

ALTRINCHAM GARRICK PLAYHOUSE - AUDITION INFORMATION:

Escape to a world of pure imagination!

ROALD DAHL'S
CHARLIE
AND THE **CHOCOLATE FACTORY**

Music by Marc Shaiman

Lyrics by Scott Whitman & Marc Shaiman

Book by David Greig

Based on the novel by Roald Dahl
and the Warner Bros. film



Director:

Joseph Meighan

Musical Direction:

Simon Mercer-Murray

Thurs 23 –
Sun 26 October &
Weds 29 October –
Sun 2 November 2025



Evenings: 7:30 pm (except Sunday 26, Sunday 2)
Sunday 26 October at 6:30 pm



Matinées: Saturday 25 October at 2:30 pm
Sunday 26 October at 1:30 pm
Saturday 1 November at 2:30 pm
Sunday 2 November at 4:00 pm



altrincham
garrick
playhouse

Box Office: 0161-928 1677
www.altrinchamgarrick.co.uk

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with
Music Theatre International. All authorised performance
materials are also supplied by MTI - www.mtishows.co.uk

Thank you for expressing your interest in auditioning for “**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**”, which will be part of our Autumn/ Winter 2025 Season at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse.

Auditions for Charlie and Wonka:
Auditions for Principals and Ensemble:

Tuesday 13th May
Tuesday 20th May

The Rehearsal Start Date for this production is
The Production Dates for this production are

Sunday 7th September
Thursday 23rd October -
Sunday 2nd November

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7.30pm - 10pm, and every Sunday from 2pm - 5.30pm.

We do ask that all those auditioning are able to make every rehearsal. We do, of course, understand that sometimes you may have other commitments and special occasions during the rehearsal process, and we therefore ask that you inform us of any dates you are not available in advance (at the audition) and we will try and make this work. If you have a date that you're unable to rehearse within ten days of the opening night (23rd October) we may have to ask you to withdraw from the production.

You may not be called to every rehearsal, and the Director will produce a rehearsal schedule as far in advance as possible, but we do still ask that those successful in being cast in the production remain flexible, as rehearsal schedules can often change during the process.

Performance Schedule

Thursday 23rd October – 7.30pm
Friday 24th October – 7.30pm
Saturday 25th October – 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Sunday 26th October – 1.30pm and 6.30pm

Wednesday 29th October – 7.30pm
Thursday 30th October – 7.30pm
Friday 31st October – 7.30pm
Saturday 1st November – 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Sunday 2nd November – 4pm

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Thursday 23rd October - Sunday 2nd November 2025

Altrincham Garrick Playhouse

Directed by Joseph Meighan

Musical Direction by Simon Mercer-Murray

Choreography by Emma Kay

The world-famous Willy Wonka is opening the gates to his mysterious factory...but only to a lucky few.

Charlie Bucket, an imaginative boy with a knack for making something out of nothing, dreams of acquiring a golden ticket to tour Willy Wonka's magical chocolate factory and can't believe his luck when it actually happens! Fellow contest winners: Veruca Salt, Violet Beauregarde, Mike Teavee, and Augustus Gloop, have no idea what they're getting themselves into, as they each learn valuable lessons from Mr. Wonka. Nobody leaves the same way that they arrived...

Discover a magical world full of amazement, innovation, sugary treats, and, of course, Oompa-Loompas!

Based on the famous novel by Roald Dahl, ***Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*** features an original score from the multi awarding-winning songwriters of ***Hairspray*** (Music by Marc Shaiman with Lyrics by Shaiman and Scott Wittman and a Book by David Greig), blended with songs from the 1971 motion picture including "Candy Man," "I've Got a Golden Ticket," "The Oompa Loompa Song," and "Pure Imagination" (Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley).

Full Synopsis

Act One

Suddenly before us stands Willy Wonka, the world-renowned candy maker and inventor of the Everlasting Gobstopper ("***The Candy Man***") - a genius who believes he is a forgotten man. Wonka transforms himself into the world-weary owner of a candy shop who makes the acquaintance of young Charlie Bucket, who idolises Willy Wonka. When the shop owner tells Charlie that Wonka is about to make a comeback, the boy is thrilled but exasperated that the shop owner does not seem to know just who Willy Wonka is ("***Willy Wonka! Willy Wonka!***"). Charlie comes from a poor, fatherless family that scrounges for food, and he lives for his birthday each year when he receives as a gift a single Willy Wonka Chocolate Bar. The shop owner tells him that Willy Wonka is going to open the mysteries of his chocolate factory - but only to the five lucky possessors of a golden ticket to be found in a Wonka Bar. Back home, Charlie learns that times are so hard for his family that he will not get his birthday Wonka Bar this year - so no chance at the golden ticket. Of the four eccentric grandparents who live in the house - in fact, in the same bad - Grandpa Joe is Charlie's kindred spirit ("***Charlie, You & I***"), urging him on. Charlie decides to write a letter to Willy Wonka ("***A Letter from Charlie Bucket***"), in which he expresses his wonder and admiration (as well as some ideas) for the candy maker.

The news break that the first winner of a golden ticket is a food-loving German boy ("**More of Him to Love**"), adored by his mother and named Augustus Gloop. The second ("**When Veruca Says**") is Veruca Salt, the spoiled-rotten daughter of a Russian oligarch. The winner of the third ticket ("**The Queen of Pop**") is Violet Beauregarde, whose publicity hound of a father is turning her pursuit of a world record for chewing gum into a media event. The fourth ticket ("**That Little Man of Mine**") goes to Mike Teavee, a brat who is mesmerised by social media, to the delight of his mother. Charlie appears to be out of luck, leaving his mother and grandparents wistful for what she is unable to provide ("**If Your Father Were Here**"), when fate intervenes. He finds some money on the ground and buys a Wonka bar from Mrs. Green's cart and discovers a golden ticket, making him the fifth winner. Charlie and his whole family celebrate the news ("**I've Got a Golden Ticket**" / "**Grandpa Joe**") that he is headed to Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory, where Grandpa Joe will join him. At long last, Willy Wonka welcomes the winners into his factory, teasing them about what lies ahead for them ("**It Must Be Believed to Be Seen**").

Act Two

Inside the factory, Wonka introduces the winners to the wonders they are about to encounter - and some things they need to remember ("**Strike That, Reverse It**"). Charlie and Grandpa Joe are in awe of Wonka and what the magical experience has to offer ("**Pure Imagination**" / "**Grandpa Joe (Reprise)**"), while the other children are greedy and impatient. One by one, the ticket holders become victims of their own appetites. Augustus Gloop's insatiable hunger for the chocolate waterfall makes him the first victim ("**The Oompa Loompa Song**" / "**Auf Wiedersehen Augustus Gloop**"), his fate determined by the mysterious Oompa Loompas who do Wonka's bidding. Wonka explains to his guests how he freed the Oompa Loompas and they became his allies ("**When Willy Met Oompa**"). His warnings fall on deaf ears. Violet is then the next golden ticket holder to vanish followed by Veruca ("**Veruca's Nutcracker Sweet**"), and finally Mike Teavee ("**Vidiots**"). Ultimately, there is only Charlie, in whom Willy Wonka sees an heir to his magical mission. He welcomes Charlie into a magical glass elevator that takes them up, up, up, so the boy can see everything that will be his ("**The View from Here**") - a happy home and limitless future, thanks to the Candy Man.

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Our production is the Broadway Version of **CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**, and so if you wish to listen to a Cast Recording for preparation, please listen to the BROADWAY Recording, and not the LONDON/ WEST END Recording (as this version is very different).

Characters

We are looking for an exceptional company of actors to bring the wonderful world of Roald Dahl to life on stage with this production.

For the Golden Ticket Winners (excluding Charlie Bucket) we are looking for young adults (18 - 25) who can convincingly embody childlike characters. These roles require both strong character acting and vocals.

We will cast two boys (8 - 12 years of age) with unbroken voices to share the role of Charlie Bucket (performing for 6 performances each).

Please adopt the following accents for the following roles:

British: Wonka, Charlie, Mrs Bucket, Grandpa Joe and other Grandparents, Oompa-Loompas and Ensemble Roles.

German: Mrs Gloop & Augustus

Russian: Mr Salt & Veruca

American: Mr Beauregard & Violet, Mrs. Teavee & Mike

The ethnicity of each character is not important to the plot, and can therefore any role can be played by any actor, with the exception of Violet and Mr Beauregard, who must be played by Black actors.

WILLY WONKA

Vocal Range: A2 - G4

Playing Age: 40+

Male

The sly, charming, eternally youthful star of the show; lithe, eccentric, and remarkably physical, must have the ability to be filled with boundless energy and be physically light on his feet, has a larger-than-life persona that can go from charming and comical, to magically mysterious and dark.

CHARLIE BUCKET

Vocal Range: Unbroken Voice (G#3 - F5)

Playing Age: 8 - 12

Male

Sweet, smart, hopeful, and loving, a boy with wonderful innocence and vulnerability, honest actor and an excellent singer with a naturally innocent voice quality.

GRANDPA JOE

Male

Playing Age: 60+

Vocal Range: G#2 - G4

Slight of build, frail looking but nimble, Impish, remarkably physical (dance skills a plus). He is Charlie's imaginative, fun, kind, and loving grandfather. After many years being confined to a bed, his childish energy returns when Charlie finds the Golden Ticket. Small singing role, but the singing is secondary to the actor's solid acting skills.

MRS. BUCKET

Female

Playing Age: 30+

Vocal Range - G3 - E5

Charlie's warm and kind-hearted mother; a worrier, generous and loving.

AUGUSTUS GLOOP

Male

Vocal Range: Bb3 - G5

Adult who can convincingly embody childlike characteristics and physicality. Short, youthful, round, and full faced, but wildly over-active despite his size, excellent singer and comic actor.

MRS. GLOOP

Female

Vocal Range: Mezzo G3-D5

Playing Age: 40+

Augustus's moronic, Wagnerian mother, a huge presence with a huge voice, mirthlessly smiles as though it were affixed to the front of her face, fantastic singer and comedienne.

VERUCA SALT

Female

Vocal Range: Ab4 - Db5

Adult who can convincingly embody childlike characteristics and physicality. Youthful, vicious and beautiful, must be an excellent dancer and/or gymnast, able to dance classical ballet and modern. Comic actress with a character singing/screaming Voice. (Pointe shoes will be required.)

MR. SALT

Male

Vocal Range: Ab2 - Ab4
Playing Age 40+

Veruca's eccentric, distracted, hilarious father, finds it impossible to say no, giving in to every ridiculous demand his daughter makes. Excellent comic actor.

VIOLET BEAUREGARD

Female
Vocal Range: C#4 - F#5

Adult who can convincingly embody childlike characteristics and physicality. Youthful - while she's physically tiny, she has a huge pop/R&B voice, as well as amazing hip-hop dance skills. Confident, forward, and full of attitude. This role is to be played by a Black actor.

MR BEAUREGARD

Male
Playing Age: 35+
Vocal Range: F#3 - G4

Violet's ineffectual father ignores their back-talking, insult hurling daughter. A great dancer with a soul/pop/R&B voice, beat-boxing skills a plus. This role is to be played by a Black actor.

MIKE TEAVEE

Male
Vocal Range: G3 - Bb4

Adult who can convincingly embody childlike characteristics and physicality. Short, youthful, a firecracker with a ridiculous amount of energy, brattish, powerful, tiny, and terrifying, a voice that cuts through steel, great singer.

MRS. TEAVEE

Female
Playing Age: 40+
Vocal Range - G3 - Eb5

She needs amphetamines to get through the day and deal with her outrageous son. Tense, extreme, and hilarious and a great singer.

GRANDPA GEORGE

Elderly, bedridden Grandfather with featured lines and songs.

GRANDMA GEORGINA

Elderly, bedridden Grandmother with featured lines and songs.

GRANDMA JOSEPHINE

Elderly, bedridden Grandmother with featured lines and songs.

CHERRY

Female - High energy news reporter.
Playing Age: 25 +

JERRY

Male - High energy news reporter.
Playing Age: 25 +

MRS GREEN

Female
Playing Age: 40+

Kindhearted, vendor who sells chocolate on the street.

THE ENSEMBLE

An exuberant mix of characters; from Oompa-Loompas, to News Reporters, to Townsfolk.

High energy, fun, and full of personality. Strong movers, actors and singers.

We will also be looking for additional strong dancers who will take on the brunt of the more complex choreography including the Dancing Squirrels in the Nut-Room at the Factory.

There are lots of opportunities for Cameo Roles within the Ensemble too, but this will be a busy and vibrant Ensemble show.

The Audition Date for CHARLIE BUCKET AND WILLY WONKA - Tuesday 13th May

The Audition on Tuesday 13th May is for anyone wishing to audition for CHARLIE BUCKET and WILLY WONKA.

Auditionees will need to sign in and complete a contact sheet in the Theatre Bar at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse from 6.30pm on Tuesday 13th May. We will then begin the audition in Annexe in front of the audition panel from about 7pm. We may pair up CHARLIE and WONKA for some scene work together and there will be a quick run through of music, all together, with the Musical Director, before we start to see people as an audition panel.

There will be Garrick personnel to show you around and help you through the process.

Please be aware that these audition evenings often include quite a bit of waiting around and can be long, but we will try to move as quickly as we can.

The audition panel will consist of the Director, Musical Director, Choreographer and members of the Altrincham Garrick's Artistic and Casting Team (ACT).

The Audition Date for all other Principal Roles and Ensemble - Tuesday 20th May

The Audition on Tuesday 20th May is for anyone wishing to audition for a Principal Role (except CHARLIE AND WONKA) and also for a place in The Ensemble.

Auditionees will need to sign in and complete a contact sheet in the Theatre Bar at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse from 6.30pm on Tuesday 20th May. We will then begin the audition in Annexe in front of the audition panel from about 7pm.

The audition pieces for each role will be available from 6.30pm.

There will be Garrick personnel to show you around and help you through the process.

Please be aware that these audition evenings often include quite a bit of waiting around and can be long, but we will try to move as quickly as we can.

The audition panel will consist of the Director, Musical Director, Choreographer and members of the Altrincham Garrick's Artistic and Casting Team (ACT).

We are a diverse theatre and we welcome auditionees of all ages (above the age of 18) and all genders, ethnicities, sexualities, disabilities and races, to enrich the work of the production.

What to Prepare:

CHARLIE BUCKET:

If you're auditioning for CHARLIE BUCKET, please prepare the following pieces:

Song: "**Willy Wonka! Willy Wonka!**"

Beginning of song finishing on Bar 96. The lyrics for that section are as follows:

CHARLIE:

HOW CAN A MAN WHO SELLS CHOCOLATE
NOT KNOW ALL THE HISTORY? I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
HOW CAN A MAN WHO SELLS CHOCOLATE
NOT KNOW OF THE MYSTERIES I HOLD IN MY HAND?
WILLY WONKA! WILLY WONKA!
WILLY WONKA MADE SWEETS, MOST DELECTABLE TREATS!

WILLY WONKA!
WAS THE BEST OF THE BEST
IF THE SUBJECT IS WONKA, IT'S TRUE... I'M OBSESSED!!

BUT MY GRANDPA JOE SINGS OF TREATS BEYOND WORDS
DESIRED BY OLD AND BY YOUNG
LIKE EGGS MADE OF CHOCOLATE THAT TURNED INTO BIRDS
WHO PERCHED AND SANG TUNES ON YOUR TONGUE!
WILLY WONKA! WILLY WONKA!
WILLY WONKA WAS KNOWN FROM BRAZIL TO COLOGNE!
WILLY WONKA!
LIVED HIS LIFE TO CREATE!
AND IF I COULD AFFORD HIM
I'D BE OVERWEIGHT!

YOU SEE, WONKA FOUND OUT
THAT TO HIS SAD SURPRISE
THE WORKERS HE CHERISHED
TURNED OUT TO BE SPIES
THEY COPIED HIS RECIPES, SPOILED HIS ART
THEY SOLD ALL HIS SECRETS
AND WORSE, THEY BROKE HIS HEART

There is dialogue in between the verses, which we may ask CHARLIE'S and WONKA'S to do at the audition.

Can CHARLIE'S please also prepare:

Song: **"Pure Imagination/ Grandpa Joe"**

CHARLIE:

GRANDPA JOE, NOW I KNOW
I'LL NEVER HAVE TO DREAM AGAIN
FOR I'VE HAD DREAMS INCREDIBLE
BUT HERE'S A DREAM THAT IS EDIBLE

MR. WONKA, PINCH US PLEASE
SO WE CAN TASTE THE FOREST FOR THE TREES

THERE IS NO LIFE I KNOW
TO COMPARE WITH PURE IMAGINATION

- We will hear all CHARLIE'S sing these sections in with the WONKA'S at their audition.

Please prepare the two songs above with the acting and character in mind as well as the vocal performance. CHARLIE needs to be acting and sharing his thoughts and feelings throughout the entire show.

In addition to the two songs above, we will want to see you working on some scenes too. There may be pieces given to you on the audition night, but we would like you to prepare

the following as a monologue (these are lyrics from a song, but we want you to act this out and not sing it please. You don't need to learn this off by heart, but please be familiar with it to give yourself the best chance):

I KNOW THAT YOU'RE A BUSY MAN
YOU MUST HAVE LOTS OF MAIL TO READ I'M WRITING FOR MY FAMILY
CAUSE THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL THAT I NEED
THE TIME YOU TAKE TO READ THIS LETTER
WILL BE TIME WELL SPENT
BECAUSE I'VE MADE A LIST OF THINGS
YOU MIGHT WANT TO INVENT

FOR MOM, WHO'S ALWAYS ON HER FEET
YOU MIGHT PLEASE GRANT ME THIS ONE WISH
TO KEEP HER SHOES ATTACHED TO HER
SOME LACES MADE OF LIQUORICE
FOR JOSEPHINE I HAVE DRAWN A RECIPE BENEATH
FOR MOLARS MADE OF MARZIPAN
WHEN SHE CAN'T FIND HER TEETH

WHEN I WAS SMALLER THAN I AM
MY DAD, HE TOOK US TO THE SEA
HE BOUGHT MY MOM AN ICE CREAM
SHE WAS HAPPY AS A MOM CAN BE
FOR HER I WOULD INVENT
AN ICE CREAM THAT WOULD NEVER MELT
SO SHE CAN FEEL ALL DAY
THE WAY I WISH SHE ALWAYS FELT

FOR GRANDPA GEORGE AND HIS GEORGINA
SOMETHING NOT IN ANY STORE
SOME PILLOWS MADE FROM MARSHMALLOWS
TO KEEP THE NOISE DOWN WHEN THEY SNORE
FOR GRANDPA JOE WHO SOON IS TURNING NINETY AND ONE HALF
A JOKE BOOK MADE FROM JELLYBEANS
CAUSE HE JUST LOVES TO LAUGH

I THINK I'VE THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING
FOR YOU TO ADD YOUR SPECIAL TOUCH
AND WHEN THESE THINGS ARE ALL COMPLETE
IF IT'S NOT ASKING FAR TOO MUCH
PLEASE DROP THEM OFF YOURSELF
SO WE CAN ASK YA "HOW'D YA DO?"
AND, WELL, I'D LIKE ONE WONKA BAR
THAT I WOULD SHARE WITH YOU

WILLY WONKA:

Please prepare the full song “**Pure Imagination/ Grandpa Joe**” - CHARLIE will sing in his sections of this song in your audition too.

There will be sections from the script that we want to see the WONKA's do, but these will be given on the audition evening. You will be given time to prepare.

MRS BUCKET

Please prepare the full song “**If Your Father Were Here**”.

ALL OTHER PRINCIPAL ROLES AND ENSEMBLE:

Please prepare a Musical Theatre song that showcases your vocal range and your acting abilities. Please treat this as a vocal and acting audition. We want to see storytelling and acting through song as well as strong vocal performances.

Please bring sheet music for our Musical Director to play from the piano for you. Or you're welcome to bring a backing track on your phone too.

We may not hear the whole song.

In addition to the all of the above, further audition pieces (script work) will be available from 6.30pm on Tuesday 20th May (or Tuesday 13th May for WONKA).

An additional requirement for anyone auditioning for **VERUCA SALT**: Please either bring a video of you dancing to show the panel, or be prepared to work through a small dance exercise in your audition. We recommend you bring ballet shoes and ideally pointe shoes. In this production, VERUCA is a Ballet Dancer.

What Next?

If you've read all the information in this pack, and wish to audition, then please email casting@altrinchampgarrick.co.uk stating “**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**” in the subject heading and detailing your name, contact number, the role(s) which you'd like to audition for and which audition night you will be attending. By emailing, you will have registered for an audition.

We'd like to wish you the very best of luck, and we look forward to welcoming you, or seeing you again! Thank you for taking the time and interest to prepare for this audition and Break-A-Leg!

Best wishes,

Joseph Meighan (Artistic Director/ Artistic and Casting Team)

Carole Carr (Artistic and Casting Team)

Mike Shaw (Artistic and Casting Team)

Fiona Primrose (Artistic and Casting Team)

Gemma Sales (Artistic and Casting Team)