



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*(\*NOTE: Media is invited to cover auditions on Feb. 23 & 24; please contact Katie at the TTIP office, 913-826-3012. Thank you.)*

**Auditions are Feb. 23 & 24 for The Theatre in the Park 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary OUTDOOR season**

Be part of a history-making “golden” summer at **Theatre in the Park** (TTIP) as the community theatre celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season with a dazzling line-up of musical favorites. **Auditions for TTIP’s OUTDOOR** summer season will be held **Saturday and Sunday Feb. 23 and 24**. Auditions will take place for five musicals from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday at the Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center (AHC), 8878 Metcalf, in Overland Park. Performers of all shapes, size, voice types, ethnicities and racial backgrounds are encouraged to audition and make this a summer to remember!

The **TTIP 2018 OUTDOOR** shows, performance dates and directors include:

- **ANNIE** (June 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 & 15; directed by Tim Bair; rated G)
- **CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG\*** (June 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28 & 29; directed by Julie Ewing; rated PG)
- **THE MUSIC MAN** (July 5, 6, 7 and 10, 11, 12 & 13; directed by Chris McCoy; rated PG)
- **MATILDA, THE MUSICAL\*** (July 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26 & 27; directed by Mark Swezey; rated PG)
- **THE WIZARD OF OZ** (Aug. 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9 & 10; directed by Tiffany Schweigert; rated G)

\*Denotes TTIP premier

Combined with a second year of fun-loving indoor shows as well as the TTIP Academy program at the Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center, TTIP will have a total of 12 musical productions round out this sizzling season of entertainment featuring the best talent Kansas City has to offer!

“We are looking forward to a terrific season of auditions, and expect hundreds of auditionees this year!” said Tim Bair, Producing Artistic Director of TTIP.

**AUDITION DETAILS**

Starting Feb. 8, those auditioning for TTIP’s OUTDOOR season can select a one-hour time slot online at <http://www.theatreinthepark.org> and complete the registration form. Once the form has been completed, audition numbers will automatically be assigned. Those auditioning must be at least six years old on or

before auditions.

Everyone who auditions must complete the online registration process and bring 11 copies of the completed form with them to auditions.

Those auditioning should arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled time, check in at the registration table and have their photo taken. The entire audition process should be completed in about two hours. Walk-in auditions will be permitted on Sunday, Feb. 25 but must arrive by 3:30 p.m.; although there may be a wait, walk-ins are guaranteed to be seen that afternoon. Walk-in auditioners must complete the online audition form and bring 11 copies with them.

All those auditioning should prepare no more than 16 measures of a song of their choice (please do not sing a song from one of TTIP's 2019 shows). Song choice should be something that shows off your voice, and if desired, is in the style of the show/s for which you are auditioning. An accompanist will be provided but performers MUST bring sheet music in the proper key. Those auditioning are not required to participate in the dance audition but are encouraged to do so.

Those unable to attend the auditions in person may submit a video audition BY NOON ON SUNDAY, Feb. 24.

Callbacks are by invitation only and will take place the week of Feb. 25. A list of those performers called back will be posted online at [www.theatreinthepark.org](http://www.theatreinthepark.org) on Monday, Feb. 26 by 9 a.m. TTIP cast lists will be posted on line before midnight on Sunday, March 4.

Full details about the audition process can be found at <https://www.theatreinthepark.org/outdoor-audition-info>.

Musicians interested in playing in one or more of the season's productions should send an email to [Katie.Baergen@jocogov.org](mailto:Katie.Baergen@jocogov.org) indicating the instrument you play, what shows you are interested in and attach a resume.

For more information including entire show synopses for all 2019 TTIP productions, please visit [www.theatreinthepark.org](http://www.theatreinthepark.org).

## **ABOUT THE OUTDOOR SEASON**

### **ANNIE**

Based on the popular comic strip by Harold Gray, ANNIE has become a worldwide phenomenon with popular songs "Tomorrow" and "Hard knock Life". The beloved book and score by Tony Award winners, Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin, ANNIE won seven Tony Awards and numerous well-know actresses – from Andrea McArdle to Sarah Jessica Parker – have portrayed title role. Set in the 1930s in New York City, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts despite a next-to-nothing start. She is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago as an orphanage that is run by the cruel, embittered Miss Hannigan. With the help of the other girls in the orphanage, Annie escapes to the wondrous world of NYC. With fun-filled adventures galore, Annie flees Miss Hannigan's evil clutches and finds a new home and family in billionaire, Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary, Grace Farrell, and a lovable mutt named Sandy.

### **CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG\***

Imagine a flying car that soars over land and sails the seas taking its riders on a fantastic musical adventure! That's CHITTY CHITTY BANG, based on the beloved 1968 film version of Ian Fleming's

children's book. With an unforgettable score by the Sherman Brothers (MARY POPPINS), with this family-friendly blockbuster audiences will find it "Truly Scrumptious." This story surrounds Caractacus Potts, an eccentric inventor, who sets about restoring an old racecar from a scrap heap with the help of his children, Jeremy and Jemima. The trio soon discovers the car has magical properties, including the ability to float and take flight. But trouble is not far away as the evil Baron Bomburst wants the magic car for himself. The family joins forces with Truly Scrumptious and batty Grandpa Potts to outwit the dastardly Baron and Baroness and their villainous henchman, the Child Catcher.

### **THE MUSIC MAN**

Seventy-six trombones lead the big parade in this all-American classic by Meredith Wilson. Performed during TTIP's first summer of musicals, THE MUSIC MAN is funny and wicked, romantic and touching – and it's family entertainment at its best. Meredith Wilson's six-time, Tony Award-winning musical comedy has been entertaining audiences since 1957. This family-friendly tale follows a fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill as he cons the people of River City, Iowa, into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band that he vows to organize –despite the fact that he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef. Instead, he employs the "think method" as he plans to skip town with the cash –until he meets Marian, the librarian, who transforms him into a respectable citizen by curtain's fall.

### **MATILDA, THE MUSICAL\***

A TTIP premiere, MATILDA is the story of an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. Inspired by the twisted genius of Tony Award winner Roald Dahl, MATILDA THE MUSICAL is the captivating masterpiece from the Royal Shakespeare Company that revels in the anarchy of childhood, the power of imagination and the inspiring story of a girl who dreams of a better life. MATILDA, with book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, has won 47 international awards and continues to thrill sold-out audiences of all ages around the world.

### **THE WIZARD OF OZ**

While it has been 80 years since the release of the popular film, this beloved musical remains a perennial favorite. First performed at TTIP in 1975, THE WIZARD OF OZ begins on a farm on the Kansas prairie when a tornado transports Dorothy over the rainbow to a land beyond that's very different from her home. Leaving her humdrum life with her Aunt Em and Uncle Henry behind, Dorothy discovers the Land of Oz filled with lots of green, magic, little Munchkins and a Wicked Witch. Determined to return to her home, Dorothy is told to follow the Yellow Brick Road to find the powerful Wizard of Oz, who can make her dream come true. Along the way she makes new friends with a Scarecrow, Tinman and Cowardly Lion. Wearing magical Ruby Slippers, Dorothy and her friends travel to see the Wizard but The Wicked Witch tries to stop her at every turn. Along her adventurous journey, Dorothy discovers the magical power of home.

Showtime for the five 2019 **TTIP OUTDOOR** productions is 8:30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.theatreinthepark.org](http://www.theatreinthepark.org)

The Theatre in the Park OUTDOOR is located in Shawnee Mission Park at 7710 Renner Road, in Shawnee, KS. TTIP INDOOR performances take place at the Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center, 8788 Metcalf, in Overland Park, KS.

Theatre in the Park is a program of the Johnson County Park & Recreation District. TTIP is the largest outdoor community theater in the country, and has been providing quality theatre entertainment in the community for more than four decades. Program sponsors are Advent Health and First National Bank. For more information about 2019 TTIP productions, please visit [www.theatreinthepark.org](http://www.theatreinthepark.org).

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