

Auditions: AYOB Cantonese

A YEAR OF BLESSINGS is a five-episode audio play series about Chinese holidays, made for young audiences. Starting with Chinese New Year, we welcome each season according to the Lunar Calendar with a themed episode: Qing Ming (Spring), Dragon Boat Festival (Summer), Mid-Autumn Festival (Fall), and finishing the year with Winter Solstice. Throughout 2026, the series is being translated and rerecorded in Cantonese! Looking for **intermediate to advanced** Cantonese speakers for all characters (must be able to work locally in Vancouver), who can participate in studio recording sessions as well as live reading events.

In-Person Audition Dates: Oct 24-25, 2025 (Vancouver, BC)

Recording Dates*: Jan 3-16, 2026 (Vancouver, BC)

Rate of pay for recording: ACTRA-Audio Code rates

Live reading events: Feb 7, 2026, and throughout 2026 TBD.

*Actors might not be required for all recording dates, but please let us know of any N/A dates or potential conflicts between Jan 3-16.

TO SUBMIT:

To secure an audition time, complete the [Google Form](#), OR email fiveblessings@nantam.ca and include the following:

- Headshot & resume
- roles interested from the sides list
- voice reel and/or demo reel (if available)
- union status (CAEA or ACTRA. Non-union encouraged to apply!)
- availability within recording dates window
- Whether you're able to audition in person on a listed date or would like to submit a self tape. (Preference will be given to in-person auditions.)

Please choose **two to three sides of your choice** from the sides list on the next page that you would prepare for the audition if selected. You may be considered for additional characters across episodes.

Submission Deadline: Tuesday Oct 14.

Please let us know if you require access needs for the audition process. Any questions? Email fiveblessings@nantam.ca

Sides List

Please choose **two to three sides** of your choice from this list for the audition. We are casting all characters from all episodes beyond listed sides. Actors may be considered for additional characters across episodes. Please prepare the Cantonese text in blue. Cantonese readers will be provided at in-person auditions.

1	DJ Jellybelly	Voice of the generation. Local radio host.
2	Dimsum Auntie Cat	Personable. Just wants you to be well fed. A lil' catty.
3	Qu Yuan	Dead poet who rises from the river. Speaks in translation a la HK movie English subtitles. A little sassy, seemingly vague but actually to the point. Died for what he believed in. Has seen some shit.
4	Gramma Shrimp	Grandmother of Little Shrimp.
5	Big Headed Shrimp	The groundsweeper of Sandbar Cemetery.
6	Jean Claude Van Dam	Beaver. Passionate. Righteous. Will do anything to protect his family.
7	Tiger Mom	Annoying status obsessed auntie. Spoils her little prince TERRY, her only child.
8	Cousin Mantis Shrimp	17 years old. Very sea smart.
9	Tuna Turner	Karaoke Auntie Star. Grand. Mystical. Charismatic. Also a moon goddess.
10	Devon	(they/them) Captain of the Passion Dragons. Extroverted, but emotionally avoidant, and would prefer to make corny jokes instead. Faye's best friend.
11	Little Shrimp	10 years old. Hero.
12	Bunnifer	(7yo) twin girl (protagonist) Takes after her mom, action oriented. Spontaneous, thinks on the spot. Extroverted. Older than BUNNITHY by 68 seconds.
13	Faye	(they/them) Drummer of the Passion Dragons dragon boat team. Introverted. Comes from a long line of dragon boat drummers, but loves rock drumming. Has difficulty speaking up for themselves and would rather others make decisions for them.
14	RoRo	Cautious. An observer, and notices things that others don't because of their quiet nature. Nervous/cautious side and often needs encouragement from their friends.

Note: You are welcome to listen to the [original English audio-plays](#) for context as well as tone and style, but we are also open to new interpretations of the role(s)!

[Link to Cantonese Pronunciation Guide](#). Scripts available upon request.

Episode Descriptions

Ep 1 Bun Fun New Year

“Welcome to the Bao Family, We’re a family of bunnies.”

We kick off this Lunar New Year with tales from our bunny friends at the Bao household. In the midst of preparing for the lunar new year family feast, twin bunnies Bunnifer and Bunnithy learn the true meaning of new year festivities and a couple of...interesting...recipes along the way.

[Listen here.](#)

Ep 2 Little Shrimp

“Saying goodbye is not the end. We will see each other again.”

A brave Little Shrimp with a big heart takes us on a musical adventure through the underwater (and underworld) to connect with friends, family, and ancestors on Qingming, the tomb-sweeping holiday.

[Listen here.](#)

Ep 3 Band of Dragon: Sync, Oar, Swim

“We follow the drum. Our hearts beat together.”

Star athlete Faye, a 5th-generation dragon boat drummer, has a secret passion for playing music in the band, Skyhorns. When the Skyhorn’s biggest gig yet—opening for Manta Del Rey—falls on race day of the Dragon Boat Festival, our hero is faced with an impossible decision: fulfill traditions, or forge a new path. Faye seeks wisdom from the immortalized Chinese poet, 屈原 (Qu Yuan). With so much on the line, how will our young dragon choose? Will they sync, oar, swim?

[Listen here.](#)

Ep 4

Intentionally omitted as the number “four” is bad luck in Chinese!

Ep 5 Legend of the Whooshhh

“Fins together, Friends forever.”

We celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival with Eunice, RoRo, and Mabel. The three chum salmon swim upstream from the ocean, through the estuary, up the creek, and homeward bound into the forest where they will spawn. With rising temperatures and lowering water levels, The Three Chums will need to rely on their enduring friendships, new connections, the myth of Chang Er, and the legend of The Whooshhh—the salmon cannon—to get them safely home.

[Listen here.](#)

Ep 6 Operation Double Happiness

“You sing low, and I sing high. If you don’t know the melody, Just wing it, you can try.”

Operation Double Happiness tracks a family of Taiwanese Mandarin ducks who reside in different parts of Turtle Island. Clara and Cici are identical twins who have been in rivalry since birth and are now estranged, but their daughters Jamie, and Mallory are tightly connected—thanks to the interwebs. The two BFF cousins hatch Operation Double Happiness to unite their family for the Winter Solstice celebration in Taiwan. Jamie and Mallory narrate their mission to us in this heist-style, spy-movie episode—will the wily cousins be able to restore family harmony?

[Listen here.](#)

About Us

FIVE BLESSINGS is made up of five Chinese-Canadian artists who create theatre, sound and music, movement, and performance. We are Nancy Tam, Derek Chan, Robyn Jacob, Jasmine Chen, and Howard Dai; with Associate Producer Charlie Cooper. Our work celebrates the complexities found within stories and traditions from the Chinese diaspora through songs, audio plays, film, and stage works. www.fiveblessings.ca