

ANYTHING GOES



About the show

Anything Goes is a musical with music and lyrics by Cole Porter. The original book was a collaborative effort by Guy Bolton and P. G. Wodehouse, revised considerably by the team of Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse. The story concerns madcap antics aboard an ocean liner bound from New York to London. Billy Crocker is a stowaway in love with heiress Hope Harcourt, who is engaged to Lord Evelyn Oakleigh. Nightclub singer Reno Sweeney and Public Enemy Number 13, "Moonface" Martin, aid Billy in his quest to win Hope. Songs introduced that later became pop and jazz standards are "Anything Goes", "You're the Top", "All Through the Night", and "I Get a Kick Out of You".

Since its 1934 debut at the Alvin Theatre (now known as the Neil Simon Theatre) on Broadway, the musical has been revived several times in the United States and the UK and has been filmed three times. The musical has long been a popular choice for school and amateur productions.

What should you expect...

- Production Team: Director & Choreographer – Nikki Mundell-Poole,
- Musical Director – Jessie Tabor,
- Assistant to the Director – TBA,
- Dance Captain - TBA

- We are doing the 2022 Version which is based on the 1987 Lincoln Center production at the Vivian Beaumont Theater, features a revised script, updated in light of contemporary sensibilities. In this version, the race of the characters is not pivotal to the plot.

- This 2022 Revision has twice as much dance music as the 1962 version and includes the hits "I Get a Kick Out of You," "You're the Top," "Friendship," "It's De-Lovely" and the title song, along with "Easy to Love," "Goodbye, Little Dream, Goodbye" and "Buddie, Beware."

What should you expect...

Please also note there are a large number of speaking roles within this show and due to limitations on microphones it means that the smaller roles may be split up in a different way to how they appear in the script.

Therefore, please do not assume that all dialogue and any solo lines will be definitely associated to the minor characters as listed in the show script.

Rehearsals

- This show has a very tight schedule as, we start a week later to give everyone a break after Salad Days, the show performs earlier than normal due to Easter and we lose 2 full weeks at Christmas. With so many large dance numbers in the show it is vital that cast members commit to attendance at rehearsals.
- The company is generally called every week whether it be a music, setting or a revision call. In addition, there are 5 Sundays on the schedule plus dress rehearsal Sunday.
- Sundays will be 8th Dec, 12th Jan, 2nd Feb, 2nd Mar, 23rd Mar,
Show Week = 7th – 12th April. 2025

Accents:

The show is mostly set on Board the S.S. American, so most characters have American accents with the exception of Sir Evelyn Oakley who is British Nobility.

Performance style:

This is a full on Broadway Musical with big chorus numbers and lots of individual characters

Chorus & Dancing:

The ensemble will be playing passengers, sailors etc in a range of numbers which include “There is no cure like Travel/Bon Voyage”, “Anything Goes”, “Public Enemy Number One” and “Blow Gabriel Blow”.

While this is a strong dance show, not all the cast will be required to dance but some movement will be included. The Sailor Quartet could be non-moving singers as the 4-part harmony is of vital importance.

Act I

- "Overture" –
- "I get a Kick out of You" – Reno
- "There's No Cure Like Travel/Bon Voyage" – Captain, Sailors and Passengers
- "You're the Top" – Reno & Billy
- "Easy to Love" – Billy
- "Easy to Love" (Reprise) - Hope
- "The Crew Song" – Elisha
- "There'll Always be a Lady Fair" – Sailor Quartet
- "Friendship" – Reno & Moonface
- "It's De-lovely – Billy & Hope
- "Anything Goes" – Reno & Company

Act II

- "Public Enemy Number One" – Captain, Purser and Passengers
- "Blow Gabriel, Blow" – Reno and Company
- "Goodbye Little Dream, Goodbye" – Hope
- "Be like the Bluebird" – Moonface
- "All Through the Night" – Billy, Hope and Sailor Quartet
- "The Gypsy in Me" – Evelyn
- "Buddie Beware" – Erma & Sailors
- ""Finale – It's De-lovely" – Company

Auditions & Casting

Please note-

Given that many principals are required to Sing, Dance and Act in equal measures it will mean that we may recall certain principals if necessary.

I anticipate that certain characters/auditionees may be required to be seen together after their initial audition. Please check on the audition day if you are free to leave after your audition or whether you are needed to be seen again.

Given the range of dance styles for this show, I anticipate casting sets of dancers for each individual dance number so if you can dance but not tap or vice versa then you can still be in certain dance numbers.

Pre- audition rehearsals – 6th, 12th, 13th, & 19th November

Early Auditions – Wednesday 20th November

Auditions – Sunday 24th November.

Reno Sweeney

Playing age 30s-40s.

A charismatic nightclub singer and former evangelist, she is clever, funny, persuasive and extremely confident. She **MUST** have sex appeal. Strong singing and dancing required, as well as comedic timing.

VOCAL RANGE: Alto/Belt.

A triple threat performer who can sing, act and dance with a good feel for comedy. Ability to tap dance is an advantage.



MUSIC AUDITION: 'I Get a Kick Out of You' Start to bar 52 and 'Blow Gabriel' start to Bar 103



DIALOGUE: Pg 8: "He's wrong Billy it was only me" to Reno: "The hell you didn't! You never even laid a hand on me, and I'm not used to men treating me like that!"

Pg 40 "Nobody's complained yet" to "Yeah but it's also kinda cute"



DANCE: Minimum: The dancers audition, if you can do the tap audition all the better

Billy Crocker

Playing age 20's – 30's

A young businessman who is in love with Hope, he charismatic and charming. Strong singing required and should be able to dance or move well.

VOCAL RANGE: Baritone/Tenor. .



MUSIC AUDITION: 'Easy to Love' start to bar 52



DIALOGUE AUDITION: pg 26 – “Billy Crocker so pleased to meet you” – to the song



DANCE : the chorus dance routine

Hope Harcourt

Playing age - Early to Mid 20's

A beautiful heiress with a strong sense of duty, she is willing to sacrifice love and marry to satisfy her mother's wishes. Strong singing and dancing required.

VOCAL RANGE: Soprano.



MUSIC AUDITION: 'Goodbye Little Dream' – entire song



DIALOGUE: Pg 33 'Really Mother' to pg 34 'Good Morning Mr Whitney'



DANCE: **MINIMUM** chorus dance routine – if you can do the Dancers audition all the better

Moonface Martin

Age 40's – 60's.

A loveable gangster who is also loyal and willing to go the distance for a friend. Requires strong comic timing, plus the ability to sing and move well.

VOCAL RANGE: Baritone.



MUSIC AUDITION: 'Be Like the Bluebird' start to bar 25



DIALOGUE: pg 16 "Are we in England Yet?" to "I think it's downstairs"



DANCE: The chorus routine

Erma

Playing age 30s-40s.

A playful, independent, impulsive, and loveably clueless “dame” – a typical 20’s “gun moll” with a ‘Joisey’ accent. Strong singing. Needs to move well or dance.

VOCAL RANGE: Mezzo/Belt.



MUSIC AUDITION: ‘Buddy Beware’ start to bar 33



DIALOGUE: Pg 28 “Listen to that sqwaking” to pg 29 “Amen!”



DANCE: Dancers audition piece

Lord Evelyn Oakley

Playing age 30s- 50s.

Hope's energetic, quirky, and good-natured aristocratic fiancé. English accent, strong singing and the ability to move well also required.

VOCAL RANGE: Baritone.



MUSIC AUDITION: 'The Gypsy in Me' full song



DIALOGUE: Pg 40 "Come In" to Page 41 "I say is something Funny"



DANCE: the chorus dance routine

Elisha Whitney

Playing age 50's – 60's.

A successful Wall Street banker who is nearsighted and thinks he is always right. Ability to move well is a plus.

VOCAL RANGE: Baritone



MUSIC AUDITION: Sing solo the Chorus Audition



DIALOGUE: Pgs 7 & 8



DANCE : Chorus Audition

Evangeline Harcourt

Playing age 50s- 60s.

Hope's overbearing mother who is mainly concerned with money and social status. A strong stage presence is required and a good actress

Sings with ensemble only.



MUSIC AUDITION: Sing Solo the Chorus Audition



DIALOGUE: Pg 45 from Moons line "Excuse me Ma'am" to "What signs, what signs"



DANCE: Chorus dance audition

Captain

Playing age 50s- 60s.

Captain of the S. S. American. Needs strong commanding stage presence and good singing voice

VOCAL RANGE: Baritone.



MUSIC AUDITION: Sing solo the Chorus Audition



DIALOGUE: Pg 11 “Mr Whitney is in the bar” to “Left over from last night”



DANCE: Chorus Dance Audition

Reno's Angel's

Playing age 20s-30s

Four backup singers/dancers in Reno's act – Purity, Chastity, Charity and Virtue. They are showgirls with pizzazz and sparkling personalities. All roles require strong singing and dancing skills.

VOCAL RANGE: Various.



MUSIC AUDITION: Blow Gabriel Start to bar 103



Dance audition – dancers audition

If you can tap please do the tap audition also

Spit & Dippy

Playing age 20's – 40's

These could be male or female. Described as two rascally New York City street toughs with a talent for gambling and picking pockets. A pair of strong comic actors with good chemistry.



MUSIC AUDITION: Chorus Audition



DIALOGUE: Pg 35 “How much did he win?” to “Craps!” Please read just one.



Dance audition - Chorus Movement

Cameo Roles

Sailor Quartet

4 Sailors who sing as a barber shop type quartet in the show. These roles may non-movers in the show, dependent on other castings as it is likely (but not guaranteed) that they will double up as other speaking characters in the show too.

Strong singers who can hold a harmony line is essential.

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MUSIC AUDITION: 'Always be a Lady Fair' Bar 24 to bar 40 – please choose the line relevant to your voice part.

CHORUS

There is a lot of chorus work in the show, with Passengers and Sailors. All chorus will be required to move – however the Captain and the Sailor quartet may be exempt from some movement, dependent on casting.



MUSIC AUDITION: ‘Bon Voyage Playoff’ to sing in pairs



DANCE: Chorus Dance Routine

DANCERS

There are a few dance routines in the show which include some tap dancing. You can audition for both a regular dancer and a tap dancer or just one of those.



MUSIC AUDITION:

All Chorus: 'Bon Voyage Playoff' to sing in pairs



DANCE: Dance Routine and/or Tap routine

