

2018 PRODUCTION HANDBOOK



2018 PRODUCTION CALENDAR

TERM 1

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Tuesday February 6 | Production audition info session | Lunch |
| Tuesday February 13 | Cast Auditions – Session 1 (by signup only) | 3.30pm – 7pm |
| Wednesday February 14 | Cast Auditions – Session 2 (by signup only) | 3.30pm – 7pm |
| Thursday February 15 | Dance Call (for those unavailable for the after school audition please advise at the time of your initial audition) | 3.30pm – 5.30pm |
| Monday Feb 19 | Advance Dance - by request | Lunch |
| Tuesday February 20 | Callback Auditions – by request Session 1 Callback Auditions – by request Session 2 | Lunch 4.00pm – 8pm |
| Friday February 23 | Casting – Production Team | TBC |
| Wednesday February 28 | Cast published – www.rscproduction.com.au Applications for non-cast positions open | 5pm 5pm |

The following rehearsals are scheduled to get a head start on some of the more time-consuming aspects of the production.

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|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Monday March 5 | Specialist Dance Rehearsal 1 | Lunch |
| Tuesday March 6 | Ensemble Singing Session 1 Leads Blocking | 3.30pm – 5.30pm 5.30 – 6.30 |
| Monday March 12 | LABOUR DAY | No rehearsal |
| Tuesday March 13 | Ensemble Singing Session 2 Leads Blocking | 3.30pm – 5.30pm 5.30 – 6.30 |
| Monday March 19 | Specialist Dance Rehearsal 2 | Lunch |

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|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tuesday March 20 | Ensemble Singing Session 3 | 3.30pm – 5.30pm |
| | Leads Blocking | 5.30 – 6.30 |
| Monday March 26 | Specialist Dance Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday March 27 | Ensemble Singing Session 4 | 3.30pm – 5.30pm |
| | Leads Blocking | 5.30 – 6.30 |
| TERM 2 | | |
| Tuesday April 17 | Rehearsal 1 – Full Cast | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| | Full Cast Meeting and Parent Info | 7pm – 7.45pm |
| | Night | |
| Monday April 23 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday April 24 | Rehearsal 2 – Full Cast | 3.30 – 6.30pm |
| Monday April 30 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday May 1 | Rehearsal 3 | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Monday May 7 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday May 8 | Rehearsal 4 | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Monday May 14 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday May 15 | Rehearsal 5 | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Monday May 21 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday May 22 | Rehearsal 6 | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Monday May 28 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday May 29 | Rehearsal 7 | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| SATURDAY June 2 | Special Leads Character | 10am – 3pm |
| | Workshop (books down) | |
| Monday June 4 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday June 5 | Rehearsal 8 | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Monday June 11 | QUEENS BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY | No rehearsal |
| Tuesday June 12 | Rehearsal 9 | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Monday June 18 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Monday June 18 | Rehearsal 10 – Full Cast | 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Tuesday June 19 | PUPIL FREE DAY | No Rehearsal |
| Monday June 25 | Specialist Lunch Rehearsal | Lunch |
| Tuesday June 26 | Rehearsal 11 and Sitzprobe | 3.30pm – 9pm |

MID TERM HOLIDAY!!!

All cast will be required for an **agreed 20 minute costuming call** at some stage over this weekend.

Saturday July 14

Sunday July 15

TERM 3

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday July 18 – | Production Camp | 12pm – |
| Friday July 20 | Mt Evelyn Recreation Camp | 1.30pm |
| Tuesday July 24 | Stage Rehearsal | 3.30pm – 7.00pm |
| Friday July 27 | Stage Rehearsal | 8.50am – 3.15pm |
| Tuesday July 31 | Stage Rehearsal | 3.30pm – 9.00pm |

All cast will be required for an additional **agreed 20 minute costuming call** at some stage over this weekend.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------|
| Saturday August 4 | Technical Bump-in Costume Working Bee and Checking | As required |
| Sunday August 5 | Tech Bump-in and Light Plotting (no cast) Costume Working Bee and Checking | As required |
| Monday August 6 | Tech and Stage Crew Rehearsal (CAST MOVING SET WILL BE REQUIRED) | 3.30pm – 9pm |
| Tuesday August 7 | Full Dress Rehearsal 1 (5pm) | 3.30pm – 9pm |
| Wednesday August 8 | Full Dress Rehearsal 2 (7pm) | 6pm – 10pm |
| Thursday August 9 | Performance 1 – Preview Performance (12pm) | 8.50am – 3.15pm |
| Friday August 10 | Performance 2 – Opening Night (7.30pm) | 5.30pm – 10.30pm |
| Saturday August 11 | Performance 3 – Matinee (5.00pm) | 2.30pm – 8.00pm |
| Sunday August 12 | Performance 4 – Matinee (2.30pm) | 12.30pm – 5.30pm |
| Wednesday August 15 | Performance 5 (7.30pm) | 5.30pm – 10.30pm |
| Thursday August 16 | Performance 6 (7.30pm) | 5.30pm – 10.30pm |
| Friday August 17 | Performance 7 (7.30pm) | 5.30pm – 10.30pm |
| Saturday August 18 | PLACE HOLDER FOR EXTRA MATINEE PERFORMANCE | 12.30pm – 5.30pm |

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|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Saturday August 18 | Performance 8 (7.30pm) – Closing | 5.30pm – 11pm |
| | Night | |
| Monday August 20 | Bump out (Years 7-10 only) | 9am – 11.30am |

After the razzle dazzle success of CHICAGO in 2017, Ringwood Secondary College is delighted to perform the creepy, kooky, mysterious and spooky – **THE ADDAMS FAMILY**.

This show has never been staged at Ringwood Secondary College and we are beyond excited to introduce students and the entire school community to the crazy world of **Charles Addams**.

ABOUT THE SHOW

The weird and wonderful family comes to devilishly delightful life in *THE ADDAMS FAMILY*. This magnificently macabre new musical comedy is created by *Jersey Boys* authors Marshall Brickman & Rick Elice, Drama Desk Award winner Andrew Lippa (*The Wild Party*), choreographer Sergio Trujillo (*Jersey Boys*), and Olivier Award-winning original directors and designers Phelim McDermott & Julian Crouch (*Shockheaded Peter*) with direction by four-time Tony Award® winner Jerry Zaks.

BROADWAY

The show began previews on Broadway at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre on March 8, 2010, with an official opening night of April 8. The production was originally estimated to cost \$10 million.

All of the cast from the tryout transferred to Broadway. The show won a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Set Design but received no other major awards. Whilst the Broadway version of the show was not a big hit with the critics, the show was big hit with the audience it went on to win the Broadway.com Audience Awards for Favorite New Broadway Musical, Favorite Performance by a Featured Actor in a Broadway Musical (Kevin Chamberlin), Favorite Breakthrough Performance (Krysta Rodriguez), and Favorite Onstage Pair (Nathan Lane and Bebe Neuwirth).

SHORT SYNOPSIS

The Addams Family features an original story, and it's every father's nightmare. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family – a man her parents have never met. And if that weren't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before – keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's 'normal' boyfriend and his parents.

THE AUDITION PROCESS

General Audition and Dance Call

Auditions for cast are open to any student of Ringwood Secondary College in 2018.

The cast size is capped according to the dimensions of the stage, costuming and administration requirements. Therefore, the audition process is competitive. Auditions are conducted individually and in front of a panel of production team members as appointed by the director. Casting decisions are entirely at the discretion of the production team and are made in accordance with the specific requirements of the show.

Students must select and prepare one song from the list below. For each song, the sheet music and backing track excerpt to be used in the audition can be found on the AUDITIONS page of the production website sometime after **Tuesday January 30, 2018**. (Keep checking back – it might take a while to compile. A Facebook notification will go out when it is ready.)

Students will also be asked to complete a 'cold read' of some dialogue from the show. You will be asked to read the dialogue in an appropriate American accent.

Students must sign up for a general audition slot on one of the following afternoons:

- **Tuesday February 13 between 3.30pm and 7pm**
- **Wednesday February 14 between 3.30pm and 7pm**

Signing up is an online process and must be completed through the website:

www.rscproduction.com.au/auditions.html

This link will be available for use from **Tuesday January 30, 2018**.

****In addition to the general audition, there will be a **compulsory** dance call on **Thursday February 15 from 3.30pm until 5.30pm**. THE ADDAMS FAMILY is a heavy dance show and all prospective leads, principal dancers and ensemble members **MUST** attend. Please note that anyone who attends the dance call only, without signing up for a main audition (or vice versa), cannot be considered for a position in the cast. You **MUST** attend a general audition on either Tuesday or Wednesday.

| Audition songs for females | Audition songs for males |
|--|------------------------------|
| <i>Death is Just Around the Corner</i> | <i>Trapped</i> |
| <i>Secrets</i> | <i>Crazier Than You</i> |
| <i>Pulled</i> | <i>What if</i> |
| <i>Waiting</i> | <i>The Moon and Me</i> |
| <i>When You're an Addams</i> | <i>When You're an Addams</i> |

All candidates will be considered for all roles, irrespective of their song choices at auditions. However, it would make sense to choose a song that gives an indication of your desired role or highlight your performance/vocal strength. You may sing a song written for either gender.

Callback Auditions

Following the general auditions, some students will be invited to a subsequent callback audition on **Tuesday February 20**. There will be two sessions. **Session 1** will run at lunchtime. **Session 2** will run from **4pm until 8pm**. As always, no inference about casting decisions should be drawn from whether or not students are invited to this audition.

Additionally, there will be an 'Advance Dance Callback' on **Monday February 19** at Lunchtime. This will be organized by request only.

Cast Announcement

The cast for 2018's production of **THE ADDAMS FAMILY** will be published on the website at 5pm on **Wednesday February 28th**. Those who auditioned unsuccessfully will be afforded priority in joining other areas of the show. We may choose to double cast some principal roles, but this should not be taken as a given.

CASTING REQUIREMENTS – THE ADDAMS FAMILY

The Addams Family musical is a show with a stunning array of lead roles, cameos, acting roles, dance parts and terrific ensemble participation. Prospective auditionees are expected to do some research into the show, its characters and potential interpretations. There will be a pre-audition info session on **Tuesday February 6** where new and returning students can have all their questions answered.

The Production Team encourages everyone to relax and do their absolute best in the audition. However, they are also on the lookout for candidates who can demonstrate that they have considered possible interpretations of character and song.

Principal Character Breakdown

GOMEZ ADDAMS: A man of Spanish descent who takes great pride in his family and revels in all it means to be an "Addams." He struggles with having to keep his daughters' secret from his wife, whom he adores more than death. Smart, comedic actor with tenor vocals. Tango dance required.

MORTICIA ADDAMS: A woman who is in shape, attractive, leggy, the strength of the family. She holds the balance of power in the family and often seems like the only emotionally mature member of the clan. An easy comedic actress with a sexy, dry wit. Feels her husband is hiding something from her and will use any tactic to lure the secret out. A strong mover with mezzo vocals. Tango dance required.

UNCLE FESTER: The androgynous family member who serves as the musicals narrator. He is larger than life, an energetic, joyous, child-like presence. A vaudeville style comedian with tenor vocals..

WEDNESDAY ADDAMS: Wednesday is an attractive girl who has the same dry wit and sensibility of her mother. Finds love with a "normal" boy (Lucas) and wants to introduce his family to hers. Experiences the youthful drama that comes with first love. Lucas can actually put a smile on her face. Should be able to dance. Strong pop belt vocals. To look 16 – 21 years.

GRANDMA: She is a feisty 102 year old woman. Fun and quirky, but don't mess with Grandma. Comedic actress with strong character vocals. To look 45 – 102 years.

PUGSLEY ADDAMS: Young actor who plays 12 years old. A charming, funny, husky boy who loves being tortured by his sister. He wants to ensure he won't lose his sister to her new boyfriend

so he takes matters into his own hands. Strong, high vocals. To look 12 – 16 years. This role could be played by a male or female.

LURCH: A very tall male character, the Addams butler who knows all. He speaks in moans and groans without becoming a cartoon version of himself. His movement is always very slow
Character actor with a low bass vocals to Eb.

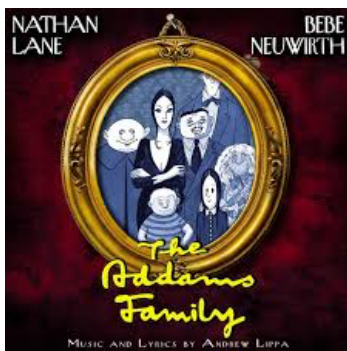
MAL BEINEKE: Stuffy father of Lucas and exasperated husband to his rhyming wife, Alice. At one time was a follower of The Grateful Dead but has lost that side of himself. Always looking out for his family. Male actor with high baritone/ tenor vocals.

ALICE BEINEKE: Mother of Lucas, devoted to her family so she puts aside her own desires. Quirky female who often speaks in rhyme. While at the Addams Family dinner party, she drinks a potion that causes her to let her hair down and speak her truth. Comedic actress with soprano/belt vocals.

LUCAS BEINEKE: Attractive young man. Fell in love at first sight with Wednesday Addams and plans to marry her. Experiences the youthful pain and drama of young love and struggles with the differences between his family and the Addams family. Contemporary pop tenor vocals.

THE ANCESTORS: Male and female ensemble singer/dancers who have a fun, energetic and quirky sensibility. Cameo roles available

RECOMMENDED RECORDINGS



There is only one official cast recording of THE ADDAMS FAMILY of the Original Broadway Cast. **PLEASE NOTE:** There are several songs that are different on this recording as the show has been extensively re-written since it has been licensed to tour around the world.

This recording (available on iTunes and Spotify) is good to listen to, however, remember that it won't necessarily match up exactly with what we are going to ask you to perform. Nonetheless, they are essential listening for anyone intending to join our cast.

NATURE OF THE COMMITMENT

Before choosing to audition, it is important to understand the nature of the commitment required. Accepting a position in the cast implies a commitment to the time and cost involved.

TIME

Review the 2018 Production Calendar at the beginning of this document. There is an expectation that everyone is available for the call times as published on this schedule. We are always flexible when appropriate notification of absence is communicated well in advance. Any potential conflicts must be addressed and resolved immediately.

It is a student's responsibility to organize work, sport, dance and other commitments around our schedule, particularly in Term 3. Failure to honour these commitments or notify of absence in advance is disrespectful to the company as a whole.

There is a further expectation that all cast members will prepare fully for each rehearsal and practice their songs, lines and routines on a regular basis.

Regular rehearsals will always happen on Tuesday afternoons from **3.30pm until 6.30pm**. **Please note that leads may be required to remain behind for some additional rehearsal after this. Decisions about this will be finalised early in Term 2.** Weekly schedules will be published in advance, and it may be possible that some cast will finish slightly earlier on some weeks. However, we need everyone to be available up until **6.30pm**.

Additionally, there will be lunch time rehearsals for lead roles and specialist dancers (**on Mondays**). These will be run to give the attention and focus that a lead role requires.

COST

Cast members are responsible for the following costs:

- Production Levy (Cast) – this raises money to offset costs associated with costuming, the Production T-Shirt, one copy of the **souvenir DVD** (either Friday or Saturday night), copying of rehearsal material and afternoon tea at regular rehearsals.
 - \$90 per cast member
 - \$75 per cast member if more than one from the same family (includes a second DVD per family)
- Production Camp – compulsory for all cast and orchestra (July 18-20)
 - \$240-\$265 per student – cost to be confirmed in Term 1.
- Other expenses may include some basic cast supply personal costume requirements.

FULL CAST MEETING AND PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

On **Tuesday April 17**, we will be holding our first cast meeting for the season, in conjunction with a Parent Information Evening. This will be the official launch of the company for THE ADDAMS FAMILY and is designed to kick start the production in advance of the rehearsal period. In addition to dealing with the basic information and questions, this will also be when scripts and other rehearsal material will be distributed, as well as ensuring that all administrative matters are completed. Opportunities for parent involvement will also be outlined.

EXTRA pARTS

Extra p.Arts aims to support the Performing Arts program of Ringwood Secondary College by providing practical assistance where possible. It encourages parents with an interest in the Performing Arts and the RSC program to contribute their time and skills in an informal, supportive and social environment.

The major operation for this group is in the costume room and there is always demand for anyone who has some time to volunteer. Sewers are particularly encouraged to lend a hand, but all help is valuable and any skills are welcome.

Parent representatives will speak at the Information Evening about how much fun it is to be involved. Certainly, we cannot succeed as we do without this valuable support.

MARKETING AND TICKET SALES

Tickets for THE ADDAMS FAMILY will go on sale to members of the company and their families on **Tuesday May 15**. General sales will commence on **Tuesday May 22**. All sales will once again be funneled through the production website.

Marketing the show is the responsibility of every single cast member. To this end, each student in cast takes on the responsibility to generate **at least 20 ticket sales**. If this occurs, we can enjoy another successful season in sales and play to full houses every show. Promotional material is provided to support ticket sales and of course social media will help generate buzz around the show.

Thank you for your interest. We know it's going to be another terrific year and this will be a great production. See you all soon.

Karl McNamara

Producer

Director

Jessikah Jemmeson

Choreographer/

Assistant Director

Nicole Perry

Choreographer/

Assistant Director

Michael Phillips

Producer

Chief Patron

Annmarie Stelfox

Production Manager

Vicki Quinn

Vocal Director

Kevin Bonnett

Musical Director

January 2018