## *Strathfield Musical Society Inc*

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## Information Pack

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| **PO Box 922 Strathfield NSW 2135** | **President: Brian Hughes** | **Patron: Julie Anthony, OBE AM** |
| **www.strathfieldmusicalsociety.com.au** | **Secretary: Philip Clark** | **ABN 12 212 586 792** |
| **secretary@strathfieldmusicalsociety.com.au** | **Treasurer: Sharon Palmer** |  |

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| ***Seussical*** is based on the children’s books by Dr Seuss. It is a sung through musical that weaves together some of the most famous tales and characters in quite unexpected ways. Many of the characters never met in the original books, but they meet in this musical! During the show some will fall in love, have desperate adventures, and some will save the world!  In Dr Seuss books we see belief in the value of helping a friend, in not giving up, and in keeping a promise. There is belief in the value and dignity of others and in working to preserve the fragile sweetness of the natural world. Peace is seen as the ultimate ideal among nations and in every heart and one of the strongest forces in the world is the pure power of imagination.  And all of this is encapsulated in a quirky, funny musical that all the family can enjoy.  (Adapted from some “thinks” by the Authors – Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty)  **All performances at The Latvian Theatre,**  **32 Parnell Street, Strathfield**   * Friday 21st October 2022 @ 8pm * Saturday 22nd October 2022 @ 2pm * Sunday 23rd October 2022 @ 2pm * Friday 28th October 2022 @ 8pm * Saturday 29th October 2022 @ 2pm * Saturday 29th October 2022 @ 8pm | Logo  Description automatically generated  **Music by**  **STEPHEN FLAHERTY**  **Lyrics by**  **LYNN AHRENS**  **Book by LYNN AHRENS and STEPHEN FLAHERTY**  **Co-Conceived by LYNN AHRENS, STEPHEN FLAHERTY and ERIC IDLE**  **Based on the works of DR. SEUSS**  **By arrangement with** Hal Leonard Australia Pty LtdExclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY) |

***Strathfield Musical Society season 21-29 October 2022***

# Strathfield Musical Society Management Committee

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| President | Brian Hughes |
| Vice President | Majella Bendeich |
| Secretary | Philip Clark |
| Treasurer | Sharon Palmer |
| Members’ Representatives | Joanne Cardone  Richard Creek  Brian Sadler |

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# Production Team

Director & Musical Director – Cathy Boyle

Choreographer – Candice Docker

Assistant Director – Malcolm Purves

**Commitment to the Show & Rehearsals**

* All cast members of Strathfield Musical Society shows are required to pay a Show Fee of $80 ($65 for Strathfield Musical Society members). This fee may be paid in instalments – the first instalment must be paid by 30th June 2022 and the Show Fee must be paid in full by 30th September 2022.
* All cast members of Strathfield Musical Society shows are expected to assist with bump in (Saturday 15th October 2022) and bump out (Sunday 30th October 2022).
* All cast members are expected to help publicise and promote the show.
* All cast members must be available for all show dates (see page 2).
* An initial rehearsal schedule will be provided by the first rehearsal. All cast members are expected to attend every rehearsal for which they are called.
* Rehearsals will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings at the Latvian Theatre from 7:30pm until 10pm. Rehearsals will commence on 20th June 2022.
* There will be 4 Sunday rehearsals, 17/7, 7/8, 21/8, and 18/9 or 25/9. These will run from 10:30 am until 4pm.
* The Production team would like to state that full commitment to this show will be required from all performers. If more than three rehearsals are missed, without prior agreement, a performer’s participation in the show will need to be re-evaluated.
* Please don’t audition if you are doing another show that will impact on your ability to attend our rehearsals.
* **Please note that Seussical’s rehearsal period involves both the July and September school holidays. Absence during the July holidays could be negotiated but if you are going to be away for the September holidays, you shouldn’t audition for the show – it’s just too close to opening night!**

**Characters**

HORTON THE ELEPHANT. (Baritone) A gentle giant who believes in the goodness of the world. He is rather like a big-hearted blue-collar guy who always tries to do the right thing for his friends.

Horton sings or has dialogue in fifteen musical numbers.

THE CAT IN THE HAT. (Male or Female) The essence of fun, mischief and imagination. The Cat stirs things up, causes trouble but always sets things right again. This role needs a comically adept actor who will play many different cameo roles and improvise with the audience.

The Cat sings or has dialogue in twenty-two musical numbers.

JOJO. (Male or Female child, treble voice) A “Thinker”, a smart child with a wild imagination. Jojo’s Thinks constantly cause trouble but by the end of the show he learns to be a responsible person, using the power and possibilities of his own Thinks.

Jojo sings or has dialogue in nineteen musical numbers.

GERTRUDE McFUZZ. (Mezzo / Soprano) Very self-conscious and aware of her shortcomings. During the show she changes from a neurotic, nervous and shy bird into one who stops worrying about her looks, commits to looking after a baby elephant bird and commits to Horton.

Gertrude sings or has dialogue in ten musical numbers.

MAYZIE LA BIRD. (Mezzo / Soprano) Self-centred, selfish and vain. She finally achieves a degree of redemption when she gives up her egg to Horton – she knows she wouldn’t be a good parent.

Mayzie sings or has dialogue in seven musical numbers.

SOUR KANGAROO (Aretha Franklin attitude!!) Loud, brassy and loads of attitude.

SK sings or has dialogue in seven musical numbers.

MR AND MRS MAYOR (Tenor & Mezzo / Soprano) Jojo’s parents. They love Jojo dearly but find that raising him is a bit of a struggle.

M&M sing or have dialogue in thirteen musical numbers.

GENERAL SCHMITZ. (Male -Baritone or Female – strong Sop or Mezzo) Extremely proud of his military academy and the boys he turns out. A comical character who eventually realizes that making war may not be the right thing to do and that adults can learn from children.

Schmitz sings or has dialogue in six musical numbers.

THE BIRD GIRLS. (Mezzo, Mezzo, Soprano) Harmony singers extraordinaire! Backing singer moves and presentation.

BGs sing in ten musical numbers. And it’s all harmony work!

THE WICKERSHAMS. (At least one of these singers should be a baritone. The others can be tenor & high baritone or alto & low mezzo). Harmony singers and dancers who tease, play pranks and get a kick out of making mischief – they’re not bad guys.

Wicks sing in seven musical numbers.

THE GRINCH (Male) & YERTLE THE TURTLE (Male or Female) Featured ensemble roles.

ADULT ENSEMBLE. Lots and lots of music in harmony to sing. Could be Jungle citizens, Citizens of Who, Hunters, Circus Folk or Hunches.

CHILDREN’S ENSEMBLE. Lots of music to learn and sing, dance is involved. Could be Jungle citizens, Who children, Fish, Cadets, Circus animals or Hunches.

CHOIR. These performers are rather like visible pit singers. They sing LOTS of music and are featured in some musical numbers. They may also get to perform in beautiful choir robes. Choir members are expected to attend music rehearsals but do not need to attend blocking rehearsals.

If time commitment is a problem for some would-be singers, they might like to consider being in either the Jungle Choir OR the Who Choir. This would mean that only half as many rehearsals would need to be attended. The downside of this is that, in performances, singers don’t get to sing all the fabulous music that is in this show.

**Audition Details**

It is recommended that auditionees be at least 8 years of age by the opening performance of Seussical on 21st October 2022. Participation of younger children would need to be discussed with the director and committee.

**You must book a time for your audition.** Call Cathy on 0420 352 771 or email [cathy.boyle1@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.boyle1@gmail.com) to book a spot. Feel free to leave a message if you don’t contact her immediately – she’ll ring you back as soon as she can!

PLEASE BRING A COMPLETED AUDITION FORM (pages 9 & 10) WITH YOU AND ATTACH A RECENT HEAD SHOT.

WHERE: The Latvian Hall, 32 Parnell Street, Strathfield

WHEN: Mon 13th June and Wed 15th June 2022 from 7.00pm until 10pm.

**• Singing auditions will be held from 7.00 until 8.15pm.**

**• Dance call will take place from 8.15 until 9.00pm.**

**• Singing auditions will then recommence until 10pm.**

N.B. Only children who are auditioning for the role of Jojo need to book a singing audition.

All children should book in to attend the dance call.

Adults wishing to be in the choir do not need to attend the dance call.

\*\*\* If you are unable to attend either of the audition evenings, you may submit a video audition to Cathy’s email. Your video must be received by close of business on Friday 10th June. You also need to attach a completed audition form.

**AUDITION FAQS**

**What should I sing?**

All performers wishing to audition for a singing role or a place in the choir or adult ensemble will need to prepare a short excerpt (about 32 bars) from a song.

Singers will need to provide their own backing tracks and speakers.

N.B. Music from the show will be provided for callbacks (should they be required) and performers may wish to use these pieces in their audition. Please ask Cathy if you need any music for your audition.

**What should I wear?**

Since all performers except choir members need to attend the dance call, you should wear something comfortable for this. No special shoes are required but some chorus shoes or jazz shoes would be a better choice than heavy sneakers or boots.

**What should children sing?**

Children who are auditioning for the role of Jojo need to book a solo singing spot. All other children will be asked to sing as a group just before or after the dance call. We will ask children to sing Happy Birthday or Advance Australia Fair.

**What age do children have to be to take part in Seussical?**

We would suggest that children wanting to take part in the show should be at least eight years old. Younger children can be considered, but the late nights of rehearsals might be problematic for them.

**Casting Announcements:** Once the cast is finalised, successful auditionees will be contacted by a member of the production team. An email will be sent to all unsuccessful auditionees.

The cast list will be published on [www.strathfieldmusicalsociety.com.au](http://www.strathfieldmusicalsociety.com.au) and www.facebook.com/strathfieldmusicalsociety



Audition Application Form

(Please attach a current head shot)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE/MOBILE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

AGE (if under 18yrs): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

VOICE TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ VOCAL RANGE (if known): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ROLE(S) AUDITIONING FOR: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you are not cast in your preferred role would you consider accepting another role, including being an understudy or swing?

YES / NO (If *Yes*, please specify): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you are not cast in your preferred role, would you consider being part of the Ensemble? YES / NO

If you are unsuccessful at audition, are you interested in assisting in another capacity such as backstage, costumes, front-of-house?

YES / NO (If *Yes*, please specify:) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

We rehearse on Mondays and Wednesdays. Do you have any commitments that would cause you to miss rehearsals between the following dates: 20 June 2022 – 19 October 2022?

Please specify the dates and reason(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**EXPERIENCE**

* ***Attach your performing CV if you have one or detail your experience below***
* ***Include any details of academic or formal training as well as your performing experiences (shows, roles played, years of experience)***

***ACTING:***

***SINGING:***

***DANCING:***