The Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company welcomes you to audition for the Rodgers and Hammerstein masterwork, The Sound of Music. The show will be presented at the Carson City Community Center in seven performances, May 7-16.

The production calls for an ensemble with multiple featured roles, listed below. Rehearsals begin the week of February 22. Typically, rehearsals for leads are on Monday evenings, dance troupe on Thursday evenings and ensemble on Friday evenings. We make every effort to minimize your rehearsal time - most numbers and scenes are set in only one or two rehearsals. We do require, though, that you be at your scheduled rehearsals. You can’t artistically design a show with a “virtual” cast - or cast members "taking notes" for people who are missing. We need to see how you look when we stage you! During tech weeks, rehearsals are required each night. If you are not able to attend rehearsals, please do not audition.

You are asked to list all rehearsal conflicts on your audition sheet. Please be complete with this information as it is used to generate the rehearsal schedule. We will not schedule a rehearsal unless all characters involved can be there, as their performance changes the dynamics of the scene.

Please be aware that it is a cast responsibility to help with some aspect of the show, be it set work, promotions, or costumes.

Cast members are required to register to participate in the show. All credit students will receive a scholarship to defray half their tuition. Only children may register non-credit, and their tuition ($64) amounts to the same fee that credit students pay after receiving their scholarship. This course applies to the Associate of Arts degree with an emphasis in Musical Theatre, currently offered at WNC. Other performing arts courses offered spring semester that apply to the degree are Technical Theatre, Fundamentals of Acting, private voice lessons or class voice, and several levels of tap, ballet and jazz.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE AUDITIONS?

Auditioners will be asked to sing a song less than a minute long to demonstrate their vocal style and range. You should bring a taped accompaniment or give the accompanist a musical score. PLEASE KEEP IT SHORT (less than a minute) in consideration of others. Be sure to communicate character in your singing audition as this determines if you will be called back to read for dramatic roles.

After you have sung at the Wednesday audition, you will either receive call-back information to read and sing for specific roles at the Thursday call-backs or information on finding audition results. If you are called back to sing for a specific role, you can check out a score from the library reserve desk to study the assigned vocal sections or practice with the show CD.

There will be dance auditions for those called back for all von Trapp children and Rolf at 6:00 on Friday.

HOW DO YOU CAST THE SHOW?

There are certain ages, styles and characteristics that the directors look for in each role. Some of these are listed on the back of this sheet. Also, the casting of one character strongly affects the casting of the others. Directors look for people whose voices blend appropriately, who relate well as characters, who respond well to direction and who interact well with fellow cast members.

They also take into account how responsible the auditioner has been in previous shows.

WHAT NEXT?

We will announce the casting on our website by Friday afternoon. Log into www.wnc.edu, click on Performing Arts, then select auditions. If you are accepted in the show and decide to participate, YOU NEED TO REGISTER RIGHT AWAY!! The college requires credit student registrations to justify supporting this program and all cast members must enroll to be a part of the show.

• If you are old enough to register for credit and have never taken a class at WNC before, you will first need to admit to the college. Log on the wnc.edu, click on “Apply Now,” then click in the first column “Apply Online.” As you go through these fields, be sure to carefully establish your Nevada residency, as this drastically affects your fees! If you live in Lake Tahoe, be sure to apply for Good Neighbor fees. There is a one-time fee for applying to the college. The scholarship does not cover this fee.

• If you are a high school or middle school student, you need to have an authorization form signed by your counselor and your parents before you can register. We will have these forms at auditions and if you complete the forms with your parents and leave them with us at auditions, we can usually get them signed more quickly by your counselor than you can.

• If you are college age and have taken a WNC class before, registration is quick and easy. So please do it right away! All you need to do is see what your call number is on the casting results, then log on and register. MUS 176 and 276 are variable credit courses. You may choose between 2 and 3 credits. The call number for your registration will be indicated on the website. If you have already registered for 9 credits of MUS 179 (the previous number for this course) and/or MUS 176, you are eligible to register for MUS 276 instead of your assigned section of 176. Although each call number has a time and location listed with it in the college schedule, your actual schedule is not reflected by this: you will rehearse when indicated on the rehearsal schedule.

All cast members will receive a scholarship (paid out of our ticket sales account) to defray half the cost of their tuition. We will process your scholarship as soon as you register.

• If you are registering your child non-credit, please call the performing arts office to enroll: 445-4249.

• Registration is critical to the college. If you do not complete your registration within two weeks, we may need to recast your part.

THEN WHAT?

A complete rehearsal schedule for the first three weeks and list of who is in which number will be emailed to all cast members before the first rehearsal. OUR METHOD OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE CAST IS EMAIL. PLEASE BE SURE TO HAVE A FUNCTIONAL EMAIL ADDRESS LISTED ON YOUR AUDITION SHEET.
CAST

Maria: Requires significant acting ability and extensive vocal range. Maria needs the sweetness and purity of a young woman on the spiritual path, mixed with spunk, childlike impetuousness and the grace of an ingenue.

Captain Von Trapp: Again, requires significant acting ability. Transitions from the emotionless abruptness of a naval captain to a romantic lead. Some singing required. Ideally in his 40’s.

Baroness Elsa Schrader: Von Trapp’s fiancée, before he meets Maria. Attractive, devious. A singing role.

Von Trapps’ children: must part sing and dance
  Liesl: 16-year old featured singer/dancer
  Friedrich: 14
  Louisa: 13
  Kurt: 11
  Brigitta: 9
  Marta: 7
  Gretl: The youngest

Rolf: Liesl’s boyfriend: Singing/dancing

Max Detweiler: Entertainment agent, friend of Von Trapp and Elsa. Singing role.

Mother Superior: A soprano and actress of substance. Ideally in 50’s or older.

Sisters Margaretta, Bertha, Sophia: Part-singing actresses. Preferably older than Maria.

Franz: Von Trapp’s butler, linked to Nazis. Acting only

Frau Schmidt: Von Trapp’s maid. Acting only

Baroness Elberfeld, Baron Elberfeld, Herr Zeller, Admiral Von Schreiber, Fraulein Schweiger

Ensemble of women as singing nuns

Ensemble of men: Nazis and dancers at ball