Mackay Musical Comedy Players’ Audition Pack

**SHOW DATES 22nd, 23rd, 28th, 29th &30th November 2019**

**AUDITION DATES 8th September 2019**

## Creative Team

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Victor Scott** | **Sandy Conroy** | **Kennedy FOLEY** |
| *Director* | *Vocal Coach* | *Choreographer* |
|  |  |  |
|  | **Jay Shipston**  *Producer* |

**SHOULD I AUDITION FOR ‘RUTHLESS! The Musical’?**

The following is IMPORTANT INFORMATION. It enables you to decide your availability

to commit to the requirements of production **before** auditioning.

## Rehearsal & Production Expectations

* 1. Rehearsal attendance is **compulsory** whenever called.

If you accept a role, you are entering into a commitment and there are no excuses for non-attendance. A commitment is made by every performer to attend all rehearsals, performances, and bump-in/out. This ensures a smooth–running show, and that fun is had by all. We understand that there may be a time when this is not possible due to other very important commitments, however this **does not include regularly scheduled activities e.g. work, sports practice, dance lessons, school band and music commitments etc. with which you may be involved.** A timeline will be provided early in the rehearsal process and if you are going to be unavailable for any of those rehearsals due to one-off commitments such as weddings, 60th birthday parties etc., then the Director must be notified in advance.

Be aware that if you miss more than 3 rehearsals (for ANY reason including the above ones), your place in this production may be forfeited. PLEASE DON’T CONSIDER AUDITIONING IF YOU CAN’T MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS.

* 1. Production Week

**Sunday, 17th November – Saturday, 30th November 2019** will be a crucial period for the show and attendance is compulsory for all rehearsals/performances. If you are not going to be available for ALL of these dates, we will not be able to make a part available in the show for you. You will be notified in advance of attendance requirements.

* 1. Only cast and crew are to attend rehearsals

The rehearsal venue for Mackay Musical Comedy Players has limited space and resources for people to wait for their friends/partners that are part of the cast. To this end, we require that the above-mentioned people do not come to rehearsals and either return to pick people up or make other arrangements.

## Rehearsal Timeline

* Rehearsals will commence Wednesday the 11th September 2019 and this will be an all of cast rehearsal. All cast should be prepared to have their program photo taken, organise membership forms, discuss costume requirements and have a short Biography ready for submission. At this rehearsal, it is hoped that we will have the first outline of attendance requirements for characters.
* All cast will not necessarily be required at every rehearsal.
* Rehearsals are held on EVERY Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon up until Performance dates. NOTE: Longer Sunday Rehearsals may be scheduled when needed.
* **Please ensure your availability for these days/times before auditioning.**

## Financial Expectations

* 1. Membership

Cast will be required to become financial members of MMCP. Forms will be distributed at the first rehearsal and need to be returned with payment of **$60** **within the first 4 weeks of rehearsal.**

* 1. Personal Expenses

These may be incurred, including for, but not limited to, SHOES and UNDERGARMENTS:

Cast may be asked to provide their own pair of shoes and/or other specific footwear e.g. black or brown boots, specific under garments in flesh/bone colour etc. as well as stockings/tights.

* 1. Off-stage Preparation Expectations

**Please be aware that by accepting a role in this production, you are committing to helping in off-stage activities.** As members, all cast (or a family member/friend as representative) will be expected to **participate actively in the off-stage preparations for this show.** This may include attending working bees at The Shed on Lamb Street on Saturdays to help with set construction, painting, costuming, publicity events, cooking BBQs, etc. There will also be tasks that can be completed at home. A range of skill levels will be required; so there will most certainly be jobs that everyone is capable of performing. More detailed information will be available at the auditions. Please fill in the appropriate section in the Audition Form at the back of this pack.

## Contact Details

Please be aware that the **audition package contains all the material that is being made available to prospective auditionees**. If you feel that something is not included in the pack, a question can be put to the production team. This answer will be made available for everyone.

**To pose any extra questions, please contact us on Facebook or by email.**

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| **Mackay Musical Comedy Players Inc.** | | |
| **Postal Address:** | **Street Address:** | **Website:** |
|  | Jack Sturgeon Workshop | www.mackaymusicalcomedyplayers.com |
| PO Box 95 | Lamb Street | **Email:** |
| Mackay QLD 4740 | Mackay QLD 4740 | mmcp\_inc@yahoo.com.au |

## Brief History

MMCP was founded in 1965 and staged its first production *The Boyfriend* that same year. From this humble beginning MMCP have staged numerous musicals over the years such as *Jesus Christ Superstar, Les Miserables, My Fair Lady, Singin’ In The Rain, The Secret Garden, Grease, Hairspray, Legally Blonde, Mary Poppins, Wicked and Rock of Ages* (while it would be nice to list them all, there have been far too many shows). MMCP built its permanent residence on Lamb Street in 1978 and plans to continue its fine tradition of producing quality music theatre for many years to come.

We are committed to securing performers and participants in the production who will be engaged and committed at all times and actively demonstrate their dedication to the production as a whole. Performers who will succeed in this production will demonstrate only the highest contribution to joining a team who will endeavour to make this experience memorable as a quality production for both the company and the region.

Volunteering with The Mackay Musical Comedy Players as both a performer and assisting with offstage jobs is a great way to meet people, make friends, and experience all aspects of the theatre.

## Synopsis

Judy Denmark is an all-American housewife with an absentee husband and a precocious daughter named Tina. Talent agent Sylvia St. Croix wants to make Tina a star and sees the upcoming school play as the perfect launching pad for her career. Sadly, the lead role of Pippi Longstocking goes to Louise Lerman, whose parents are financial backers of the production. Tina is cast as the understudy for the one-night-only performance, meaning that she'll never get to play Pippi …….. unless something were to happen to poor Louise before opening night. This aggressively outrageous musical hit garnered rave reviews in London’s West End and during its long Off-Broadway run which opened with Britney Spears in the leading role, also launching the career of Natalie Portman. Satirising and referencing a range of well-known musicals along the way, Ruthless! is a barrel of laughs, blending high farce with its own brand of dark humour.

## Audition Times and Locations

* 1. Auditions are on the 8th September 2019.
  2. All persons auditioning will have to arrange a 6 minute time slot through Eventbrite **(**<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mmcp-theatre-restaurant-ruthless-auditions-tickets-68751251845?aff=ebdssbdestsearch> ) between 2pm and 4pm.
  3. In addition, all auditionees will be required to attend a group choreography audition at 3:15pm

## Roles Available

* 1. All roles in Ruthless! are open, as are all roles in MMCP shows. No roles have been pre-cast and we encourage everyone if they are interested in a role to audition. All cast members for Ruthless!will be required to audition.

## Audition Preparation

* 1. Each role will be required to book a **6-minute private audition** timeslot using our online booking system **EventBrite** **(**<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mmcp-theatre-restaurant-ruthless-auditions-tickets-68751251845?aff=ebdssbdestsearch> )
  2. Prepare a song in the style of the character that you are auditioning for.
  3. Bring any backing tracks you require for your prepared song.
  4. Ensure that you have filled in your audition form and photo consent form and bring them on the audition day.
  5. Please provide a current headshot with your audition form (this is to assist the audition panel in identifying you during the process and will not be used for any other purpose).
  6. During the audition you will be required to sing the prepared song/s and you may be required to do a cold reading from the script.
  7. Auditionees are also required to attend the Group Stage Movement audition at 3:15pm on the day of auditions.

## Audition Day/s Procedures

**What to bring:**

* + Audition Application Form
  + Current Headshot
  + Photo Release Form
  + Backing track on phone, CD or usb stick for own choice audition song.
  + Plenty of water

**What to wear:**

* + Please wear covered in shoes or dance shoes – NO bare feet, thongs or sandals
  + Please wear appropriate clothes for movement; pants – not skirts and no loose tops.

**Things to be aware of:**

* + A panel of the creative team will conduct the auditions. Please be aware that other individuals including assistants and an accompanist may be present at different stages.
  + Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your audition time. This allows time to calm your nerves, familiarise yourself with the surroundings and for us to ensure that you have arrived and are ready for your slot. Please allow at least another 15 minutes after your slot in case we require more time with you.
  + For the Group Auditions please arrive at 3pm to ensure that you are registered and have all the necessary information required for the audition.
  + You will be photographed and may be videoed at the audition, and during the process of the show. We require a consent form before we are able to audition you.

**Audition Process:**

Auditions

* These individual auditions will be closed. Visitors (Parents/Partners/Teachers/Friends) will have to wait outside while the audition is in process as we wish to give you, the best opportunity to perform without distraction.
* A panel of the creative team will conduct the audition. You will be expected to sing the audition song/s and you may be required to do a cold reading from the script and/or movement. (Any dialogue required will be provided on the day).

## Casting Notifications

The successful cast will be called on the evening of auditions after we have finalised our casting decisions and a cast announcement will be made that evening or the following day on Facebook. Auditionees will be notified by phone or text message on the contact details you have provided. **PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHER PEOPLE’S FEELINGS AND REFRAIN FROM POSTING/PUBLICISING YOUR POSITION IN THE SHOW UNTIL THE OFFICIAL POST ON THE MMCP FACEBOOK PAGE**.

## Characters

**Ruthless!** requires strong singing and acting ability in all roles. All characters have at least one solo song and some of the characters will have many as well as harmony and part work. All characters will need to be strong actors as well with much of the effectiveness of the comedy relying on the actor’s portrayal. Dance skills will be dependant on the character. Brief character descriptions, vocal ranges, age ranges and dance requirements are listed below. **Note Age ranges are a guide and age appearance is more important than actual age**.

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| **ROLES** | **GENDER / AGE RANGE** | **DESCRIPTION** | **CHOREO/VOCALS** |
| Tina Denmark | F (8yo played by an adult – 18 to 22) | an 8-year old “triple threat”, loaded with talent and manipulative to the core, she is sickeningly sweet but underneath, is a remorseless psychopath. | Choreo: Strong Dancer - Tap preferred but not a deal breaker. Voice: Should have a strong belt. F# below middle C to E one octave above middle C |
| Judy Denmark | F approx. 30’s | Tina’s mother, a simple, Wholesome, all American 60’s-type housewife who is transformed into Ginger, a Broadway diva. F below middle C to B Flat one octave above middle C | Choreo: Some mild  Vocal: F below middle C to B Flat one octave above middle C |
| Sylvia St. Croix | M 50’s + | The stereotypical “in-your-face” talent manager, who is obsessed with making Tina a star. For this role, we are looking to cast a man in drag. | Choreo: N/A  Vocal: A one octave below middle C to E above middle C |
| Lita Encore | F 50’s | Judy’s adoptive mother, a theatre critic with a poison pen, who hates musicals. | Choreo: N/A  Vocal: An Ethel Merman-type with a strong belt. E below middle C to D one octave above middle C |
| Louise Lerman / Eve | F (child, played by an adult 18-22) | The student who beats out Tina for the lead in the school play, she has limited talent and is larger than Tina. Doubles as Eve - Efficient personal assistant to Broadway star, Ginger. She wants Ginger’s life, and copies her every mannerism. F# below middle C to C above middle C | Choreo: Some Mild  Vocal: F# below middle C to C above middle C |
| Myra Thorn / Reporter | F30’s – 40’s | A wannabe actress who had to settle for teaching 3rd grade, she is the director of the school play. Her integrity in casting is questionable Doubles as Reporter - A lesbian reporter who wants to do a story about Ginger’s past. | Choreo: N/A  Vocal: . E below middle C to B above middle |

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| **AUDITION APPLICATION** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | **AUDITION**  **NO** | | |
| **CAST POSITION IN WHICH YOU ARE INTERESTED:**  *(Be specific – Do not write ALL/ANY)* | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | |
| **NAME:** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **DATE OF BIRTH:**  **(if Under 18)** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **ADDRESS:** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **SCHOOL CURRENTLY ATTENDED (if applicable):** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **HOME PHONE:** | | | | **WORK PHONE:** | | | | | | | | **MOBILE PHONE:** | | | | | | |
|  | | | |  | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| **EMAIL ADDRESS:** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **TRAINING UNDERTAKEN: (Please tick or cross relevant sections)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***DANCE:*** | **Ballet** |  | **Tap** | |  | **Jazz** |  | **Modern** | |  | | | **Ballroom** | |  | | **National** |  |
| **TEACHER / STUDIO:** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***VOICE:*** | **Soprano** |  | **Mezzo** | |  | **Alto** |  | | **Tenor** |  | | | **Baritone** | |  | | **Bass** |  |
| **TEACHER / STUDIO:** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **PREVIOUS THEATRE / ACTING / DANCING ETC EXPERIENCE:** | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***IF CAST IN THIS PRODUCTION, IT WILL BE A REQUIREMENT THAT YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF MACKAY MUSICAL COMEDY PLAYERS INC.***  If you accept a role, you are entering into a commitment and there are no excuses for non-attendance. A commitment is made by every performer to attend all rehearsals, performances, and bump-in/out. Due to the high interest in this production, if you miss more than 3 rehearsals (for ANY reason including the above ones), your place in this production may be forfeited. ***PLEASE DON’T CONSIDER AUDITIONING IF YOU CAN’T MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS.***  **Please be aware that by accepting a role in this production, you** (or a family member/friend as representative) **are committing to helping in off-stage preparations for this show.** This may include attending working bees at The Shed on Lamb Street on Saturdays to help with set construction, painting, costuming, publicity events, cooking BBQs, etc. There will also be tasks that can be completed at home. A range of skill levels will be required; so there will most certainly be jobs that everyone is capable of performing. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **WHICH OFFSTAGE JOBS WILL YOU ASSIST WITH? (Circle choices)**  **Set Construction / Painting / Make-up / Hair / Set Transport /**  **Sewing (machine) / Hand sewing / Flyer delivery for Publicity / Other** | | | | | | | | | | | **EXPERIENCE IN THESE AREAS / OTHER INFORMATION:** | | | | | | | |
| **Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Guardian if under 18)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**MACKAY MUSICAL COMEDY PLAYERS**

**PHOTO/VIDEO/IMAGE RELEASE FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, hereby consent to photographs/images and/or video footage

*(Name of Member / Parent / Guardian)*

of me/my child \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ being taken during auditions, rehearsals, or

*(Name of Member)*

performances throughout the period of financial membership this year by official show photographer(s) / video camera operator(s), appointed by the Management Committee of the Mackay Musical Comedy Players, or by the Publicity Officer of the Mackay Musical Comedy Players.

I consent to such photographs/images and/or video footage being reproduced for the following purposes:

1. to publicise the club in the media (including display on the club’s website and other electronic media),

2. to be included in programmes for the production,

3. to be retained for archival records of the Mackay Musical Comedy Players (including display on the club’s website),

4. to enable copies to be made available to other members of Mackay Musical Comedy Players as mementos of the production,

I do not consent to any unauthorised use of photographs/images and/or video footage of me or my child.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signed: |  | Signed: |  |
|  | *(Member Applicant)* |  | *(Signature of Parent / Guardian if under 18)* |
| Dated: |  | Dated: |  |