

# Audition Information

## *Elf, The Musical*

Book by **Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin**

Music by **Matthew Skylar**

Lyrics by **Chad Beguelin**

**Directed by: Jeanne Gilbert & Judy Harper**

**Music Direction: Joan Kinnet**

**Auditions: October 4 & 5, 2021**

**Children Auditions: 6:00 - 8:00**

**Adult Auditions: 8:00 - 10:00 PM**

**Performances:**

**December 3 - 5 and 10 - 12, 2021**

Pit & Balcony Theatre

805 N. Hamilton Street

Saginaw, MI 48602

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for the Pit & Balcony production of *Elf, the Musical*. Thanks to the comedic talents of Will Ferrell, this story has garnered fans both young and old. It was a success on the Broadway stage as well. Now, we are happy to be bringing it to the Tri-City area. The large cast allows auditioners the opportunity to secure one of numerous roles. Auditions are open to both adults and children (age 12+). Children will be auditioning early in the evening and the adults a bit later; however, if this creates a conflict, rest assured that all will be given the opportunity to audition. Please be sure to read all the general information in the audition packet and complete the audition form. The audition form can be found at this link <https://forms.gle/LfxnRSf9myjVBXqQ9> and is *required* to be completed prior to your audition.

We are casting actors 12+ of all races, ethnicities, genders, and abilities.

Special Note: As we continue to follow the status of COVID-19, we must be sure to protect our health and safety. At this time if you are vaccinated, you are not required to wear a mask for rehearsals or performances. However, those who have not been vaccinated are required to wear a mask. Your vaccination status will not hinder your opportunity to audition and/or be cast in this production. We will continue to follow the recommendations/mandates of the State of Michigan as we move forward in the production process.

### **What's in this packet?**

1. Story Summary
2. Character Descriptions
3. Audition Requirements
4. Planning Calendar

## SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY

In this heart-warming musical, Santa narrates the story of Buddy, an apparently oversized elf who has been raised in the North Pole. During the lead up to Christmas, Buddy overhears the other elves discussing how he is really a human but hasn't realized. He is devastated and Santa must reveal to his wannabe elf that baby Buddy mistakenly crawled into Santa's bag of gifts on Christmas Eve many years ago and was transported to the North Pole on Santa's return home. With Santa's blessing, Buddy decides to travel to New York City to find his real father (who is on the naughty list). Shocked that his own father could be on the naughty list, he is further astounded that his half-brother doesn't believe in Santa. How can this be? Buddy decides to change the outlook and behavior of his new family and bring the true meaning of Christmas back into New York City. Along the way, he discovers friendship, romance, and his true identity. *Elf* is a modern day holiday classic that aims to spread Christmas cheer for all to hear.

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

### **Buddy**

Born a human but raised at the North Pole as a Christmas Elf, Buddy is eager to find his place in the world. He is a child at heart and that child-like curiosity makes him both endearing and gets him into trouble.

Gender: male

Age: 25 to 40

Vocal range top: C5 (**Tenor**)

Vocal range bottom: Ab2

### **Jovie**

Buddy's girlfriend. She works at Macy's and has a bit of a cynical outlook on life and love because of the men she's dated. She is caught off guard by Buddy's genuinely big heart.

Gender: female

Age: 25 to 40

Vocal range top: D5 (**Alto/Mezzo Soprano**)

Vocal range bottom: G3

**Walter Hobbs**

Buddy's workaholic father. He is a Children's book writer, but lacks any of the childlike spirit that Buddy has. He is selfish, tense, and generally angry with life.

Gender: male

Age: 35 to 55

Vocal range top: G4 (*Baritone*)

Vocal range bottom: A2

**Emily Hobbs**

Walter's wife. Though she is sweet and willing to take him in, she thinks Buddy is crazy at first. Wishes her husband would spend more time with the family.

Gender: female

Age: 35 to 50

Vocal range top: Eb5 (*MezzoSoprano*)

Vocal range bottom: F3

**Michael Hobbs**

Buddy's step brother who is excited to have a new friend and brother. Unlike his mother, he doesn't take much convincing to have Christmas spirit, but like his mother, he wishes his father would spend more time with the family.

Gender: male

Age: 12 to 16

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: F3

**Deb/Ensemble**

Walter's secretary. Takes an instant liking to Buddy simply for the novelty of it. Though she aims to please and is a bit of a suck-up, she feels under appreciated.

Gender: female

Age: 25 to 55

Vocal range top: Eb5 (*Alto/MezzoSoprano*)

Vocal range bottom: D4

**Manager/Ensemble**

A heavy-set manager at Macy's. He is a good, friendly guy just trying to do his job and get by.

Gender: male

Age: 25 to 40

Vocal range top: F#4 (*Baritone/Tenor*)

Vocal range bottom: B2

**Greenway/Ensemble**

Walter's boss. He is what Walter will become if he continues down the path he is on. A tyrannical, workaholic who cares nothing about the people around him or who work for him.

Gender: male

Age: 45 to 65

**Sam/Ensemble**

One of Walter's office staff who points out a big problem about a book.

**Chadwick /Ensemble**

One of Walter's right-hand men. He is desperate to keep his job, and perhaps the dumber of the two.

Gender: male

Age: 25 to 50

**Matthews/Ensemble**

One of Walter's right-hand men. He is desperate to keep his job and is the schemer of the two.

Gender: male

Age: 25 to 50

**Charlie/Ensemble**

He is the Head Elf in charge of monitoring the elves as they work at the North Pole

**Tiara/Ensemble**

She is a dependable and caring elf who accidentally reveals Buddy's identity as a HUMAN

**Ensemble includes:**

Mrs. Claus, Elves, Mr. Narwhal, Teenager, Employees/Office Workers, Security Guard 1&2, Customer 1&2, Saleswoman, Store Elf 1&2, Fake Santas Boy, Mother, Policeman 1&2, Sara, Jim, Vendor, Waitress, Charlotte, Man, Woman

Here is what you will need to prepare for the audition:

### **Vocal:**

- Prepare 16 bars (about 1 minute) of a song of your choice
- A selection from *Elf* is recommended but not required.
- Accompanist is available, but you will need to provide sheet music.
- Select a song that clearly demonstrates your vocal range.
- Familiar Christmas Carols may be used, but be sure the carol is one that demonstrates your vocal range (*This is a good option for children.*)

### **Dance:**

- The choreographer will teach a dance to auditioners.
- Wear comfortable clothing and shoes that will allow you to move freely: **NO** dancing in sandals, flip flops, socks, or bare feet.
- If you own tap or point shoes, please bring them with you.

### **Readings:**

- Auditioners will do some “cold” readings.
- To prepare for these readings, review character descriptions
- Auditioners will be given time to read over scenes prior to their audition.

# Planning Calendar

The calendar provided is a listing of general rehearsal, dress, and performances. Please review the calendar carefully and note any conflicts you may have with the schedule. Conflicts do not automatically eliminate you from consideration but do allow us to plan rehearsals as conveniently as possible. However, please make note of the days that are mandatory attendance in which no absence will be permitted without special permission from the directors.

## **Week #1: Auditions on October 4 & 5 from 6-10:00 PM**

(All auditioners must attend at least one night. You may come both nights: however, new auditioners will be given preference.)

## **Week #2: Rehearsal October 11, 12, 13, 14 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

## **Week #3: Rehearsal October 18, 19, 20, 21 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

## **Week #4: Rehearsal October 25, 26, 27, 28 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

## **Week #5: Rehearsal November 1, 2, 3, 4 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

## **Week #6: Rehearsal November 8, 9, 10, 11 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

## **Week #7: Rehearsal November 15, 16, 17, 18 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

## **Week #8: Mandatory attendance**

- Saturday, November 20 from 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM
- Sunday, November 21 from 4:00 - 9:00 PM
- Monday, November 22 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM
- Tuesday, November 23 from 7:00 - 10:00 PM (sitzprobe)

### **Week #9: Mandatory attendance**

- Sunday, November 28 from 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Monday, November 29 from 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
- Tuesday, November 29 from 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
- Wednesday, November 30 from 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
- Thursday, December 1 from 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

### **Performances:**

- Friday - Sunday, December 3-5 and December 10 - 12
- Friday & Saturday curtain at 7:30pm (Report at 5:30 PM)
- Sunday curtain at 3:00pm (Report at 1:00 PM)

### **School Performance: December 8**

- Curtain at 9:00 AM (Report 7:30 AM)
- In case of school cancellation or lack of attendance, we will hold a brush up rehearsal this evening. (Report at 5:30)