



MEADVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE

AUDITION DATES

Thursday, November 21, 2019: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Sunday, November 24, 2019: 2:00 – 4:00pm

LOCATION:

Meadville Community Theatre

400 N. Main Street, Oddfellow's Building

Meadville, PA 16335



ABOUT THE SHOW

Set in England during the approximate time of early 1800, five daughters of the Bennet family must be married off! Was ever a mother as put upon as Mrs. Bennet? Jane falls deeply in love with the wealthy Mr. Bingley, and it looks as if a romance is possible between Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy. But Mr. Darcy is a very proud young man and he is shocked by mama's vulgar matchmaking! He not only leaves for London, but also manages to take Mr. Bingley with him. Jane is heartbroken. Finally, Mr. Darcy returns to propose to Elizabeth. She promptly refuses and berates him for taking Mr. Bingley away and hurting Jane. The attraction between Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy eventually triumphs over the pride of one and the prejudice of the other. Based on the enduring novel by Jane Austen, adapted for the stage by Jane Kendall, and directed by Mitchell King.

All roles are open to audition. We are seeking 5 men and 11 women for this production. Age ranges and character descriptions are listed at the bottom of the notice. Please note, age ranges are a suggestion and not necessarily set in stone. All those wishing to audition will be required to fill out the appropriate audition form and read a side from the script. Auditioners may be asked to stay and read opposite another individual who is auditioning. Actors may also be asked to attend a callback after the initial audition dates are complete.

SHOW DATES

February 7 – 18, 2020.

Fridays & Saturdays performance times are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday performances are at 2:00 p.m..

All actors must be able to commit to all performance dates.

CHARACTER LIST (ALL ROLES ARE OPEN)

Mr. Bennet: He is a man of culture and taste, whose sense of humor has helped to carry him through some twenty-five years of marriage with his frivolous and irresponsible wife. He is handsome, with graying hair and a courteous and pleasing manner. His manner of speaking varies from dry humor to elaborate sarcasm, yet he is devoted to the real interests of his family.

Mrs. Bennet: She is frivolous, irresponsible, and an inveterate matchmaker. An eligible young man has but to glance at one of her five daughters and she is ready to announce their engagement. When thwarted in any way she takes refuge in imaginary ailments and complains piteously of her "nerves." She is in her forties, with her hair elaborately done; she is always fashionably dressed. She is still pretty in a plump and florid way. It is easy to see why, twenty-five years ago, Mr. Bennett found her irresistible.

Jane: She is twenty-two, the oldest of five daughters. Jane has always turned so beautiful and sweet a face on the world that much of it has been reflected back on her. Jane honestly believes that people are better than they are, and so is always ready to find a good excuse for any questionable act. Although docile and much under her mother's thumb, Jane is by no means lacking in spirit.

Elizabeth: She is a beauty who also happens to have brains...a modern girl born in 1800! She is more like her father than any of her sisters, and, although she does not know it, she is his favorite. She is distressed at her mother's airs and obvious matchmaking, but loyally conceals it and attempts to cover her mother's blunders. She has a quick temper, a proud spirit, and is unaffected and sincere. Mr. Darcy might have resisted her beauty because of her mother's lack of taste. He cannot resist her beauty, plus the fire and spirit that are a part of Elizabeth's charm.

Mary: She is eighteen, the plain one of the family, and a bookworm. Later, Mary will probably outgrow her extreme priggishness. Right now, she is prepared to lecture on practically any subject. Mary is smug and pedantic, in direct contrast to all her sisters. She is, however, likable. You are amused rather than annoyed by her.

Catherine: She is seventeen, and much under the domination of her irrepressible younger sister. Catherine is slight and rather delicate in appearance. She has an engaging giggle when fun is in prospect, but, like her mother, she is inclined to whine when things do not please her.

Lydia: She is fifteen, and utterly frivolous and irresponsible. She thinks of nothing but parties, officers, and clothes. She is not as beautiful as Jane or Elizabeth, but she is very pretty and pert, and could never, imaginably, lack a partner at a dance.

Mr. Collins: He is a tall, heavy-set young clergyman, pompous and pedantic, with absurdly formal manners. Yet, he is extremely servile whenever to be so is to his advantage. He pays ridiculous court to Elizabeth, but when he fears she may not help his "career," he does not lose a moment in consoling himself elsewhere.

Mr. Bingley: He is the catch of the county, handsome, moderately rich, and with charming manners that captivate everyone who meets him. He has eyes only for Jane from the moment he sees her. He is about twenty-three.
Miss Bingley: She is in her twenties, and very fashionably dressed. Her surface good manners scarcely conceal her contempt for provincial society. She is proud and conceited, and her chief concern is that her brother shall make a suitable match.

Mr. Darcy: He is a little older than Mr. Bingley, and a great deal richer. He is tall, handsome, and aristocratic in appearance, but his manner is cold and stiff. He is secretly just as much attracted by Elizabeth as Mr. Bingley is by Jane, but he is too intelligent not to recognize her mother's lack of taste and so resists her as long as he can.

Lady Catherine de Bourgh: She is the dowager type, expensively dressed, formidable, and superior in manner. When she walks, she sweeps; when she sits, it is as if she took her place on a throne. Quite obviously, she expects everyone to scurry at her least command. She hardly knows how to meet it when Elizabeth dares to defy her but she finally sweeps regally from the room without bidding her goodbye.

Lady Lucas: She is in her forties, and a good friend of Mrs. Bennet, though they are rivals in matchmaking, for Lady Lucas has a daughter to marry off. Lady Lucas has a pleasant and matter of fact manner. In Act One, she has the pleased, complacent air of one who has sighted eligible masculine quarry first.

Charlotte: She is twenty-seven and Elizabeth's special friend. Her manner is quiet and restrained and she is sweet and reasonable, though lacking somewhat in feminine charm. She does not dream of romance and is quite willing to be guided by her mother's advice.

Mr. Wickham: He is a handsome young officer, and cuts a dashing figure in his smart uniform. He has undeniable charm of manner, but is untrustworthy and insincere.

Hill: This part is extremely flexible. It may be played as a young servant girl in her teens or as a quiet, repressed, elderly servant. Or the part may be played by a manservant. Hill is quiet, unobtrusive, and efficient.