

THE SOUND OF MUSIC CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

The age ranges and gender identities in the character descriptions are the ages and gender identities of the CHARACTERS. We are open to actors of any age and gender identity to portray these characters, but young performers need to be at least **7 years old** to audition.

Please note that the historical context of the show places the story in pre-World War Two Austria, with characters often based on real people. For some characters, we are open to actors of ANY race/ethnicity, regardless of the race/ethnicity of the historical person upon whom the character was based. For others, we feel it is important to the story to cast an individual whose race/ethnicity closely aligns with the historical character.

The Nuns

Maria Rainer (musical theatre mix/soprano, some dance, 20-35, Female, any race/ethnicity) A postulant at Nonnberg Abbey – young, free-spirited, warm, gentle, and kind with much determination. *NOTE: Should be comfortable with moments of intimacy, including a kiss with Captain VonTrapp.*

Mother Abbess (legit soprano, wide vocal range, 40+, very strong actress, Female, any race/ethnicity) Motherly, understanding, strong and authoritative, but kind.

Sister Berthe (alto, moves well, Female, any race/ethnicity) Mistress of Novices, prudish, straight-laced with a quick tongue, she is less tolerant than other nuns.

Sister Margaretta (mezzo, moves well, Female, any race/ethnicity) Mistress of Postulants, very kind, understanding and concerned.

Sister Sophia (soprano, moves well, Female, any race/ethnicity) is Neither demanding nor critical, sticks with the rules.

The Von Trapp Family

Captain Georg von Trapp (baritone, moves well, 35-45) A retired Austrian naval captain. Polished, yet very military in the way he runs his life to repress his sadness over the death of his wife; underneath, he is warm, understanding, and determined. *NOTE: Should be comfortable with moments of intimacy, including a kiss with Maria.*

Liesl von Trapp (mezzo, strong dancer, 16) The oldest child, blossoming into a young lady with an interest in boys. She has a maternal edge to her and cares very deeply for her younger siblings.

Friedrich von Trapp (age 14) Tough exterior, very much trying to be “the man” of the family.

Louisa von Trapp (age 13) Rebellious attitude.

Kurt von Trapp (age 10, strong falsetto voice) Gentle and mischievous.

Brigitta von Trapp (age 9) Smart, reads a lot.

Marta von Trapp (age 7) Very sweet and gentle.

Gretl von Trapp (age 6) Must have the cute factor.

Adult Featured Roles

Elsa Schrader (soprano, moves well, 35-45, Caucasian/European Descent) A baroness of taste and elegance, sophisticated, dignified and mature.

Max Detweiler (tenor/baritone, moves well, 30+, Caucasian/European Descent) Charming and vital; a man of sophistication who enjoys the good life; true and loyal friend to the von Trapp family.

Rolf Gruber (low tenor, strong dancer, 17, Caucasian/European Descent) Suitor to Liesl, telegram delivery boy, later Nazi soldier. A very pleasant young man, somewhat aggressive but in a gentle way.

Herr Zeller (non-singing, 40+, Caucasian/European Descent) Stern and unsmiling, a typical Nazi official whose primary concern is to see that everyone toes the line.

Franz (non-singing, 30+, Caucasian/European Descent) The von Trapp butler, rather formal but not without spirit, he is very German and loyal to the Fascist cause.

Frau Schmidt (non-singing, 30+, Caucasian/European Descent) The housekeeper, stoic, very little personality; she does her job efficiently but without affection. Strong and somewhat dominating.

Adult Ensemble (ages 16+) of singers/dancers of any gender and race/ethnicity to portray nuns, Salzburg citizens, nazis, friends of the VonTrapp's, contestants in the Festival Concert, etc.