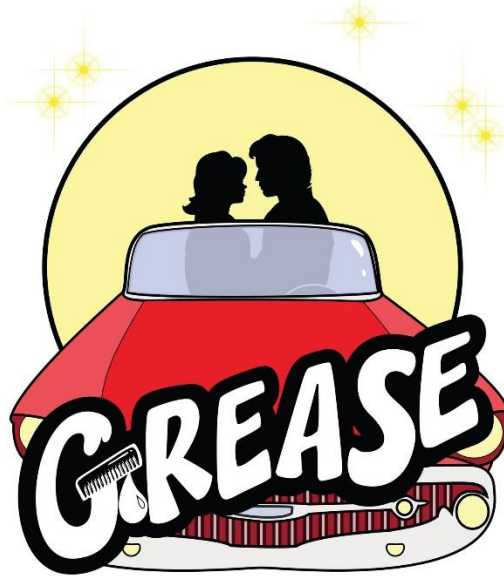


# AUDITION INFORMATION PACK



Thank you so much for considering the show. The Artistic Team cannot wait to put on an awesome production. Now all we need is an enthusiastic and committed cast!

*Please note: we will be looking for a backstage crew, but not yet 😊 Keep an eye on SIMON for more information.*

## **The Synopsis: (what happens in the show)**

Please visit: <https://www.origintheatrical.com.au/work/8635>

This link provides the whole story, the songs, all the characters and can help you fully understand the show. If you are auditioning for a lead, it's especially important that you understand the character(s) you're interested in playing.

## **Who can audition?**

All 2022 Year 7-12 students are eligible to audition. We are anticipating a very high number of auditionees, so please dedicate time to preparing your best work to show us at auditions now as we may not be able to include all students.

## **Cost to participate:**

Students who successfully audition for the show have optional costs:

- A show tee shirt (around \$35)
- A DVD or downloadable link / photo link package (\$45)

Families are responsible for the providing basic costume /makeup supplies e.g. appropriate underwear, hosiery, base clothes, deodorant etc. These will be advised to cast throughout the process.

## Key Dates:

Please take the time to sit down with your families and look through these dates in detail. The production requires a significant time commitment, with some evenings and weekend camp rehearsals. We have a very limited time period to design, create and perform the show, so your attendance is crucial.

REHEARSAL DATES AT MARYMEDE CATHOLIC COLLEGE DURING TERMS 1 & 2	
Thursday rehearsals 3.30-5.30pm	Every Thursday starting Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May, excluding school holidays.
Friday rehearsals 3.30-5:30pm	Every Friday starting <b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b> (first rehearsal) to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> May, excluding school holidays.
CAMP TBA	
Likely to be a Thurs-Sat during Term time	Production Camp will replace our school holiday rehearsals in 2022.
PRODUCTION WEEK DATES THEATRE LOCATION TBA	
Bump In	<b>Sunday 22nd May</b> At this stage, cast are not required. If this changes, you will be notified well ahead of time.
Tech Rehearsal	<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b> <b>Potentially leads &amp; crew only – we may call ALL CAST- required 9.00am-4pm</b> No school this day
Dress Rehearsal #1	<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>All cast and crew required 9.00am-4pm</b> No school this day
Dress Rehearsal #2 or potential School Preview Performance	<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>All cast and crew required 9.30am-3.30pm</b> No school this day
Show 1	<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>All cast and crew required 5.30pm-conclusion of show *</b> School as usual today, arrive at theatre (own transport at 5.30pm)
Show 2	<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>All cast and crew required 5.30pm-conclusion of show *</b> School as usual today, arrive at theatre (own transport at 5.30pm)
Show 3 & Bump Out	<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>All cast and crew required 4:15pm-conclusion of show/pack up*. Crew will be required until at least 11pm.</b> Own transport required to/from DAEC– no school this day

\* We won't know the exact run time until we have finished blocking the show. Cast/Crew are dismissed once they have changed and their area is tidy and ready to go. On the Saturday show, this takes longer as we need to remove all belongings from the theatre. Crew are required until at least 11pm as they will help remove more significant items from the space.

You *may* only be required for some or part of scheduled rehearsals. Until the show is cast, we cannot be sure how long we will need for certain songs/scenes. Please assume that you are required for all of the above dates when auditioning, and you will receive regular schedules which will assist in your planning. Once the schedule is distributed, attendance is compulsory otherwise you will be unable to participate as the rehearsal period does not allow much time for catching up.

Therefore, it is crucial that we know what your availability is at auditions. Please be honest if you cannot attend a rehearsal – if lots of people can't, we can make other arrangements in advance.

## How do I audition?

### STEP ONE:

Ensure you have gone through this **ENTIRE** pack carefully with your Parents/Guardians before booking an audition. It is essential that you have their support and permission for all aspects of this commitment.

### STEP TWO:

Decide if you would like to be considered for LEAD character or ENSEMBLE character or BOTH. Have a read of the character descriptions in this pack to learn more, and the audition requirements.

### STEP THREE:

Bookings are online using Microsoft Forms. **This is the only way to book.** Please complete this booking with your Parent/Guardian to ensure you fill it out correctly as you can only complete it once. **Audition Bookings will close Tuesday 1st February.**

### BOOK HERE:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=b7xc83YlcEqb7mZdHE0nl79eD0mU8A5lthxSsFITF3xUNFA2NVhJTDcwWINPQTdCVVNZQzZORVkwWS4u>

### STEP FOUR:

Read the requirements below (pg.4) and prepare for your audition.

### STEP FIVE:

Prior to your audition Ms Lane will add you to Operoo. Please ask your Parents/Guardians to approve you on Operoo– you will not be able to audition without this permission. This will also cover permission to attend Callbacks (if you are invited) and the first rehearsal.

### STEP SIX: Audition – give your best and HAVE FUN! 😊



## What do I need to prepare?:

### I would like to be considered for a LEAD ROLE.

Complete the online form in detail (link on previous page). You will be placed on the list for a **SOLO/LEAD** audition.

You must book no later than **Monday 31st January**. No bookings will be accepted after this time.

If you are applying for a lead role that sings solo (**all except Miss Lynch, Patty, Frenchy, Vince Fontaine, Sonny and Eugene**), you should prepare a song from *Grease* - either the movie or the musical - just one verse and chorus. Please bring a backing track of your chosen song to sing with at your audition on a bluetooth enabled device. A backing track is the version of the song without the words - like a karaoke track. Youtube is a good place to find these.

If you are only auditioning for **Miss Lynch, Patty, Frenchy, Vince Fontaine, Sonny or Eugene** you can just prepare a short scene where you will read lines from the script. Ms. Lane will email you the script to learn/prepare on **Tuesday 1st February**.

#### Attend the Leads Singing Audition on: Thursday 3rd February from 3:30pm in the Auditorium.

You will audition one by one, no set order – this will be based on the order you register/arrive, unless you request to go later on. You will be dismissed as soon as you have auditioned. This means you could leave as early as 3:40pm or as late as 5:30pm-6pm. Practice rooms will be open for you to rehearse while you wait.

#### Attend the Dance Audition on: Friday 4th February in the Fitness Centre 3:30pm-5:30pm.

You will learn a Dance in small/large groups. Expect to be there until 5:30pm. **Wear your PE uniform to school this day** and bring a water bottle.

A preview video of the choreography will be available on **Wednesday 2nd February**. The link will be communicated via SIMON Student Messages. Beginners are encouraged to watch the dance and familiarise themselves with the movement.

We may need to see more of you, and if so you will be asked to attend a **CALLBACK** on **Wednesday 9th February in the Auditorium**. Please keep this date free in case you are required to attend. **These are invitation only**, if you don't receive an invitation, it means you do not need to come. Invitations will be sent on **Monday 7th February**.

### I would like to be considered for ENSEMBLE only.

Complete the online form in detail (link on previous page). You will be placed on the list for an **ENSEMBLE** audition.

You must book no later than **Tuesday 1st February**. No bookings will be accepted after this time.

#### Attend the Dance Audition on: Friday 4th February in the Fitness Centre 3:30pm-5:30pm.

You will learn a Dance in small/large groups. Expect to be there till 5:30pm. **Wear your P.E Uniform to school this day** and bring a water bottle.

A preview video of the choreography will be available on **Wednesday 2nd February**. The link will be communicated via SIMON Student Messages. Beginners are encouraged to watch the dance and familiarise themselves with the movement.

## Audition Dates

- **Lead Auditions:** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February from 3:30pm in the Auditorium
- **Dance Auditions:** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 3:30-5:30pm in the Fitness Centre
- **Callbacks:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February from 3:30pm in the Auditorium. By INVITATION ONLY.

## General Questions:

Please ensure you have read this pack thoroughly first, as we believe this should answer frequently asked audition questions. Show us that you can independently access information, as this is an important skill.

If you still have a question, please see / email Ms Ellen Lane, Performing Arts / Co-Curricular Support in PA06 or [Ellen.Lane@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:Ellen.Lane@marymede.vic.edu.au). Please note Ms. Lane will be on holidays as of December 17<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm and won't be back in the office until Monday January 17<sup>th</sup> 2022. If you have any burning questions, please email Ms. Lane either before the 17<sup>th</sup> of December or wait until the 17th January. Ms. Lane will not be answering emails during the holidays.

## Characters:

We support colour-blind casting and welcome performers of all genders, nationalities and body type to audition.

- **DANNY ZUKO** - The leader of the Burger Palace Boys; good-looking, strong and confident, with an air of easy-going charm.
- **SANDY DUMBROWSKI** - New girl in town; sweet, wholesome, naive, cute, and innocent.
- **BETTY RIZZO** - Leader of the Pink Ladies; tough, sarcastic and outspoken but vulnerable.
- **FRENCHY** - A dreamer; good-natured but not too smart, she is heavily made up, fussy about her appearance, particularly her hair. She can't wait to finish high school so she can be a beautician.
- **MARTY** - The 'beauty' of the Pink Ladies; pretty and looks older than the other girls, but betrays her real age when she opens her mouth. She tries to act sophisticated.
- **JAN** - Funny, loud, compulsive eater and awkward member of the Pink Ladies. Loud and pushy with the girls, but shy with the boys.
- **DOODY** - The youngest of the guys; small, boyish and open, with a disarming smile and a hero-worshipping attitude towards the other guys. He also plays the guitar.
- **KENICKIE** - The second in command of the Burger Palace Boys; tough-looking, tattooed, surly and avoids any show of softness. He has an offbeat sense of humour.
- **SONNY LaTIERRI** - A member of the Burger Palace Boys; funny Italian-American, he is a braggart and wheeler-dealer who thinks he's a real lady-killer.
- **ROGER** - The anything-for-a-laugh stocky type of boy; a clown who enjoys winding people up, he is full of mischief and is always dreaming up half-baked schemes and ideas.
- **VINCE FONTAINE** - A typical 'teen audience' disc jockey; slick, egotistical and fast-talking. He is also a veteran 'Greaser.'

- **CHA-CHA**, a.k.a. Charlene DiGregorio - The best dancer at St. Bernadette's; a loud mouth, she wins the dancing competition with Danny.
- **EUGENE FLORCZYK** - The class valedictorian; physically awkward, with weak eyes and a high-pitched voice. He's a typical 'apple-polisher' - both smug and pompous, but gullible.
- **JOHNNY CASINO** - All-American, rock-star "greaser" student at Rydell High, whose real name is Clarence. A female can be cast in this role.
- **MISS LYNCH** - A no-nonsense, serious, loud, English teacher.
- **PATTY SIMCOX** - A typical cheerleader; attractive, athletic, sure-of-herself, but can be given to bursts of disconcerting enthusiasm. She's a bit of a pain and unpopular with the Pink Ladies and can twirl a baton.
- **THE PINK LADIES (Ensemble)** - The club-jacketed, gum-chewing, hip-swinging girls' gang who hang around with the Burger Palace Boys.
- **THE BURGER PALACE BOYS (Ensemble)** - A super-cool, DA-haired, hard-looking group of high school wheeler-dealers... or so they think.



## So you want a lead role?? Here are Some Tips...

- Really know the show and understand the character. Watch the film and clips from productions online. Read the script:
- Rehearse in front of the mirror.
- Play with the character's accent and physicality.
- Go big in your audition – it's better to overact than underact! We can pull you back if you go too far. It's much harder to go the other way!
- Consider picking a song that is most similar to the character you want to audition for and show us that you can sing it with character and emotion.
- Whatever song you sing – move as well. Don't save the movement for the dance audition. Even just moving your hands can help you better express yourself.
- Listen carefully to any instructions given to you by the Artistic Team.
- Don't forget the Dance audition – familiarise yourself with the music from the show. Rehearse adding characterisation and physicality to it. Show us that you can add characterisation to your dancing.



Remember: Leads aren't just the most talented people. The best voice doesn't equal the best role! At auditions we look for how you interact with others, follow instructions, show independence and resilience as well as talent and availability/commitment. Don't be discouraged if you don't think you're \*perfect\* for a role – it is possible for us to help a committed and diligent person grow throughout the rehearsal process – practice makes perfect!

## What makes a great Ensemble member?

At auditions we will be looking for Ensemble members who work well with others, demonstrate energy when dancing and passion when singing. You do not need to be skilled at either singing or dancing to get in – show that you can follow instructions, be independent (this includes things like bringing the correct materials, being on time etc.) and are committed to attend lots of rehearsals to perfect your part. **The hardest part in any show is the Ensemble – they have to all work together to create a great show.**



*“There are no small parts, only small actors.”* – Constantin Stanislavski