



The **VILLAGE PLAYERS**



Announces Open Auditions for



Children: Saturday, February 25, 10:00 am
 Adults: Saturday, February 25, 2:00 pm
 & Sunday, February, 26, 7:00 pm

Music by Lucy Simon
 Book & Lyrics by Marsha Norman
 Based on the classic children's story
 by Francis Hodgson Burnett

Registration: 30 minutes before audition time
 Location: Village Players
 34660 Woodward Avenue
 (2 blocks south of Maple Road)
 Birmingham, MI 48009

**Show Dates: May 11, 12, 18,
 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 2012**

Synopsis: Orphaned when her parents die of cholera in India, Mary is sent to live with her Uncle Archibald in England. He is sad and bitter since the death of his wife, Lily, and offers little comfort to Mary, or to his son Colin. Lily's garden has been sealed up and neglected for years; but with the help of Martha, her brother Dickon, and Ben the gardener, Mary brings the garden back to life, at the same time extending its healing and rebirth to the the entire household.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Age ranges are those of the characters, not necessarily the age of the actors.

- Mary Lennox - (age 10 - 12) A precocious and determined girl. This is a very large part that requires singing and acting. *Soprano* "The Girl I Mean to Be"; Callback: "Wick"
- Lily - (late 20s to late 30s) Archibald's deceased wife and mother to Colin. She is loving and kind as she continues to nurture her family. *Soprano* "How Could I Ever Know"; Callback: "Come To My Garden"
- Archibald Craven - (35 - 45) Mary's uncle, a hunchback who continues to grieve for his lost wife. *Tenor/high baritone* "Race You to the Top of the Morning"; Callback: "Lily's Eyes"
- Dr. Neville Craven - (30 - 40) Archibald's younger brother, who looks after Colin and the estate as Archibald is unable to cope. He is a complex character. *Baritone* "Disappear"; Callback: "Lily's Eyes"
- Martha - (20 - 40) Mary's chambermaid. She is energetic and supportive. Yorkshire accent. *Mezzo* "Hold On"
- Dickon - (15 - 25) Martha's younger brother. He is a mystical sage who communicates with birds wildlife. He is instrumental in helping Mary restore the garden. Yorkshire accent. *Tenor* "Winter's On the Wing"
- Colin Craven - (10 - 12) Archibald's invalid son. He is pampered and spoiled, and returns to health in the garden. *Tenor* "Come To My Garden"
- Ben Weatherstaff - (50 - 70) The estate's gardener, gruff yet kind. He befriends Mary and helps restore the garden. Yorkshire accent. *Bass/Baritone* "It's A Maze"
- Albert Lennox - (30 - 50) Mary's father, who dies of cholera. He tries to comfort his daughter. *Tenor* "The House Upon the Hill"; Callback: "A Bit of Earth"
- Rose Lennox - (late 20s to late 30s) Mary's mother, who also dies of cholera. Self-absorbed and vain, she is Lily's sister. *Alto* "The House Upon the Hill"; Callback: "A Bit of Earth"
- Ayah - (age open) Mary's female caretaker in India, among those who died of cholera. Ethnic in appearance. She chants an Indian charm. *Mezzo* "The House Upon the Hill"



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Fakir - (age open) Mary's male servant in India, also among those who died of cholera. Ethnic in appearance. With the Ayah, chants an Indian charm. *Tenor* "The House Upon the Hill"
Mrs. Medlock - (age 50 - 70) The housekeeper and head of the serving staff. She is stern and unbending. Yorkshire accent. Non-singing role.
Ensemble: 4 - 5 men, 4 - 5 women; various ages; "The House Upon the Hill"
The ensemble roles are on stage singing a large part of the show. There are also numerous small roles throughout that will be filled by the ensemble.

NOTES:

If you are unfamiliar with the music from "The Secret Garden," CDs will be available at the box office for borrowing, with a 5-day time limit.

Cuts will be available at the box office for review, for a 5-day time limit.

Please bring a current headshot to auditions (or one can be taken at that time).

PRODUCTION STAFF:

Director: Julie Tillotson, 248-549-8553

Music Director: John Dickinson

Assistant Director: Steve Sussman

Producers: Andrea Kaptur and Vicki Kaptur

Village Players 248-644-2075