, dark side. (Should be willing to put in extra time for fencing.) Vocal range baritone. "I'm not an actor...I'm a movie star!" Must be a confident singing actor and talent

### **KING KAISER**

A big bear of a man in his 30's-40's.

Physical, loud. He used to be a Catskill Comic, now he's the host of America's number one TV show (very "Sid Caeser", "Milton Berle"-like). Perpetually exasperated. Came from nothing now a larger than life figure on a weekly live hour and a half comedy show. He has a lot of pressure due the stress of the show. Has trouble communicating with people when not in a sketch. Flirts with all the ladies. Vocal range baritone.

### **SY BENSON**

Male, 40's+.

Tough, ruthless. Comic role. Head writer, bully to all but King Kaiser. A chicken and pushover at heart. Vocal range baritone.

### **ALICE MILLER**

Female, 35+.

Dry, quick witted, fast talking, tough-gal gag writer, physical role. Writer on Comedy Cavalcade. Very rare to have a woman writer at this time. (in the manner of Rose Marie's Sally Rogers on the old "Dick Van Dyke Show".) show. She has no problem going toe-to-toe with King ...or anyone else. (Based on Lucille Kallen TV writer on Sid Caser shows.) Vocal range low alto to D/belt.

### **HERB LEE\***

Male, 35+.

Rumpled, silent but very expressive. Comic, physical role. Writer on Comedy Cavalcade. Communicates through Alice. Has little dialog, but must be expressive and possess good comic timing. A great physical actor role.

### **KC DOWNING**

Female, early to mid 20's.

A bright, attractive career girl. Assistant to the producer. The only "straight man" in a world of funny people. Pretty enough to be the "Breck Girl", Benjy's love interest. Must move well. Vocal range high alto light belt.

### **LEO SILVER\***

Male, 50's+.

Gray-haired, well dressed, antacid chewing Producer of the Comedy Cavalcade. Comic role. The only one who comes close to controlling King and usually at his side. Vocal range baritone.

### **BELLE MAY STEINBERG CARROCA**

Female, 40's+.

Benjy's mother. A large presence of a woman, generous of nature and proportion (think tall, big hair, big bust). A substantial beacon of Brooklyn society. Loud and a bit overbearing, always looks her best, if not a bit too much. Lainie Kazan-type. Comic role but with a touching quality. Vocal range high alto belt.

### **"ROOKIE" CARROCA\***

Male, 40's+.

Belle's husband, Benjy's step-father. Physically smaller than Belle. Must be able to pass as Filipino. Ex-wrestler. Comic role. Vocal range baritone.

**TESS\***

Female must look about 16.

Swann's estranged daughter. A very pretty, very Grace Kelly sort of sixteen-year-old. Quite a young lady. (doubles in some ensemble scenes).

**UNCLE MORTY\***

Male, 45'+.

Benjy's uncle (Belle's brother). Loud, comic role (doubles in some ensemble scenes). The sort of uncle you run into when family gatherings get too dull. Vocal range baritone.

**AUNT SADIE\***

Female, 40's+.

Morty's wife. You should have no problem picking them out as a couple. Comic role (doubles in some ensemble scenes). Vocal range alto.

**ENSEMBLE ROLES -**

Chorus Girls, Male Dancers, Sketch Actors, Stage Hands, Floor Manager, Grips, Cameramen, Wardrobe People, Secretaries, Assorted Denizens of Manhattan, Brooklyn Neighbors and more.

**STAGE/FLOOR MANAGER** Male, Organized, yet frustrated type. Tries to be in control of entire cast and crew, but is difficult. Doubles as ensemble/dancer/singer.

**MAXFORD HOUSE GIRLS (3)** Females, 20's+. Must sing well with close harmonies (think Andrew Sisters). Must dance well, tap dancing a plus (double in some ensemble scenes).

**ENSEMBLE (8-10)** Singers and dancers of various genders, ages, and types. Double as various roles throughout the show, and appear in 8 musical numbers. (i.e. MUSKETEER DANCERS, SCUNGILLI, ROQUEFORT, PRINCESS, COUNTESS)

*\* Actors in these roles will most likely perform in the group ensemble numbers as well.*