



GARSINGTON OPERA  
AT WORMSLEY

## 2018 Youth Company auditions: FAQs

### Where and when is the audition?

Saturday 24 March 2018

Millbrook Combined School, Mill End Road, High Wycombe, HP12 4BA



Follow the Garsington Opera signs – there is car parking on site.



- 10:00–13:00

#### **YC1 (9–13 years)**

Please note we already have enough girls for YC1 so we are **only currently recruiting boys** in this age group. If you are a boy aged 13 and not sure which group is best for you, please contact Julian so you can discuss the most appropriate group.

- 14:00–17:00

#### **YC2 (13–21 years)**

We are recruiting boys and girls for YC2.

#### **What's involved?**

The workshop will be very fun and relaxed, in a group setting. The stage director and vocal director will teach some drama games and vocal exercises to get you energised, will introduce you to the production of *Eliza and the Swans*, and teach some musical excerpts from the opera.

You'll do some singing as a group and then in smaller groups, so the creative team can hear who they are working with.

#### **Who will be auditioning me?**

Karen Gillingham (Director) and Lea Cornthwaite (Vocal Director), who are hugely experienced at working with young people on opera and singing projects. There will also be a pianist and some other Garsington Opera staff, all of whom will be very friendly and encouraging!

#### **Do I need previous performing experience?**

No. Some members have done concerts and productions before, but lots of our members had not performed in public before they joined Garsington Youth Company. This is a great place for you to gain experience!

#### **Is there a cost to be involved?**

No.

#### **Who is involved in *Eliza and the Swans*?**

- Garsington Opera Youth Company (100 young people aged 9–21)
- Jack Ridley (Conductor)
- Karen Gillingham (Director)
- Suzi Zumpe (Vocal Director)
- Orchestra of professional and student musicians

#### **What do I need to prepare/bring?**

There is nothing to prepare in advance, and any music will be taught on the day. Please come wearing comfortable clothing and trainers that you can easily move around in. We advise you to bring a bottle of water, and any snacks if you get hungry.

#### **Can parents wait during the auditions?**

There is space to park at Millbrook, and parents can wait in a separate room, but it won't be possible for parents to sit in the audition room itself.

High Wycombe town centre is close by, including extensive shopping facilities at the Eden Centre.

**When will I hear whether I've been offered a place?**

Within 1 week of the audition.

**What is the commitment required?**

Because of the limited number of rehearsals, we need 100% commitment to the schedule.

**If I'm offered a place, how will I learn the piece?**

Suzi Zumpe (Vocal Director) will be teaching you the piece in rehearsals. We will also provide music scores and learning tracks so you can revise things in your spare time.

**Will I have to miss school to take part in the opera?**

Rehearsals take place in afternoons/ evenings, at weekends and during holidays, so hopefully there won't be any major clashes with your school activities. We are aware that some 11–13-year-olds finish school around 16:00, so don't be put off – we can be flexible on you being a little late. Do speak to Judy (Company Manager) or Julian if you notice any dates/times that may cause you trouble.

**Will I be chaperoned?**

Yes, by our experienced Youth Company Manager. All the Garsington Learning & Participation staff have Enhanced DBS certificates.

**How do I sign up for the audition?**

To sign up or if you have any enquiries, contact our Learning & Participation Co-ordinator:

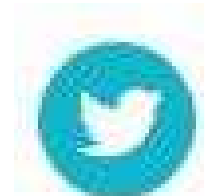
**Julian Guidera | [julian@garsingtonopera.org](mailto:julian@garsingtonopera.org) | 07812 955874**



[www.garsingtonopera.org](http://www.garsingtonopera.org)



Garsington Opera



@GarsingtonOpera

**[www.garsingtonopera.org/youth-company](http://www.garsingtonopera.org/youth-company)**