

THE MUSIC MAN CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Harold Hill: a smooth-talking con man and traveling salesman with plenty of charm. Commanding presence, romantic lead. Confident solo singer/performer. Some dancing ability. Gender: Male. Vocal range: top G5- bottom B3

Marian Paroo: the daughter of Mrs. Paroo, sister to Winthrop. She is the stuffy, conceited librarian and piano teacher in town. Strong acting and solo singing skills and dancing skills. Gender: Female. Vocal range: top G5- bottom G3

Charlie Cowell: A rival traveling anvil salesman. First seen on train at the start of the show. He returns to town to warn them about Harold..Needs good rhythm. Gender: Any

Mayor Shinn: The Mayor of River City. Somewhat blustery, pompous, not terribly intelligent. Gets a lot of things wrong! Listens to wife. Protective of daughter, Zaneeta, who he thinks is dating the wrong boy in town. Comedic acting (no solos). Gender: Male

Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn: Mayor Shinn's wife. Definitely a society lady. Knows everyone in town. Somewhat snooty. Member of every auxiliary organization in town. Keeps husband in line. Boisterous acting and solo singing skills. Gender: Female. Vocal range: top D5- bottom D4

Marcellus Washburn: Marcellus works in town and is dating Ethel Toffelmeir. He knows Harold from a long time ago. When they are reunited in River City, they become fast friends again. He is a comical character, Big personality. Strong acting and solo singing skills. Gender: Male. Vocal range: top D#5- bottom: E4

Mrs. Paroo: Widowed, Irish mother to Marian and Winthrop. Sweet homemaker who wants the best for everyone. Strong acting and solo singing skills. Gender: Female. Vocal range: top Eb5

Winthrop Paroo: Marian's lisping little brother/sister. Cute as a button. Does not talk because he misses his deceased father. Learns to trust again and is a chatterbox by the end of the show. Strong acting skills, good lisping skill, has solos. Gender: Any. Vocal range: top Eb5- bottom: C4

Amaryllis: Young piano student of Marian's. Likes Winthrop. Speaking and solo lines. Gender: Female

Barbershop Quartet: Excellent singers and actors, ability to sing close harmonies. Bickering members of the School Board who become a harmonious quartet. Olin Britt (Bass) Oliver Hix (Baritone) Ewart Dunlop (2nd Tenor) Jacey Squires (1st Tenor). Gender: Any

Tommy Djilas: A teenager who has a crush on Zaneeta. Wants to do the right thing but is shunned by all because he comes from the “other” side of town so he is considered the “rough and tumble” boy in town.. Strong acting and dancing skills. Gender: Male

Zaneeta Shinn: Mayor’s & Eulalie’s daffy teenage daughter. Has a crush on the “rough and tumble” boy in town, Tommy. Learning to stand up for herself. Strong acting skills (no solo) excellent dancing skills. Gender: Female

Gracie Shinn: Mayor’s and Eulalie’s younger daughter. Somewhat of a tomboy and a bit sneaky. Has some acting lines.. Solo line in Wells Fargo. Gender: Female. Vocal range: top Eb5- bottom: B3

Pick a Little Ladies: Each connected to one of the School Board Quartet. Gossipy, conservative “biddies.” Quirky comedic roles. Sopranos/Altos singers. Ethel Toffelmier, Alma Hix, Maud Dunlop, and Mrs. Squires. Gender: Female

Conductor: Conductor on train. Very business like. Intent on collecting tickets and doing job. Does not sing. Gender: Any

Constable Locke: Town policeman. Always ready to do as instructed. Cuffs Harold. Speaking part. Gender: Any

Ensemble: These are town folks who are proud of their town. They consist of men and women, teenagers and children. Some are strong dancers, some are strong actors, and some strong singers. Gender: Any

Traveling Salesmen: Salesmen on train that warn each other about what they’ve heard about Harold Hill. None of them have ever met him but all know about his reputation. They have a syncopated song in the beginning of the show – must have good rhythm and able to keep the beat.. Speak sing, quick and great acting. Gender: Any