



**AUDITION INFORMATION
PACK**

**POWER
HOUSE**



INTRODUCTION

Powerhouse is a bold and innovative new company dedicated to nurturing and growing the talent of tomorrow. Founded by a team of experienced theatre professionals, Powerhouse offers an exciting platform for young performers aged 11–21 to develop their skills, build confidence, and take part in high-quality, large-scale musical theatre productions.

Launched in Wakefield in January 2025, Powerhouse has already made a name for itself with its dynamic approach to youth theatre, combining professional-level training with an inclusive and inspiring rehearsal process. Following the success of our inaugural production, a reimagined *Les Misérables: School Edition*, followed by International Smash Hit *Six* in February 2026, we are currently rehearsing an explosive in-the-round production of *Bonnie and Clyde: The Musical* ready for performances this Summer.

At the heart of Powerhouse is a commitment to excellence. We believe that young people deserve the opportunity to work in a professional environment, with the same high standards and creative ambition found in the industry itself. That's why we bring together professional directors, choreographers, and musicians to guide and support our casts every step of the way. Our creative teams are passionate about youth development and dedicated to helping each performer grow, not just as an artist, but as a confident, collaborative individual.

Each year, Powerhouse stages three major musical productions in Wakefield offering participants a chance to shine on stage, develop their craft, and be part of a supportive and inspiring community. Our rehearsals are both challenging and rewarding – a space where hard work meets creativity, and where young people are encouraged to aim high and take pride in their achievements.

We are absolutely delighted that you (or your child) are interested in becoming part of the Powerhouse journey. Whether this is your first time performing or you're already an experienced young actor, we're confident that you'll find the experience fulfilling, empowering, and unforgettable.

Good luck with your audition preparations. We can't wait to welcome you into our Powerhouse family.

CREATIVE TEAM



ANDREW ASHLEY
PRODUCER



ANDY FRETWELL
PRODUCER



ELLA BLISS
DIRECTOR



BEN FRAMPTON
MUSICAL DIRECTOR



SAFIYYA NADAT
CHOREOGRAPHER

For more details about our team see our website.

THE SHOW

Set in the roaring 1920s, *CHICAGO* follows Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, two rival vaudeville performers who find themselves behind bars for murder. In a world where fame is currency and the press can make you a star overnight, they compete for headlines, hearts and freedom with the help of Chicago's slickest lawyer. But in this town, justice is a show... and everyone wants centre stage.

Featuring show-stopping numbers including "All That Jazz," "Cell Block Tango" and "Razzle Dazzle," *CHICAGO* is a dazzling spectacle of ambition, scandal and celebrity. Sharp, sexy and irresistibly entertaining, it's a musical that proves that in show business, notoriety is the ultimate prize.

With POWERHOUSE's signature high-impact production values, electrifying choreography and powerhouse vocals, *CHICAGO* promises to be bold, breathtaking and utterly unmissable.

THE AUDITION PROCESS

Auditions for all principal roles, ensemble and dancers will take place on
SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026 from 10am
at **PERFORMANCE LAB**
Unity Hall, 83 Westgate, Wakefield. WF1 1EP

All auditionees are asked to take part in a workshop style audition, which will focus on characterisation, movement & dance. There is no need to prepare anything for this part of the audition but please wear comfortable clothing.

All auditionees will be asked to prepare a separate singing and acting audition, which make up your main audition pieces. Auditionees may only audition for a maximum of TWO roles, but it is possible that the panel may only have time to hear one.

All auditionees will be issued on arrival an individual audition time for their main audition, which will follow the group workshops. Registration will open from 9:30am.

The audition pieces for each role can be downloaded from our website.

Please note: This is a youth production and it is a licencing requirement that all performers are aged 19 or younger at the time of the performance.

Please complete the audition registration form on our website by no later than 10pm on Friday 15 May to indicate what you intend to audition for.
www.wearepowerhouse.co.uk/auditions

WORKSHOP TIPS

There is no need to prepare anything for the workshops as such, but here are some pointers to, hopefully, put your mind at rest...

- ✓ This is a strong ensemble show: We need to see you can work well with others
- ✓ You may be asked to work individually, in pairs or groups during the audition
- ✓ You will be required to try and show different characters and emotions.
- ✓ You will be required to attempt some choreography.
- ✓ It may be advantageous to be familiar with songs from the show
- ✓ Don't take yourself too seriously – the workshops will be designed to be fun and enjoyable – so relax and go for it!
- ✓ You may like to bring water, comfortable clothes and a sense of humour!

CHARACTERS

We support diverse casting and welcome performers of all ethnic backgrounds and body types to audition for ALL roles.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL ROLES should be played with a strong American accent.

Please note it is possible that we may decide to double cast some roles.

PRINCIPALS

Roxie Hart

[Female]

As pretty as she is self-centered, Roxie Hart's unrelenting search of fame and glory forms the spine of "Chicago". Not very bright and never thinking about the consequences of her actions, Roxie makes bad decisions throughout the show – all in the name of public recognition. After she murders her ex-boyfriend, Roxie is sent to prison where she and vaudeville actress Velma Kelly compete for the headlines. Despite being a generally dislikable character, Roxie remains strangely sympathetic to the audience because we understand that her selfishness isn't malevolent. Above all, Roxie Hart is a character that embodies the corruption that fame can bestow upon a person. A strong singing voice and dancing ability is required for this character.

Velma Kelly

[Female]

Tough, sexy, and sarcastic, Velma Kelly is a vaudeville performer who resides in Cook County Jail after she murdered her cheating husband and sister. Used to being the "main attraction", Velma fiercely competes with up and coming rival superstar Roxie for the attention of the press and to preserve her celebrity status. Ultimately, she is forced to compromise, becoming half of a "duet" with Roxie to save her vaudeville career. Must be a strong singer and dancer.

Billy Flynn

[Male]

A slick, charismatic defence attorney who thrives on media attention, Billy Flynn is equal parts charm and calculation. He represents his clients with theatrical flair, turning courtrooms into stages and trials into sensational stories. Beneath the smooth-talking exterior lies a shrewd manipulator who prioritises fame and success above morality. Performers should capture his confidence, wit, and showman's instinct, requires great stage presence, string acting and good singing ability.

FEATURED ROLES

Amos Hart

[Male]

A meek, overlooked husband, Amos Hart is earnest, loyal, and painfully invisible. Constantly overshadowed by his wife, he struggles to be heard or valued, yet clings to a quiet hope that someone will finally notice him. His vulnerability and sincerity contrast sharply with the flashy world around him. Performers should lean into his softness, comic pathos, and deep well of longing, finding both humour and heartbreak in his need to matter.

Matron “Mama” Morton

[Female]

The tough, sassy warden of the Cook County Jail, “Mama” treats the inmates under her watch like family and would do anything for them – so long as she gets something else in return. “Reciprocity” is her motto. Needs to be strong character actor, strong vocals with belt.

Mary Sunshine

[Male or Female]

A sappy, soppy tabloid columnist who relies more on emotion than thought when it comes to writing her stories, Mary Sunshine is a person who believes that no matter what horrible atrocities a person has committed, somehow there must be a little bit of good in them. Billy takes advantage of Mary Sunshine’s overly emotionality and status as a prominent media analyst to present Roxie in a favourable light. Must be a strong character actor with good comic timing. This character is often played by a male in drag.

ENSEMBLE, DANCE TEAM & SUPPORTING ROLES

We are looking for a strong, versatile ensemble of actors, singers and dancers to form the backbone of Chicago. The ensemble plays a crucial role in shaping the show's distinctive world, bringing to life the razzle-dazzle, grit, and dark humour of 1920s Chicago.

Throughout the production, ensemble members will take on a wide range of roles, from prisoners, guards, and courtroom officials to reporters, nightclub patrons, and members of the public hungry for scandal. They will embody the jazz-age energy of the city, the sensationalism of the press, and the cynical, fame-driven culture that surrounds Roxie and Velma. Members of the Ensemble will also play the following supporting roles:

Fred Casely

[Male]

Roxie's boyfriend at the beginning of the show, Fred Casely sleeps with, and is promptly murdered by Roxie after he walks out on her. Appears in flashbacks reenacting the incident.

Sergeant Fogarty

[Male or Female]

A police sergeant who investigates the murder of Fred Casely and interrogates Amos.

Liz

[Female]

One of the "merry murderesses" of Cook County Jail. Shoots her husband with a shotgun because he popped his gum too loudly.

Annie

[Female]

One of the "merry murderesses" of Cook County Jail. Found out her boyfriend had married several wives behind her back and poisoned him with arsenic.

June

[Female]

One of the "merry murderesses" of Cook County Jail. Stabbed her husband with a carving knife after he accused her of cheating on him.

Hunyak

[Female]

One of the "merry murderesses" of Cook County Jail. Accused of chopping off her husband's head, Hunyak, unlike her fellow inmates, is actually innocent. However, she is found guilty regardless due to her inability to speak English and her refusal to plead guilty to her "crime". Her execution illustrates the corruption of the justice system. Speaks Hungarian. Ballet skills would be desirable.

Mona

[Female]

One of the “merry murderesses” of Cook County Jail. Kills her boyfriend after finding out he was sleeping around.

Go-To-Hell Kitty

[Female]

A wealthy woman who inherited her parents’ money, Kitty kills her boyfriend, Harry, in her apartment after finding him sleeping with two other girls. Going crazy after the murder, she becomes quite vicious and uses the oft repeated phrase “go to hell” to those addressing her. Her story takes the attention of the press off of Roxie temporarily.

AUDITION PIECES

A copy of all audition materials, including the sheet music and scripts are available to download from our website. There are different requirements depending on the role you wish to audition for. Please check these requirements carefully – each song has been cut.

Audition tracks are also available for you to download, these are the tracks that will be used in the audition.

CHARACTER	ACTING	SINGING
Roxie Hart	Monologue	Roxie - <i>Bars 42 - 75</i> Funny Honey- <i>Bars 5 - 41</i>
Velma Kelly	Monologue	All That Jazz - <i>Bars 24 - 67</i>
Billy Flynn	Monologue	All I Care About Is Love - <i>Bar 83 - End</i>
Amos Hart	Monologue	Mister Cellophane - <i>Bar 79 -End</i>
Matron Mama Morton	Monologue	When You're Good To Mama - <i>Bars 14 - 53</i>
Mary Sunshine	Monologue	<i>Your Choice Of Musical Theatre Song</i>
Ensemble / Dance Team / All Other Roles	Monologue	<i>Your Choice Of Musical Theatre Song</i>

If selecting your own choice of song please ensure it is a musical theatre piece that will best showcase your voice and range. Please do not prepare any form of rap /spoken word (such as from *Hamilton*).

You can either forward a backing track to us before the audition or bring your own device and connect to our audio playback through Bluetooth.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Performance week

There will be five performances of *Chicago* at Unity Hall Wakefield from **Thursday 5 to Sunday 8 November 2026** (including a Saturday and Sunday Matinee.)

The week of the show we will also require cast and crew on:

Sunday 1 November	6pm-10pm For Full Run
Monday 2 November	6pm-10pm for Technical Rehearsal
Tuesday 2 November	5:30pm-10pm for Technical Rehearsal
Wednesday 2 November	5:30pm call for Dress Rehearsal.

You **must** be available for all of these dates / times as well as **Sunday 25 October, and the evenings of Tuesday 27 and Thursday 29 October 2026.**

Rehearsals

For those successful in being cast we will start rehearsals on:
Tuesday 7 July 2026.

Rehearsals will take place at Performance Lab, Unity Hall, Wakefield on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** evenings from 7:30pm – 9:30pm and **Sunday** evenings 5:15pm – 7:15pm.

We are happy to be flexible with holidays or other commitments, but absences should not be excessive – any extended absences not previously agreed may result in your removal from the production.

For your convenience, we will issue a full rehearsal schedule at the first rehearsal.

*Please note if you are currently in our production of *Bonnie and Clyde* and successfully audition for *Chicago*, we will be able to work around any scheduling conflicts in July.*

Fees

For this show we will be charging £40 a month. This should be paid at the start of each month (July, August, September, October) or can be paid in full upfront. We offer a sibling discount. We **do not** charge additional subs or membership fees in addition to this show fee. If you are from a low-income family we may be able to offer financial support, please contact us for information about our bursaries.

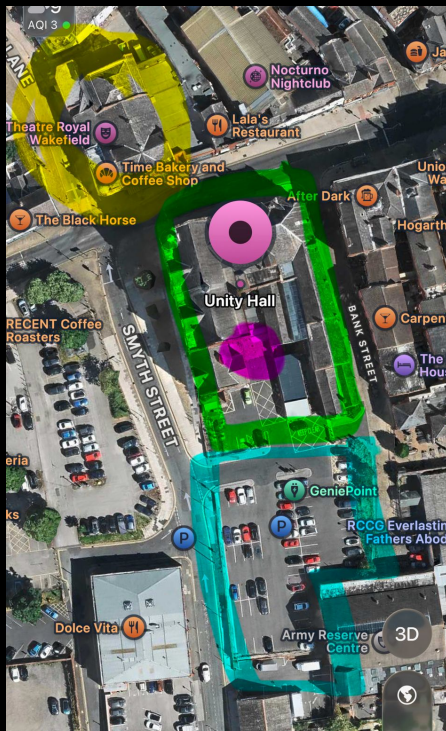
Copies of the Libretto/Vocal Book will be provided.

Any questions?

For more information or to ask any questions about the audition process, rehearsals or the show, please contact us at:
hello@wearepowerhouse.co.uk

FINDING US

Performance Lab is situated on the 4th floor of Unity Hall and Business Space. Unity Hall is centrally located in Wakefield city centre. If using sat nav, please follow directions to Unity Hall, Wakefield, WF1 1EP. The main frontage is on Westgate, however Performance Lab access is via the rear entrance off Smyth Street through the double glass doors.



*GREEN - Unity Hall
PINK - Entrance
BLUE - Free Car Park
YELLOW - Theatre Royal Wakefield*

Free parking is available at Smyth Street car park (marked in blue), for up to 2 hours everyday and then after 6pm Monday–Saturday and all day Sunday.

If you are parking at Smyth Street car park, walk towards the rear of Unity Hall – the double glass doors are clearly visible from the car park.

Unity Hall is also just a short walk from Wakefield Westgate train station. Exit the station and turn right onto Mulberry Way. Continue walking until you reach the intersection with Westgate. Unity Hall will be across the road and to your left.

Please note: doors will close promptly when the auditions begin, so please make sure you arrive on time.

Please note that all attendees must sign in and out downstairs at the entrance for fire safety compliance.

POWER HOUSE



@wearepwrhouse

Further information can be found on our website or socials