Please note: The age ranges listed are the characters’ ages, not necessarily the ages of the actors.

**LEAD ADULT CHARACTERS:**

**Maria Rainer** (musical theatre mix/soprano, dance, 20-35) A postulant at Nonnberg Abbey – young, free spirited, warm, gentle and kind with much determination.

**Captain Georg von Trapp** (baritone, moves well, 35-45) A retired Austrian naval captain. He is a widower. He’s polished, yet very military in the way he runs his life; underneath, he is warm, understanding and determined. Regimented, dignified, commanding, manly, polished, noble, intelligent.

**Max Detweiller** (tenor/baritone, moves well, 30+) A theatrical agent and First Secretary of Education and Culture – a personal friend of Von Trapp and a sort of uncle to his children. He is clever at his job, charming, witty, and quite pushy to get what he wants. He has a humorous personality. He enjoys the good life and those that live the good life.

**Elsa Schrader** (mezzo soprano, moves well, 35-45) A very wealthy widow, who is president of her late husband’s corporation. Elegant, sophisticated city person. Clever and canny, she has begun a flirtation with Captain Von Trapp. She is very much into making a good social arrangement.

**Mother Abbess** (legit soprano, wide vocal range, 40+, very strong actress) is an inspirational leader for all the nuns at the Abby. She is a true big-hearted mother figure, loved, adored and respected. She has a bit of hidden spunk

**LEAD CHILDREN’S ROLES:**
All children, apart from their character description must be able to be conservative with their emotions and “serious.”

**Liesl von Trapp** (mezzo, dance, 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) Frederich is 14 and is proud to be a boy. He has a tough exterior and is very much trying to be “the man” of the family; desperately needs his father.

**Louisa von Trapp** (age 13) clever, and full of mischief. She is the master of pranks and enjoys pulling them on others. She is quite a tomboy, has a rebellious attitude, and misses her mother a great deal.

**Kurt von Trapp** (age 10, falsetto) He wants to be 11 and introduces himself as “11-almost”. He is the second boy and the middle of the children. He often tries to act manly and is outspoken against the previous governesses. He is gentle and a peacemaker.

**Brigitta von Trapp** (age 9) She is smart as a whip, very perceptive and always tells the truth whether you like it or not. She’s an avid reader and suspicious of “Uncle Max”

**Marta von Trapp** (age 7) She is one of the quietest Von Trapps. She loves the color pink, is very inquisitive, smart and gentle.

**Gretl von Trapp** (age 6) She is the youngest Von Trapp. She is very quiet when first introduced by her father. She is sweet, loving and wants attention. She must have the cute, adorable and endearing factor.

**FEATURED CHARACTERS:**

**Sister Berthe** (alto, moves well) A nun who is the Mistress of Novices. She does not think that headstrong, freespirited postulants belong at the Abby. She is a no nonsense type, officious and very strict. She is not a supporter of Maria. She is a killjoy, self-righteous, straight-laced, prim and a bit of a prude.

**Sister Margaretta** (mezzo, moves well) A nun who is the Mistress of Postulants. She is kind and understanding. A supporter of Maria. She is positive, encouraging, concerned and has a sense of humor.

**Sister Sophia** (soprano, moves well) Sister Sophia is a nun who always stays in line. She is very dutiful and kind. She would rather take the middle road to avoid controversy.

**Franz** (non-singing, 30+) Originally a sort of protector to Captain Von Trapp in the Navy, he is now retired into his position as valet, which he carries out with somber efficiency. He is humorless and appears harmless but underneath we discover he is secretly plotting with the Nazi party Anschluss.

**Frau Schmidt** (non-singing, 30+) The Von Trapp family housekeeper, Frau Schmidt does her job efficiently but without affection. She is strong and somewhat dominating. She has been around a long time and hates the way she is treated with whistles by the Baron. It affects her dignity. She appears to be a thoroughly reliable member of the staff and respected by all.

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

**Rolf Gruber** (low tenor, dance, 17) Suitor to Liesl, telegram delivery boy, later Nazi soldier. A very pleasant young man, somewhat aggressive but in a gentle way.

**Baron Elberfeld** ( **Male, Adult – Non-singing**) A neighbor of the Von Trapps and one of the “Old Guards” of Austria - violently opposed to the takeover of his beloved country by Nazi Germany. Can double with other roles in the ensemble. The baron attends the ball thrown by Captain Von Trapp in Elsa’s honor.

**CHORUS:**
5-10 male chorus members (16-60+ years) – Nazi soldiers, neighbors, Salzburg  citizens and Georg’s friends (of naval background).

10-15 female chorus members (16-60+ years) – Salzburg citizens, new postulant, nuns, novices, postulants and contestants in the Festival Concert.