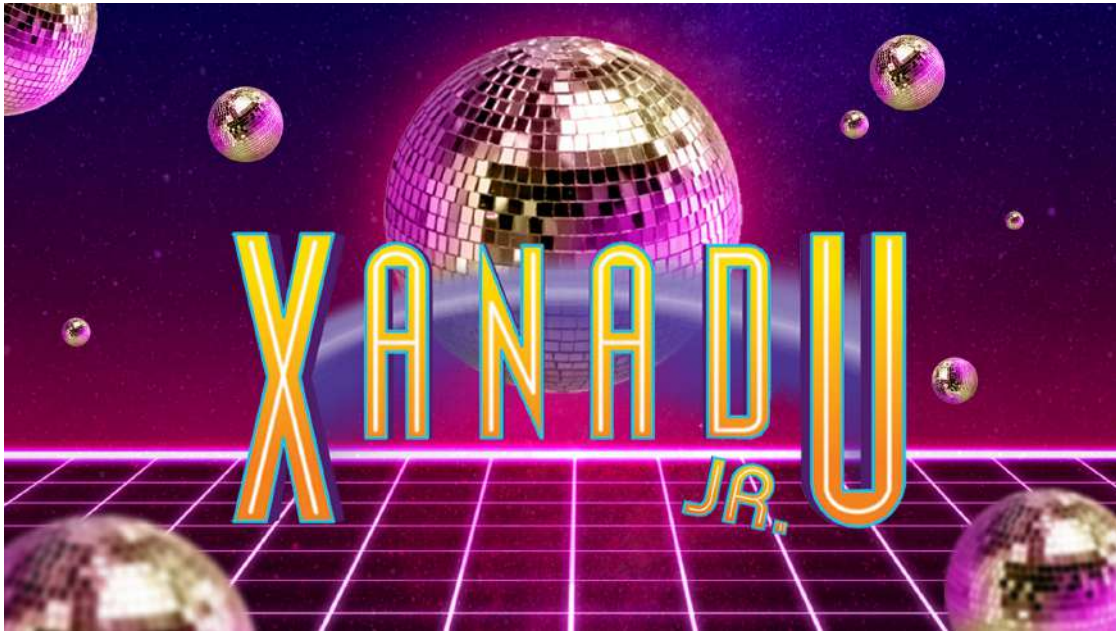


AUDITION BRIEF

TAKE THE MIC AUSTRALIA'S Production of



Hilarity on wheels! Satirically based on the Universal Pictures cult classic movie, starring Olivia Newton-John, Xanadu is a musical comedy adventure about following your dreams despite the limitations other set for you.

The show follows the journey of a magical and beautiful Greek muse, Kira, who descends from the heavens of Mt. Olympus to Venice Beach, California 1980, on a quest to inspire a struggling artist, Sonny, to achieve the greatest artistic creation of all time – the first Roller Disco. But, when Kira falls into forbidden love with the mortal Sonny, her jealous sisters take advantage of the situation, and hilarious chaos abounds.

“Xanadu is best described as a mash-up of Disney’s Hercules, and The Wedding Singer”

Take the Mic Australia has become one of Australia’s elite performing arts organizations for emerging performers. Founded in 2012, Take the Mic is supported by top industry professionals and offers invaluable stage experience & industry exposure through Musical Theatre productions, pop concerts, and singing competition events. More info at www.takethemic.com.au

This production is Directed by **James Terry**, who is currently working on Moulin Rouge, Disney’s Frozen, and Harry Potter and the Cursed Child. And is currently producing Next to Normal starring Queenie van de Zandt. More info at www.jamesterrycollective.com.au

Returning to Take the Mic is **Lachlan Purcell** (Disney’s High School Musical) as the Choreographer, and **Stacey Camilleri** (Disney’s The Lion King) as the Musical Director.

We are seeking performers aged 10 – 18 with a passion for musical theatre of all experience levels, vocal styles and training. Performers will be inspired and challenged by our production team of professional theatre practitioners.

Cost: \$600 (inc. gst), which includes a production DVD, actors headshot, photography of the musical, and show t-shirt. A 10% discount applies for those who have performed in a previous Take the Mic musical. Tickets for the performance range from \$35-\$45.

Performers will be asked to provide footwear, undergarments, and contribute to some 'every day wear' costume for the production. We are not expecting parents to purchase costume, but rather bring what they have from home that may be suitable for their performers character.

Audition Requirements: Performers will be asked to prepare a verse/chorus from a song in the show, and participate in a group dance/movement audition. *Material provided upon application.*

You may choose to submit a video when booking an audition. Experienced performers may be asked to present their callback material on the first day. Regardless, all callback material will be available to everyone who applies, so you have additional time to prepare and be familiar with the material just in case. All performers will still be required on July 11.

Audition Dates:

Vocal/ Dance: Sunday, July 11. Between 11:00am – 5:30pm
Callbacks: Tuesday, July 13. Between 6:00pm – 10:30pm

Performers will likely be required for 2 hours.

Audition & Rehearsal Venue

Auditions will be held at Temperance Hall – South Melbourne.
The rehearsal location is yet to be confirmed.

Performance Venue

East Doncaster Secondary College.
(Check out the last page to see photos from our previous productions!)

BOOK YOUR AUDITION – BY WEDNESDAY JULY 7

To secure your audition, please book online at
www.takethemic.com.au/musical

Due to limited places, a \$10 refundable deposit is required to secure your audition time.

Rehearsal & Performance Dates

Sunday Rehearsals (10:00am – 5:30pm)

Sunday, August 8

Sunday, August 15

Sunday, August 22

Sunday, August 29

Sunday, September 5

Sunday, September 12

School Holiday Rehearsals (10:00am – 5:30pm)

Saturday, September 18

Sunday, September 19

Monday, September 20

Tuesday, September 21

Wednesday, September 22

Performance Season (Times TBC)

Thursday, September 23 – Bump in / tech

Friday, September 24 – Dress Rehearsals

Saturday, September 25 – Show 1, Show 2

Sunday, September 26 – Show 3, Show 4

In this production, there are over 30 roles available!

We are tailoring this theatre experience for all skill levels. All ensemble performers will have the opportunity to sing and dance. We don't expect everyone to be triple threat performers – we're here to support you!

Performers seeking lead roles must display high confidence, strong vocal and acting ability. If you're listening to the cast recording and think, "I can't hit those high notes!", not to worry. Our team will aim to transpose songs to fit our performers vocal range.

Roles Available: For ages 10 – 18

Sonny Malone: *Male / Baritone-Tenor / Comfortable in Roller-Skates*

Sonny Malone is the young male lead from the beaches of California. He is wide-eyed, and full of dreams. While Sonny may not be the brightest, he is very sincere and earnest. This actor should have a great sense of comedic timing.

Kira: *Female / Mezzo / Comedic Actor / Comfortable in Roller-Skates*

The Greek heroine. She begins the play as Clio, the youngest and the most idealistic of the Muses. With the addition of leg warmers and an Australian accent, she quickly disguises herself as Kira to help Sonny realize his dreams. She is ambitious, and pure of heart.

Danny Maguire: *Older Male / Baritone / Comedic Actor*

A real estate magnate and owner of the Xanadu theatre. This is a wonderful part for a male actor who is adept at playing character roles. He should be a malleable comedic actor who can play a role out his age range.

Melpomene *Female / Mezzo / Comedic Actor*

Muse of Tragedy, is the eldest of the Muses and is most responsible for plotting against Kira. Big, Bold, and Comedy Gold.

Calliope *Female / Mezzo / Comedic Actor*

Muse of Epics, is Melpomene's "Wing-Muse." She is equally devious and listens closely to her sister's direction. A left-of-centre hilarious side-kick to Melpomene.

Erato, Euterpe, Polyhymnia, Terpsichore, Thalia, and Urania.

All genders & identities

These featured roles are perfect for experienced performers with strong voices, confident movement/dance, and lots of creativity. They are heavily featured in the production.

Zeus – *Generally Male (But open to all genders & identities)*

The King of the Gods. This is a great part for an actor who has a large, booming voice.

Hera – *Generally Female (But open to all genders & identities)*

Zeus' wife and is known for her comparable status to her husband, with grand stature and power.

Hermes - *All genders & identities*

A hilarious cameo role for a performer with excellent comedic skills and full of energy.

Thetis - *Female*

The Goddess of the Sea who tells the pivotal story of Achilles and his vulnerable heel, which in turn, changes Kira's perspective about really loving Sonny.

Aphrodite - *Female*

She is the Goddess of Love, with a sweet and demure nature.

The Sirens – *Dancers*

Melpomene's nine alluring daughters, who should be experienced dancers. Molpe, Peisonoe, Thelxiepeia have solo lines.

Eros, Cyclops, Centaur, and Medusa. Based on mythological creatures, each actor has a great responsibility to make the show as diverse and specific as possible.

The Andrews Sisters *Female / Great Singers*

Are an exact duplicate of the Andrews Sisters that were famous in the 1940s. Great singers with the confidence to harmonize. Maxene, Patty and Laverne.

The Tubes *All genders and identities*

An iconic, hard-rockin' new-wave band of the 80s. Fearless and can really rock out. A mix of strong singers, and strong dancers.

The Greek Chorus *All genders and identities*

The core of the ensemble. All ensemble performers will have the opportunity to sing and dance.

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Xanadu is a hidden gem in musical theatre. It's a hysterical adaptation of a massive flop of a movie. Nothing in the show should be taken seriously – it's full of hilarious character, and surprisingly brilliant music. It's best described as a mash-up of Disney's Hercules, and The Wedding Singer. My advice for those auditioning is to be bold with your comedic offers, and release your inhibitions. You've got limited time in your audition, so make the most of each minute. The show is about following your dreams dispute any limitations – so let loose and try to enjoy yourself in the audition room.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**What is the audition process?**

Performers will participate in a group dance/movement audition followed by a group vocal audition. Performers considered for a lead role will attend the call back the following week.

Why do I have to pay for the audition?

The audition deposit is fully refundable after the performer attends their scheduled audition. If they are successful, the deposit will be deducted from the show fee. Due to limited audition spots, this ensures that our performers are committed to the process and others do not miss out on the opportunity.

What does my child wear to the audition?

Comfortable clothing that allows for movement. Please do not dress in character.

(See next page)

What does my child need to bring?

Water. Strictly NO food. This is a legal requirement, as we have not collected any medical/allergy information from performers.

How long will the audition take?

At most, 2.5 hours. Performers will be free to leave after their vocal audition. If we require them for a callback, they will be notified the following day.

How to do I get to the audition?

Temperance Hall is located on Napier Street, South Melbourne. There's plenty of free parking in the area.

My child has never been to an audition before!

Not to worry! We will provide a fun and positive experience for your young performers during the audition process. We have tailored the audition for all skill levels. Due to covid capacity, parents are not permitted in the room.

Why is there a show fee?

Much like singing or dance lessons, the program fee assists with the costs of hiring industry creatives, building set & costumes, etc. A dedicated team is here to ensure these performers get an unbeatable experience. Ticket sales alone do not cover the costs of the production, especially as junior musicals are not designed to sell to a general public audience.

What if my child doesn't get a callback?

Not all roles require a callback, this does not mean that are not part of the show.

What if my child doesn't get cast?

Casting a musical is a difficult process and we do our best to accommodate everyone, but unfortunately there are limited spots available. Assure your young performers that you're proud of their achievements, and congratulate them for having the courage to perform. Please do not discredit the decision of our production team, as you need to trust that they have the best of intentions and have a greater understanding of the show and its requirements. Take the Mic produces multiple events every year, so if you're not successful for this show please don't hesitate in getting involved in another of our shows!

(see next page)

CHECK OUT SOME OF OUR PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS!

Disney's High School Musical (2021), Disney's The Lion King (2019)

