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## **PHOENIX PLAYERS**

N E W S L E T T E R





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# LAST MINUTE AUDITION NOTICE!



Leapin' Lizards! One of the world's best-loved musicals is now being presented in Canberra!

Phoenix Players is proud to present *Annie* - a family show full of comedy, catchy songs and lot of heart. Recently revived on the professional stage, *Annie* is based on Harold Gray's "Little Orphan Annie" comic strip which debuted in 1924. *Annie* is set in Depression Era New York City at a time when the economy looked bleak, government seemed ineffective and the average citizen was desperate and frustrated. With its hopeful message and unwavering belief in a better tomorrow, *Annie* has become one of theatre's most well-known and popular musicals.

#### THE STORY

With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts, despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. We find Annie, a spunky, redheaded orphan, in a New York City Orphanage where she had been abandoned years ago by her parents. In defiance of the cruel embittered orphanage matron Miss Hannigan, Annie decides to run away and find her parents. With the help of the other girls in the orphanage, Annie escapes to the wondrous and magical world of NYC - never knowing that this will lead to a whole new exciting adventure. Helped by billionaire Oliver Warbucks, Grace, his personal secretary and a lovable mutt named Sandy, Annie finds out what happens to her parents, meets the President Roosevelt and finds a new home and family.



#### **AUDITION INFORMATION**

If you are looking at auditioning you will need to do the following things.

Go to the <u>Information about the Characters</u> and determine what you are auditioning for. This will give you the vocal range you need for that part.

If you are a parent of a child wanting to audition please read the <u>Parent Information</u> <u>Sheet</u>. You may need to assist your child in reading the <u>Kids Information Sheet</u>. This will advise them of what songs they will need to sing and what is involved in the audition.

Adults auditioning for the show can sing whatever song they are comfortable with, but not a song from *Annie*. Your song should be about 3 pages at the most in length. You may not be required to sing all of your song. You are welcome to sing songs from other shows or ballads. No country and western, disco or rap.

You will need to download the <u>Audition</u>
<u>Application Form</u> and fill it in to bring to your audition.

Many of the questions you have regarding rehearsals, performances, and callbacks may be answered in the <u>Frequently Asked</u> Questions information sheet.

To make an actual audition booking you need to email your name and contact details to phoenixannie2013@gmail.com.

We envisage the following breakdown for auditions.

- Friday 21 June Adult auditions
- Saturday 22 June, morning Adult auditions
- Saturday 22 June, afternoon -Children's workshop
- Sunday 23 June children's auditions
- Tuesday 25 June Call Backs

Please make sure you wear comfortable clothing and bring water to your audition.

We look forward to seeing you at auditions.

The Annie Team

### INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTERS

#### Annie

(Pre-teen, girl)

Orphan girl, looking for her parents. Annie is a tough streetwise urchin who is, nevertheless; vulnerable. Throughout the show she shows independent, needy, maternal, and hopeful qualities. Although she is at times aggressive or crafty, there is no doubt that Annie is a friendly and caring child.

#### Miss Hannigan

(Adult female – any age)

Orphanage matron. Hates children. Her distaste for her job and the children is obvious in every move she makes. She is predictable and funny in her ridiculous, cruel ways.

#### Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks

(Adult male - Older)

Billionaire businessman, who opens his home and heart to Annie. A powerful, self-assured billionaire who always has his mind on business. While sometime gruff and abrupt he has a kind heart. At first he is awkwardly affectionate toward Annie, but he soon finds himself completely charmed by her.

#### **Grace**

(Adult female – young)
She is the beautiful and

She is the beautiful and loyal private secretary to Oliver Warbucks. Grace is mature, calm, and classy. She is businesslike when dealing with Miss Hannigan and Warbucks, yet maternal toward Annie.

#### "Rooster" Hannigan

(Adult male – young)

Miss Hannigan's disreputable brother. Rooster is flashy and self-assured. His "moves" are as smooth as a gambler's, sly, and deceiving.

#### Lily St. Regis

(Adult female – young) Rooster's girlfriend. She is always distracted, although she manages to pick up on any conversation involving money.





#### **Orphans**

These girls are gritty, neglected, vulnerable, yet basically honest, and potentially lovable. They have mischievous fun with each other and also have "sibling-style" fights.

Molly: littlest orphan

Pepper: toughest girl in the orphanage Duffy: oldest girl in the orphanage

Kate: next to littlest orphan

Tessie: the crybaby in the orphanage

Judy: the quietest orphan

#### Mr. Bundles McCloskey

The laundryman who serves the orphanage. He has an innocent, flirtatious relationship with Miss Hannigan.

#### **President Roosevelt**

(Adult male - older)

Aids in the search for Annie's parents.

#### **Louis Brandeis**

(Adult male – older)

Supreme Court Justice, who aids in Annie's adoption.

#### **Bert Healy**

(Adult male – any age)

Radio announcer, who agrees to broadcast an appeal to Annie's parents.

#### The Boylan Sisters

(3 females – adult or older teen) Trio that sings on the radio.

#### Lt. Ward

(Adult male – any age)

A policeman sent to find Annie. A policeman who returns Annie to Miss Hannigan after she escapes from the orphanage.

#### Drake

(Adult male – older)

Warbuck's butler and good friend

#### Warbuck's Mansion staff

(male and female – older teens and adults) Maids, cooks, servants, etc.

#### Roosevelt's Cabinet

(Adults – any age) Cabinet Secretaries

#### **Downtown ensemble**

(any age)

Dancers who live in the depressed area of New York City.

#### Citizens of New York City

(Adults and children)

All types to include "Hooverville" citizens.

For more information please see the <u>Annie</u> <u>audition information</u> on the Phoenix Players website.

#### **SMALL PROJECTS**

Thank you to all the people who applied for small projects at the end of 2012. All your enthusiasm and hard work is much appreciated. After Annie, we will be looking at our program for the forthcoming years.

#### **DIABETES ACT CINDERELLA BALL**

On May 18, Phoenix Players participated in the Cinderella Ball for Diabetes ACT. Over 350 people attended what was a very exciting and entertaining night.



Cinderella and Prince Charming

The feedback received from those that attended the Gala Ball has been overwhelmingly positive. Thank you to all involved for making this a magical evening.







ep Sisters and Step Mother



ry God Mother and Cinderella



All the actors

A special thank you to Kelda McManus (Step Sister), Judy Satrapa (Step Mother), Kate Tricks (Step Sister), Rachel Peterson (Fairy God Mother), Vanessa De Jager (Cinderella) and Nick Valois (Prince Charming) for being our fantastic roving actors for the evening.

## THEATRE AROUND CANBERRA IN JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2013

The Reluctant Shopper
Long Run Theatre Productions
Courtyard Studio, Canberra Theatre
19-29 June 2013

Jazz Garters 4
Canberra Repertory
Theatre 3
21 June to 6 July 2913

The Marvellous Land of Oz Child Players ACT Belconnen Theatre 11-20 July 2013

A Midsummer Night's Dream Queanbeyan City Council The Q 24 July to 3 August 2013





#### **MEMBERSHIP REMINDER**

Don't forget to renew your membership, or join if you are new to Phoenix Players!

Everyone in a Phoenix show needs to be a member to be covered by insurance. And there are also some other great benefits:

- Regular updates via Spotlight
- Tickets to Phoenix shows at member prices
- Southern Cross Health Club \$199 joining fee waived for Phoenix members
- Belconnen Stationery –15% discount on all personal purchases and a 15% discount on the first trade purchase (i.e. business) made by Phoenix members
- Instant Colour Press 15% off all personal purchases and a 15% discount of the first trade purchase for all new clients.

So send in your membership form now! The membership application/renewal form can be found on our website at <a href="http://www.phoenixplayers.com.au/images/membershipform.pdf">http://www.phoenixplayers.com.au/images/membershipform.pdf</a>

#### **SUDOKU**

Level: No, I'm not kidding!



