

What you need to know

It is a great experience being in a show, but it is also a lot of hard work. Here are some things you need to know about being involved in a show with HAOS Productions.



How we work:

Operating since 1901, HAOS Productions is a creative organisation which encourages and inspires its members of all ages to be involved in a wide range of activities encompassing stage production. The company is a charity with its aims firmly focused on developing our members' confidence and skills through participation in theatre, whilst providing a platform to create affordable entertainment and social interaction for all.

To assist us in achieving our goals we focus our attention on 6 key drivers...

Open arms – Everyone is welcome

Everyone matters – Your opinion counts

Value – The best quality at affordable prices

A home for all – A space owned and managed by us, available to all.

Peace of mind – Welfare and safety of all is paramount

To challenge – Pushing the boundaries!

Take a look at the 'About Us' section on the website for more detailed information about these and find a way to meet the team. We also have a 'policies and procedures' section on the website which will explain in more detail how we work in certain areas and how you can raise any concerns.

The society is run by and supported by volunteers, all involved are giving their time to make each production happen.

Commitment:

Rehearsals will start in May. They will take place as follows:

Tuesday: 1930 - 2200

Thursday: 1930 - 2200

Sunday: 14:30 - 17:30

You need to ensure you are available on these days to take part in the show. If you are in the ensemble or a smaller role, it is unlikely you will need to attend **all** of these every week in the early part of the rehearsal period - however you should ensure you remain available at these times *if* you are called. A rehearsal schedule will be provided in advance to confirm your exact commitment in due course, however, please be forewarned that this may need to be revised with limited notice. As we approach the show you will be needed 3 times a week as a minimum, and principals will be expected to commit more time as appropriate.

There will be some Monday and Friday rehearsals with the principals or small groups that will be arranged on availability.

Attendance expectation summary -

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Monday 19:30 - 22:00 | Room available for principal / focus group work as agreed* |
| Tuesday 19:30 - 22:00 | Main rehearsal - need to be free |
| Wednesday | Will not be called |
| Thursday 19:30 - 22:00 | Main rehearsal - need to be free |
| Friday 19:30 - 22:00 | Room available for principal / focus group work as agreed* |
| Saturday | Will not be called |
| Sunday 14:30 - 17:30 | Main rehearsal - need to be free |

**On the final run up to the show we may require additional calls by full company, but this will be communicated with good notice, and avoided wherever possible*

It is important you are at all rehearsals you are called for. Your attendance is not just about what *you* are doing, it is your interaction with others on stage also. As part of the EOI submission, you will be asked if you have any existing commitments during the rehearsal period that clash with any/all of the above rehearsals; If we know this in advance we may be able to shape the schedule so you are not called on those days thus avoiding unnecessary disruption. If there are numerous additions to time off made after the casting of the show you may still be asked to leave the production if it is deemed this will impact on the rehearsal process.

If you are unable to attend any rehearsals that you did not previously notify as part of the EOI submission, for any reason, you must provide notification in advance with an explanation. If we receive no notification that you will be missing a rehearsal a 'strike' will be received. There is a '3 strikes and out' rule where there is no communication regarding non-attendance, which means you may be asked to leave the production. Repeated absence with limited notification (i.e. last minute) may be treated in the same manner. We are aware that additional absences may crop up during the rehearsal period, but expect that these would only be in relation to education or work responsibilities rather than social choices. Requested absence for social occasions may also result in a strike.

As the show approaches, **additional rehearsals may be scheduled if needed**, (this may include days other than the basic commitment above), but you will be provided notice of these, and your attendance is expected. You should be available to attend all calls during September and must attend all theatre calls on the week of the show from the Sunday before the opening night. If you cannot make any of these calls, sadly you will be unable to participate in the show, HAOS takes this health and safety mitigation against risk extremely seriously.

It is expected that you will spend some of your own time out of the rehearsals going over what has been set and learning material.

Being part of a show is fun and very rewarding, but it is also lots of hard work! Please do not underestimate the commitment that will be required of you by taking part in the production.

Membership:

You need to be a full paid-up member of the society to be in the show, annual membership for HAOS is £15 for students and those aged 65 or over, and £25 for everyone else. Details on membership and how to become a member can be found at [Full Membership | HAOS Productions](#)

You do not need to be a member to audition, but if you are successful in gaining a place in the show you will need to register as a member before you are permitted to take part in any rehearsal so we have all of your details, including how we can communicate with you in line with our communication and data protection policy.

Production Costs Contribution:

There are lots of costs incurred when putting on a show, including the cost of keeping the rehearsal space (including heating and lighting), the hire of items to create the theatrical space, costumes, insurance, sound and lights to name a few. There is an amount that we hope you will be happy to contribute towards these costs as a member of the cast, for this production this will be £100 per cast member.

We request that this contribution is confirmed at least 2 weeks before show week and can be paid in instalments or all in one go. We encourage you not to leave this until the last minute, and there are multiple methods of payment accepted. If there are any financial concerns regarding making a contribution, please speak to us, we don't want this to be a barrier to being in the show.

How to get involved?

To be involved in this production you will need to register by completing the online Expression of Interest (EOI) or Notification of Participation (NOP) found via the audition website pages. This needs to be completed by **Thursday 19th February at 11:00 pm**. The forms will automatically close on the deadline and will not be available to be completed after this time.

There are a number of ways you can be involved -

- Named Principal - If you would like to be considered for one of the main principals you will be required to complete an individual audition.
- Ensemble - This is anyone else who would like to take part in the production who is not a named principal. To take part you still need to complete a NOP by the required deadline, this is simply a way to let us know you want to take part. You will then need to attend the "Bikini Bottom Begins" ensemble gathering, where you will meet the rest of the cast and the team will explore where you will be best placed in the production.

Please note that the team is passionate about including everyone in the production, but if registered interest is too high we may be forced to change the above process.

All details of parts available and audition material is presented on the "take part" section of our what's on page on the HAOS website.

There is a cut off of a lower age limit in the cast, requiring cast members to be aged 16 or older by the first rehearsal (19th May 2026).

What happens on the audition day?

Individual auditions will take place on **Saturday 21st February**.

You will be provided with an individual audition time one or two days before the audition day, with a time slot of 5 - 10 minutes depending on which role you are auditioning for. We expect you to be familiar with the audition piece you have chosen to perform, and that the material is presented in the character being auditioned for. You can only audition for your preferred role, however you can still be considered for other roles by indicating this on your expression of interest form.

The “Bikini Bottom Begins” session will be held on the evening of **Wednesday 4th March** and it is required that all those who might wish to be in the Ensemble must attend. If you are not able to attend, still submit your EOI. You will still be able to participate in the show, but as the production team will not have been able to work with you it may impact on where you are placed.

Please refer to our casting principles [Policies & Procedures | HAOS Productions](#) for more information on how auditions are managed including how decisions are made and communicated.

Please do not see this as a daunting experience but try to relax and enjoy it, we all want you to do well and will give you every encouragement we can. If there is something you are unsure of, if you want to sing through your audition piece before you perform it, then that’s absolutely fine. It is your audition, use props, use the space and do whatever you are comfortable with.

The impartial communicator for this production will be there to greet you on the day.

What if I am unable to make the audition day?

If you are unable to make the individual audition day you will not be considered in the initial discussion of casting. However, if you submit your expression of interest form and we were unable to cast any role at that stage, your interest will still be considered.

HAOS Productions wishes everyone auditioning the very best of luck.