

Electric City Playhouse (ECP) proudly announces auditions for

# The <sup>BEST</sup> Christmas Pageant <sup>EVER</sup>

By

Barbara Robinson

## Performances:

- run December 8-17; Friday/Saturday at 7:30 pm; Sunday at 3 pm.
- take place at Electric City Playhouse, 514 N. Murray Ave., Anderson SC 29625

## Auditions will be held at ECP

- Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 10:00am-1:00pm
- Sunday, October 15, 2023 from 6:00pm-8:00pm
- Video auditions are welcome and can be sent to [ecplayhouseauditions@gmail.com](mailto:ecplayhouseauditions@gmail.com). Deadline for submission of video auditions is midnight Saturday, October 14, 2023.

**Synopsis:** In this hilarious Christmas classic, a couple struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant is faced with casting the Herdman kids – probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won't believe the mayhem – and the fun – when the Herdmans collide head-on with the story of Christmas!

This delightful show is adapted from the bestselling Young Adult book, and has become a holiday staple for groups across the United States. The crowd-pleasing comedy features plenty of great roles for children and adults, a few favorite Christmas Carols, and lots of laughs (as noted on [The Best Christmas Pageant Ever | Concord Theatricals](#)).

## Characters/Roles: 4 men, 6 women, 8 boys, 9 girls

- FATHER (Bob Bradley) – Solid family man, 35-38
- MOTHER (Grace Bradley) – Trim, attractive, 35ish
- BETH BRADLEY – The narrator, strong voice and presence, 10-11
- CHARLIE BRADLEY – Traditional kid brother, 8-9
- RALPH HERDMAN – Ragged, scroungy, slouching manner, touch of adolescent cool, 12-13
- IMOGENE HERDMAN – Loud, bossy, crafty, 11-12
- LEROY HERDMAN – Tough, sure of himself, 10-11
- CLAUDE HERDMAN – Tough, combative, 9-10
- OLLIE HERDMAN – Looking for trouble, Claude's usual partner in crime, 8-9
- GLADYS HERDMAN – Small, wiry, fiesty, 7-8
- ALICE WENDLEKEN – Prim, proper, pain in the neck, 10-11
- MRS. ARMSTRONG – Largish woman, managerial in voice and manner, 50ish
- MRS. SLOCUM – Pleasant, motherly woman, 35-60
- MRS. CLARK – 35-60
- MRS. CLAUSING – 35-60
- MRS. MCCARTHY – A younger, less imperious version of Mrs. Armstrong, middle 40s
- MAXINE – 10-11
- ELMER HOPKINS – 12-13

- HOBIE – 9-10
- DAVID – 8-9
- BEVERLY – 7-8
- FIREMAN – 25-30
- FIREMAN - 25-30
- SHIRLEY – 5-6
- JUANITA – 5-6
- DORIS – 9-10
- REVEREND HOPKINS – middle to late 40s
- Extra angel choir members, baby angels, shepherds

**Preparation:** Be prepared to cold read for the director. You may prepare a monologue, if you would like, but it is not necessary.

If possible, complete audition forms (linked on the ECP website here: <https://ecplayhouse.com/auditions/>), which you can print and fill out in advance or complete one at auditions.

All auditionees are encouraged to bring a non-returnable headshot and resume. Copies will be available onsite. Should an auditionee not have a headshot, we may take a photo or video during auditions for the director's reference.

**Anticipated Rehearsal Schedule:** Rehearsals may begin as early as Monday, October 16, 2023, and will primarily be on weeknights until TECH WEEK, which begins Monday, November 27, 2023. Scheduling will take into account unavoidable conflicts of cast members, which all known conflicts should be written on the Conflict Calendar.