

AUDITION BRIEF

productions

GREASE THE MUSICAL

Footlight Productions is thrilled to bring Grease The Musical to Geelong audiences in July 2024. To be staged in The Playhouse Theatre at Geelong Arts Centre, this production of Grease promises to be an all new electrifying extravaganza and we can't wait to take you back to Rydell High with Danny, Sandy, Rizzo, Kenickie and the gang.

WHO ARE FOOTLIGHT PRODUCTIONS?

Footlight Productions was formed in 2003 by Peter Wills with the aim of giving performers the opportunity to perform on stage in high quality musicals for Geelong audiences. Since its inception Footlight Productions has enjoyed ongoing success with musicals including *Cats, Les Misérables, Miss Saigon, Mary Poppins, Wicked, Mamma Mia!, Chicago, Fiddler on the Roof* and most recently, *Strictly Ballroom*.

Footlight Productions has a very loyal team of people working on their shows, and cast members have the chance to learn their craft from highly skilled professionals. It is gratifying to note that many performers and production team members travel from all over Victoria to work on Footlight shows, an indication of how highly this theatre company is regarded in the wider Victorian theatre community.

CREATIVE TEAM

Producers Director Musical Director Choreographer Associate Choreographer Margaret and Peter Wills Christian Cavallo Phil Kearney Damian Caruso Jemma Lowther

PERFORMANCE VENUE

The Playhouse, Geelong Arts Centre

PERFORMANCE DATES

- Opening performance Saturday 13 July 2.00pm
- Performance 2 Saturday 13 July 7.30pm Performance 3 – Sunday 14 July 2.00pm
- Performance 4 Wednesday 17 July 7.30pm
- Performance 5 Thursday 18 July 7.30pm
- Performance 6 Friday 19 July 7.30pm
- Performance 7 Saturday 20 July 2.00pm
- Performance 8 (Closing Night) Saturday 20 July 7.30pm
- Performance 9 (Possible extension) Sunday 21 July 2.00pm

REHEARSALS

The first rehearsal will be held on Sunday 7th April, commencing at 10am. All subsequent rehearsals will be held on:

- Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7pm 10pm
- Sundays from 10am 5pm.

Rehearsals will take place in the Rehearsal Studios behind White Eagle House; 46-48 Fellmongers Rd, Breakwater VIC 3219.



PRODUCTION WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday 8 July – Bump In & Begin LX plot, set completion 9.00am – 11.00pm (no cast required) Tuesday 9 July – LX and Technical Plot 9.00am – 11.00pm (no cast required) Wednesday 10 July – Technical rehearsal 5.00pm – 11.00pm Thursday 11 July – Dress rehearsal 5.00pm – 11.00pm Friday 12 July – Dress rehearsal 5.00pm – 11.00pm

FEES

The fee for all cast members is \$120 per person. This fee is due prior to the first rehearsal on April 7 and covers the cost of compulsory performance stage insurance and Cast T-shirt. The fee also covers entry to official Footlight functions.

AUDITIONS

Grease The Musical requires a versatile cast of competent singers, dancers and actors. All auditionees must be 16 years of age by the first rehearsal on Sunday April 7. Auditions will be held on Sunday 25th February at the Rehearsal Studios behind White Eagle House, 46-48 Fellmongers Rd, Breakwater VIC 3219.

DANCE AUDITIONS

Dance auditions will be held on Sunday 25th Feb at 10.00am, prior to the Vocal auditions in the afternoon on that day. Auditionees for all roles except 'The Adults' must attend the dance audition.

VOCAL AUDITIONS

If you are auditioning for a role in the show, you need to book in a vocal audition on Sunday 25th February. All vocal auditionees are asked to prepare a song which clearly demonstrates your vocal range, and aligns to the character you're auditioning for in the style of the show.

Note: it will not be necessary to sing the whole song at the audition so please start at a section which will best showcase the range and quality of your voice. See further notes on song choice and singing styles on the following page.

Please provide your own backing for your audition. No accompanist will be present. Auditions may continue through the week if needed.

Vocal audition bookings open on Friday 9 February Please contact Peter Wills on 0409 969648 to make your booking (after 6pm please)

CALLBACKS

Callbacks will be held at the same venue on Sunday 3rd March, commencing at 10.00am. Please note that you may be required for a substantial time, at any time, on the callback day.



A NOTE FROM THE CREATIVE TEAM...

We are looking for an energetic cast who will collaborate through rehearsals in creating a more 'electrifying' interpretation of this show. The production will depict a hyper-stylised reimagining of the 1950s era. We aim to explore Grease's rebellious roots, while also serving the audience a production that pays homage to iconic motifs from the well-loved movie and celebrates it's popular song catalogue.

Think: 1950s-Jukebox-Meets-Modern-Pop-Rock-Concert.

We are seeking contemporary pop-rock vocals, especially from our leads, and we encourage auditionees to move away from a 'music theatre' sound.

We are also seeking skilled dancers who will feature across several high-energy dance numbers, and for all actors and ensemble to create unique characters across the show.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

THE GREASERS

DANNY ZUKO

Male presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Danny is the leader of the T-Birds. He is physically fit, good-looking, strong and confident, with an air of cool easy-going charm. Tenor to B with strong falsetto.

SANDY DUMBROWSKI

Female presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Sandy is a young high schooler who is new to Rydell. She is sweet, wholesome, naïve and cute, like Sandra Dee of the Gidget movies. We are looking to pay homage to the late Olivia Newton John, and would like to see Sandy with a warm Australian accent. Soprano to D with strong belt/mix.

BETTY RIZZO

Female presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Rizzo is the leader of the Pink Ladies. An Italian with unconventional good looks, is tough, ballsy, sarcastic and outspoken but vulnerable. Mezzo with strong belt/mix to Eb.

KENICKIE

Male presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Kenickie is second in command of the T-Birds. He is good-looking, tough and surly, and avoids any show of softness. He has an offbeat sense of humor. Tenor to A.

ROGER

Male presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Roger is an anything-for-a-laugh type of guy. He enjoys winding people up, is full of mischief and is always dreaming up half-baked schemes and ideas. As king of the 'mooners', he is scripted to bare his behind. Tenor to A with strong falsetto.

JAN

Female presenting, Plays Late Teen. Jan is the funny, pushy and loud member of the Pink Ladies. She is food-obsessed with a heart of gold. Mezzo with a strong belt/mix to D.



DOODY

Male presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Doody is the youngest of the T-Birds. He is boyish and genuine, with a disarming smile and a hero-worshipping attitude towards the other guys. Doody plays the guitar. Tenor to G with strong falsetto.

MARTY

Female presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Marty is the 'beauty' of the Pink Ladies. She is pretty, sophisticated, and acts older than the other girls. Mezzo with strong belt/mix to Db.

FRENCHY

Female presenting, Plays Late Teen.

Frenchy is a dreamer – good-natured but not the brightest. She is heavily made up, and fussy about her appearance, particularly her hair. She can't wait to finish high school so she can be a beautician. Soprano with strong belt/mix to D.

SONNY LATIERRI

Male presenting, Plays Late Teen. Sonny, of Italian descent, is a braggart and wheeler-dealer who thinks he's a real lady-killer. Bari-Tenor.

PATTY SIMCOX

Female presenting, Plays Late Teen. Supporting character who is also part of the ensemble. Patty is a typical cheerleader at a middle-class American public high school. She is an attractive, athletic, sureof-herself type of girl who can be given to bursts of disconcerting enthusiasm. Patty can be catty but in an All-American Girl sort of way. She can also twirl a baton. Mezzo.

EUGUNE

Male presenting, Plays Late Teen. Supporting character who is also part of the ensemble. Eugene is the class valedictorian. He is physically awkward, with glasses and a high-pitched voice, nerdy, both smug and pompous, but gullible. Bari-Tenor.

CHA-CHA

Female presenting, Plays Late Teen-early 20's. Cameo character who is also part of the ensemble. Cha-Cha is slovenly and loud-mouthed. She takes pride in being the best dancer at 'St. Bernadette's'. Strong dance skill required.

THE ENSEMBLE

Playing late teens.

Must be excellent dancers with diversity in jazz and contemporary dance styles. Should have a strong singing voice. Acrobatic skills, tumbling and partnering experience are a plus.

THE ADULTS

MISS LYNCH

Female presenting, 30s+. Miss Lynch, Rydell High's domineering English teacher. Must be able to sing and command the stage.

TEEN ANGEL

Teen Angel is a skilled singer who would have been an idol in the 1950s. Seeking an excellent vocal ability and stage presence.



JOHNNY CASINO

Male Presenting. The front man of the band that plays at the high school dance. Seeking an excellent vocal ability and stage presence. Guitar skills are preferable.

VINCE FONTAINE

Male presenting, 30's-50's.

Vince is a typical 'teen audience' disc jockey, who is slick, egotistical and fast-talking. He is also a veteran 'Greaser'. Must be able to sing and command the stage, and inappropriately flirt with the school aged teenage girls.

