



Director – Karl McNamara

Musical Director – Bev Woodford

Choreographer – Steve Rostron

Vocal Director – Maddy Corbel

Audition Bookings: www.plos.asn.au

Enquiries - 0408 576 705 after 6.00pm

Bookings online only

Bookings open:

Thursday 2 February 2023 – 10:00am

Please check the information and dates below prior to booking your audition

A note from the Production Team

- PLEASE NOTE:

The Production Team are looking for a diverse range of skills and we encourage you to audition even if you do not consider yourself to be both a strong singer and a strong dancer.

Ensemble dancers are not required to sing solo in the performance, for this reason, we are looking for pit singers.

Whilst the musical aims to emulate characters from the original film version, the Production Team is open to a more diverse interpretation, they encourage all performers to audition.

Finally, although this production is based around the world of ballroom dancing, the performance includes several dance styles, it is not a prerequisite to have ballroom dancing experience.

STRICTLY BALLROOM THE MUSICAL

In 1992, internationally acclaimed director Baz Luhrmann wrote and directed *Strictly Ballroom*. *Strictly Ballroom* tells the story of Scott Hastings, a champion ballroom dancer who defies all the rules and follows his heart, finding not only his true calling but also his true love.

Featuring all the well-known songs from the movie including *Time After Time*, *Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps* and *Tequila*, along with several new songs by internationally acclaimed artists Sia, David Foster and Eddie Perfect.

Strictly Ballroom is an Australian iconic classic told with charm, humour and true Australian larrikin spirit and includes the classic hit *Love is in the Air*.

General Information

Requirement

- ◆ ALL participants in the production will require a Working With Children Check (WWCC)

Cast Ages

- ◆ ALL cast are to be 16 years of age by 1 July 2023.
- ◆ Two Youth roles can be played by those under 16 years of age as appropriate to role.

Audition Requirements/preparation

- ◆ Auditions by appointment only
- ◆ Each Auditionee will have up to 10 minutes.
- ◆ Prepare two songs from musical theatre (**but not from the show**) which demonstrate your ability and connection with the character(s) you are auditioning for. Choose a song that displays the vocal range required of your character/s.
- ◆ Please choose appropriate starting points in your songs; you may not be required to sing either or both in full.
- ◆ The show contains three songs from the Baz Luhrmann film – “Love is in the Air” (John Paul Young), “Time After Time” (Cyndi Lauper) and “Perhaps, Perhaps” (the Doris Day version). Other songs include music by Eddie Perfect, Sia Furler, Daniel Flores, Foster/Herms/Mozella. The music covers a broad range of styles including Latin- based disco/pop, rock and contemporary folk ballads. Consider the accent and class of your character (Australian, Spanish, your interpretation)
- ◆ A piano accompanist is provided. No CD backing tracks or unaccompanied auditions will be accepted. Note that you will have time to review this with the audition pianist prior to your audition and are asked to arrive earlier to accommodate this. Your own pianist is permitted.
- ◆ Please ensure your sheet music is clear and legible, and marked with specific cuts, repeat marks and instructions clearly highlighted and is in the correct key. No transposition will be done. Music should be taped together in correct order or presented in a non-glare display folder so there is no ambiguity or chance of pages in the wrong order or falling off the music stand.
- ◆ No on the spot transposition will be done.
- ◆ Part of your audition may involve range extension and vocal testing.
- ◆ Sheet music is available online at <http://www.musicnotes.com> or <http://www.sheetmusicplus.com> and can be easily printed via these websites.
- ◆ You may also be asked to read some dialogue during your vocal audition that will be available 30 minutes prior to audition.

Audition Preparation – Dance and Movement

- ◆ All auditionees are expected to book and attend a Dance/Movement on Sunday 26 February 2023. There will be two sessions 1:00pm and 2:30pm
- ◆ Those auditioning for Youth roles are asked to attend 1:00pm
- ◆ Please wear appropriate clothing (that shows body shape) and footwear, jazz shoes, jazz boots or runners. Those who have chorus heels are asked to bring them.

Audition Requirements

- ◆ All auditionees are asked to arrive 15 minutes early to fill out registration details
- ◆ Please bring a current resume.
- ◆ Please bring a clear photo of yourself (non-returnable) that depicts what you currently look like.

Cast Size

- ◆ Requirement for on stage cast of approximately 35,
- ◆ Ensemble will also play a variety of roles

Audition Location

- ◆ All Auditions will be held at The PLOS Shed - Corner Overport & Somerset Roads Frankston.
- ◆ PLOS Shed Phone Number – 0408 576 705.

Audition Dates

- ◆ Auditions will be scheduled during period **Saturday 25, Sunday 26, Tuesday 28 February Wednesday 1 March 2023** as required. (Weekdays in the evenings)
- ◆ Additional dates may be added as required.
- ◆ Dance Audition will be **Sunday 26 February 2023**– 2 sessions.
- ◆ Callbacks as required will be scheduled on **Saturday 4 March 2023** in the afternoon.

Show Dates

- ◆ STRICTLY BALLROOM THE MUSICAL will be presented during the period Monday 24 July 2023 and Saturday 5 August 2023 at Frankston Arts Centre.
- ◆ Performances – Friday 28 July – 7:30pm, Saturday 29 July – 7:30pm, Sunday 30 July – 1:30pm, Tuesday 1 August – 7:30pm, Wednesday 2 August – 7:30pm, Thursday 3 August – 7:30pm, Friday 4 August – 7:30pm, Saturday 5 August – 1:30pm
- ◆ Cast will be expected to be involved in Bump In and theatre rehearsals leading up to performances.

Rehearsals

- ◆ Rehearsals commence on **Monday 20 March 2023 at 7:30pm.**
- ◆ Rehearsals are held on Monday, Thursday evenings - 7:30pm – 10:30pm and Sunday afternoons from 1pm – 5pm.
- ◆ Additional rehearsals, or change in rehearsal times will be called by mutual agreement amongst the company, production team and cast members.
- ◆ Attendance at rehearsals is a commitment associated with being accepted into the cast of the show.

Membership/Show Fee

- ◆ Those selected to be in the cast of STRICTLY BALLROOM THE MUSICAL will be required to become a financial member of PLOS Musical Productions.
- ◆ For STRICTLY BALLROOM THE MUSICAL there will be a Show Fee.

Full Day Rehearsals

- ◆ Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 May 2023.
- ◆ Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 June 2023.
- ◆ Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 July 2023.

Sitz Probe

- ◆ Wednesday 19 July 2023

General Information

- ◆ The show calls for a cast that is prepared to have fun, work hard and above all show commitment.

Diversity and Inclusion

[PLOS Musical Productions Diversity and Inclusion Guidelines](#)

Character Breakdowns

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

SCOTT HASTINGS:

Male, Acting age 19-25.

Athletic and charismatic, but arrogant and ambitious. Scott defies the dancing establishment to display his own unique style of dance, alienating family and friends along the way. Formal dance training preferred and open to learn Ballroom and Latin. Confident high baritone singing voice and convincing actor. Australian accent, not broad. Romantic lead experiencing first love.

FRAN:

Female, Acting age 19-25.

Eventual love interest of Scott, Fran's persona dramatically transforms from timid to tenacious. She supports Scott's independence with devotion and determination. Spanish heritage/look but Australian accent. Strong pop/musical theatre singer and dance training advantageous. Sympathetic heroine.

SHIRLEY HASTINGS:

Female, Acting age 40-50ish.

Scott's long-suffering Mum with a secret backstory and an obsession with her son's success. A bitter, ex-champion dancer. A bully and a battler. A crucial, conflicted and challenging acting role with strong vocal and some dance ability required. Who is behind the practiced smile and heavy make-up?

DOUG HASTINGS:

Male, Acting age 40-50ish.

Scott's brow-beaten, nervous, socially inept Dad. This quirky, instantly sympathetic and ultimately outrageous role requires a brave actor who moves and sings with ease. Executes unusual solo dance moves but formal dance technique not required. Good comic timing essential. A tragic clown. Pathetic or heroic?

SUPPORTING CHARACTERS

BARRY FIFE:

Male, Acting age 40-50ish

The President of the 'Federation', Barry is an autocratic, bombastic manipulator who tries to expel Scott from competition dancing. Sweaty, villainous narcissist with a sleazy edge. Strong vocals and acting but no formal dancing required.

LES KENDALL:

Male, Acting age 40-50ish

Dignified, patient owner of Kendall's Studio and mentor/teacher to young Scott. Song and dance man with camp, theatrical quality and immaculate appearance. Toes the Federation line. Les and Shirley were dance partners in the past, still close friends. Acting ability essential, strong vocal with some dancing also required.

JJ SILVERS:

Male or Female Acting age 30+

Competition Master of Ceremonies. Prominent throughout show with much dialogue and song, some cheeky interacting with audience, possibly some ad-libbing. Showman quality. Warm and funny, talk-show host demeanour.

RICO:

Male, Acting age 40s

Fran's Spanish father. Tyrannical and fiery but protective of his daughter. Powerful, raw presence (not necessarily size) and Latin dance sensibilities. Brooding, unkempt and strong. Inspires Scott to dance the true 'Paso Doble'. Spanish accent and language required. Some vocals, not solo.

ABUELA:

Female, Acting age 50-60+

Fran's Grandmother. Show-stealing character role for a singer. Need to speak some Spanish with authentic, traditional Flamenco demeanour. For Abuela, the dance comes from the heart before the feet. She and Fran mourn for Fran's mother and clearly have a deep, loving bond. Abuela's call for courage is the story's key theme.

TINA SPARKLE:

Female, Acting 30ish

Different to the other frilly, feathered girls, Tina is classy, seductive and glamorous. Legs, curves and brains. Everyone wants Tina. But Tina just wants to win. A wild-card character. Try old-Hollywood with an exotic touch. Constantina Schparkel, perhaps? A nod to Cyd Charisse? Superior dance and vocal skills.

LIZ HOLT:

Female, Acting 20s

Scott's Ballroom/Latin partner. High maintenance, Queen Bee with a penchant for tantrums and screeching demands. Must dance, sing and act. Ruthless, volatile and ambitious with some great lines! Broad Aussie accent. Also, ensemble.

VANESSA CRONIN:

Female, Acting 20s

Liz's "best friend" and handmaiden. Sweet, attractive but not too sharp. Aussie accent.

Strong dancer and actor. Must sing. Also, ensemble.

KEN RAILINGS:

Male, Acting 30ish

An ageing, over-rated show-off dancer. Desperate to hold his title, despite being perpetually drunk, Ken beats Scott by sticking to the 'rules'. Singing, dancing and strong acting essential. Also, ensemble.

WAYNE BURNS:

Male, Acting 20s

Scott's mate and fellow competitor. Athletic dance skills and good vocal ability. Frustrated at always being second to Scott, Wayne seeks the trophy not the art. Follows instructions not intuition. Aussie-bloke, car mechanic who maybe should have chosen AFL instead of ballroom. Also, ensemble.

YOUTH ROLES

KYLIE HASTINGS:

Female 10 - 13yrs

Scott's sister. Must sing dance, ballroom training a bonus. Australian accent.

LUKE:

Male, 10 - 13yrs

Kylie's ballroom dance partner. Must sing and dance, ballroom training a bonus. Australian accent.

FEATURED CHARACTERS From ensemble

Pam Short: Ill-fated Ballroom dancer

Natalie: Fran's dance partner

Clarry: Beginner dancer at Kendall's Studio

Charm: Federation District Co-ordinator. Barry's steely, well-groomed, loyal partner Nathan Starkey:

Retiring "Golden Boy" of ballroom, wannabe Landscape Gardener Terry: Tina Sparkle's coach

Merv: Federation official.

PIT SINGERS

The production team is looking for a range of pit singers to enhance the quality of the chorus singing.

Please indicate on your audition form if you are interested in pit singing for the show. 2 for each range – Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass.

VOCAL RANGES

SCOTT BARRY DOUG JJ KEN LES

FRAN LIZ TINA ABUELA SHIRLEY

LUKE KYLIE

both sing top E flat in ensemble

Any male ensemble cast member with a talent for playing Spanish guitar will be an advantage