

Alfred holding auditions for 'Fiddler on the Roof'

1/22/04

Alfred University's Division of Performing Arts is inviting students and community members alike to tryouts this weekend for the spring musical "Fiddler on the Roof," to be performed on campus April 21-25. "This is a large production with 22 characters plus villagers/singers, instrumentalists and others, and it provides a wide range of opportunities for those interested in being involved," said Steve Crosby, professor of theater at Alfred who will direct the production. Auditions will be held Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 24 and 25, in rooms 300 and 301 of the Miller Performing Arts Center on the Alfred University campus. Saturday's auditions begin at 2 p.m. and are for children only. Sunday's auditions, for adults only, are scheduled from 2-5 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. Limited roles are available for children, said Music Director Dr. Luanne Crosby, associate professor of voice and chorus at Alfred. She will teach a portion of one of the songs from the show to all the children, who will then be asked to sing alone or in small groups. No prepared songs will be needed. Children will also be put through acting and movement exercises. Junior and senior high school boys with changed voices are especially encouraged to audition, and may be asked to return on Sunday at 2 p.m. Adults attending Sunday's auditions should plan to attend one session, not both. They should come in loose and comfortable clothing and be prepared to sing and move. Adults are asked to come with a prepared solo and a clear copy of the sheet music for the piece they will perform. The piece does not need to be from the show. Anyone without sheet music is asked to contact Dr. Crosby at fclarke@alfred.edu or 871-2572. Callback auditions for lead acting roles will be held on Monday beginning at 9 p.m. Singing callbacks, if necessary, will be held on Tuesday. Those interested in being involved in the production are encouraged to keep their evenings open. Initial rehearsals for children will be either on weekends or the early evening hours. Children and parents must be willing to commit to some rehearsals which may run as late as 11 p.m. beginning approximately two weeks prior to opening night, and to nightly rehearsals from 7-11 p.m. beginning Friday, April 16, said Dr. Crosby. "Fiddler on the Roof is a touching, beautiful and inspiring American musical which magically catches the essence of a moment in history. It's a story relevant to our times," said Dr. Crosby. "We look forward to a great turnout and to wonderfully diverse participation in this community event."