

El Camino College Theatre Dept.

# AUDITIONS

# BYE BYE BIRDIE

*The 1950s All American Musical by Michael Stewart, Charles Strouse and Lee Adams*

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>th</sup> 12:00-4:00pm**  
**and MONDAY, MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup> 6:00-8:00pm**

**Anyone auditioning for any role including chorus & dancers must perform a vocal audition.**

- Please prepare a musical number for your audition that will represent you and your vocal ability for this type of show. An accompanist will be provided. *No a cappella singing please.*
- Please bring your selection of music for the accompanist to play.
- Selected candidates will be asked to come for dance, music and acting call backs.

### **Audition Dates:**

**Saturday, Feb. 28 – 12:00-4:00pm - Open Call**  
**Monday, March 2 – 6:00-8:00pm - Continue Open Call**  
**8:00-10:30pm - Dance Call backs**  
**Tuesday, March 3 – 6:00-10:30pm – Acting/Music Call Backs**

### **Audition Location:**

**Campus Theatre**  
**Marsee Auditorium**  
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**Campus Theatre**

### **MUSIC REHEARSALS:**

Music rehearsals will begin on March 9<sup>th</sup> - March 14<sup>th</sup> in Th. 151

Regular acting and dance rehearsals will begin March 16<sup>th</sup>

### **REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:**

Rehearsals will be on a Monday through Thursday schedule from 6:30-10pm with Saturday rehearsals from 10:00am to 5:00pm. (Some Sunday rehearsals may be scheduled closer to our opening date.)

### **PERFORMANCE DATES:**

April 18, 24, 25, May 1, 2, at 8pm and April 19, 26, & May 3 at 3:00 pm

### **CREW:**

Openings in all areas including lights, scenery, sound, make-up and costumes. No experience needed. Contact Technical Director: Sheila Malone: [Sheila@sheilamalone.com](mailto:Sheila@sheilamalone.com)

### **PARKING:**

All vehicles that park in the El Camino lots require a parking permit (\$3.00/day or \$35.00/semester).

**ENROLLMENT:** All performers and crew must register in a production workshop in order to participate. Registration will be handled at the first rehearsal. Note: Students who are not enrolled at El Camino College will need to apply, take a basic assessment test, and meet with an ECC counselor before registering for the course.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Contact Kevin Slay, director, by email at [slay@chapman.edu](mailto:slay@chapman.edu)

### **CREATIVE TEAM:**

**Director:** Kevin Slay – [slay@chapman.edu](mailto:slay@chapman.edu)  
**Choreographer:** K.C. Gussler – [kcgussler@mac.com](mailto:kcgussler@mac.com)  
**Music Director:** Brent Crayon - [brent@brentcrayon.com](mailto:brent@brentcrayon.com)  
**ECC Artistic Director** Ron Scarlata - [rscarlat@elcamino.edu](mailto:rscarlat@elcamino.edu)

## **SYNOPSIS OF BYE BYE BIRDIE**

Bye Bye Birdie is a satire that takes place in 1958 and centers around an Elvis Presley type rock and roll superstar (Conrad Birdie) who is drafted into the army. His agent and song writer (Albert Peterson) and Albert's secretary and love interest (Rosie Alvarez) plan a farewell performance for Birdie on the Ed Sullivan television show, which they hope will provide the publicity to sell his new song "One Last Kiss" and bring Albert's company out of debt. At the conclusion of the performance, Birdie will give a real kiss to a lucky girl from his fan club. The lucky girl randomly chosen is Kim MacAfee from Sweet Apple, Ohio, who is an avid member of the local Conrad Birdie fan club.

After Birdie's arrival in Sweet Apple, things continue to come undone as Birdie's charms enrage Hugo (Kim's Boyfriend) to punch him out on national television as he is about to kiss Kim. Later, Birdie confesses that he is tired of show business and goes out on the town with the kids to show them how to party. This leads to Birdie's arrest. Meanwhile, Rosie is getting tired of waiting for Albert to propose and figures that eight years is long enough. She is also tired of Albert's domineering mother (Mae Peterson) who is constantly interfering in their relationship.

The show ends with Albert bailing Birdie out of jail prompting Birdie to ask Albert to be his agent forever as he gets on the train to New York for his induction into the army. Kim and Hugo make up as Hugo proposes to Kim and Albert finally decides to propose to Rosie to tie up the remaining romantic knot before the show's finale.

## **"BYE BYE BIRDIE" CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS**

**Albert Peterson** An English teacher about 33 who is the president of his family-owned music company, Almaelou Music Corp. He is very much a momma's boy. Needs to be a triple threat - excellent comic actor, dancer and singer.

**Rose Alvarez** Albert's secretary, about Albert's age. She is very much in love with him. A triple threat – actress, singer and above all, an excellent dancer.

**Kim MacAfee** A very pretty and quite self-possessed 15-year-old who is the lucky girl who will bestow "one last kiss" to Conrad Birdie before he goes into the army. Needs to be a singer, actress and dancer.

**Mr. Harry MacAfee** The father of Kim and her brother, Randolph. Late 30s to mid-40s. Harry is very put upon by Conrad's visit to Sweet Apple. Essential that he be an excellent comic actor and singer.

**Mrs. Doris MacAfee** The mother of Kim and Randolph. She is the calming influence on Harry. The same age range as her husband. A mother very much in the manner of June Cleaver. Good comic actress and singer.

**Mrs. Mae Peterson** Albert's mother. She can be in her late 40s to 50s. She is the quintessential "mamma" always on the lookout to keep tabs on her son, even if it effects him negatively. Excellent comic actress who can sing.

**Conrad Birdie** A vain rock and roll singer in the manner of Elvis. He is about to be inducted into the army. A singer who can move is required.

**Hugo Peabody** Kim's "steady." He should be about 15 or 16. Very innocent compared to Conrad. Good singer and dancer.

**Randolph MacAfee** Kim's younger brother, aged 10. Good singer with comic presence.

**Gloria Rasputin** A big broad, tap dancing "secretary" in her mid- 20s to 30s. She is not particularly bright, but she is Mae's choice to replace Rosie.

**Ursula Merkle** A hyper-enthusiastic teen about 15 and best friend of Kim. Singer and dancer with comic flair.

**Harvey Johnson** Member of the teen chorus and featured in the musical number "The Telephone Hour." Comic role.

**Alice, Margie, Deborah Sue** Teen friends of Kim MacAfee.

**Two Sad Girls** Non-speaking teen dancers who are featured in the musical number "Put On A Happy Face" with Albert.

**Charles F. Maude** Proprietor/bartender of "Maude's Roadside Retreat." He is second tenor in a male quartet.

**Ed Sullivan Voice** The TV showman does not appear on stage but we need an actor to pre-record his distinctive voice.

**Teen Girls and Boys Friends** and classmates of Kim's in Sweet Apple, Ohio.

**Other Adult Male Roles**, filled from the male ensemble:

Policemen, Reporters, Mayor of Sweet Apple, Ohio, Mr. Johnson (Harvey's father), Maude's dishwasher and two customers, train station personnel, travelers, Conrad's guitar man, stage crew for TV show, doctor, Shriners and Sweet Apple parents.

**Other Adult Female Roles**, filled from the female ensemble: Reporters, Mayor's Wife, Mrs. Merkle (Ursula's mother), wardrobe ladies for TV show, travelers, Sweet Apple parents.