
2022 PRODUCTION HANDBOOK



After the unconventional but amazing success of **GREASE** in 2021, Ringwood Secondary College is delighted to perform the truly unique – **URINETOWN – The Musical**. This show is to be performed by our year 10, 11 and 12 students only.

This show has never been staged at Ringwood Secondary College and we are beyond excited to introduce students and the entire school community to this hilarious musical that parodies musicals whilst focusing on an environmental issue. Get over the title and enjoy the show!

ABOUT THE SHOW

The title is the opening one-liner, setting the stage for a show that is about where we all stand (or sit) in a world where a commodity as simple as our own bodily fluid is going to be manipulated by industry. Urinetown: The Musical begins its satirical tale in a time of desperation and desolation. Setting itself in an undisclosed futuristic Gotham-like city so embroiled by a massive water shortage, caused by a twenty-year drought. In order to compensate, private toilets have been outlawed and regulation of water consumption forces citizens to pay exorbitant fees at designated facilities for the privilege to pee. These public amenities, as they are known, are dominated by the tyrannical Urine Good Company (pun very much intended) where the only beneficiaries are employees of the money-hungry corporation. If citizens relieve themselves in public or take illegal leaks, they along with rebels who refuse to pay the fee, are punished by exile to the dreaded and mysterious colony of Urinetown.

A darkly comedic meta-musical, Urinetown: The Musical is relatively good clean fun (aside from the somewhat distasteful subject matter of humans needing to pee); it is never crude, rude or lewd. It is, in fact, a theatrically savvy, politically sophisticated musical, and it's side-splittingly funny. You will be so busy having fun that you won't bat an eye to the fact you're seeing a show debating the notions of capitalism, human rights, and environmentalism.

THE AUDITION PROCESS

General Audition and Dance Call

Auditions for cast are open to year 10, 11 and 12 students enrolled at Ringwood Secondary College in 2022.

The cast size this year will be decided on by the production team based on the amount of auditionees and is expected to be smaller than a usual full school production due to certain restrictions. The production team will also take into consideration 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 Feb 8, 2021**. (Keep checking back – it might take a while to compile. A Facebook notification will go out when it is ready.) Please note you will NOT be required to sing the entire song, just a short section.

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. The dialogue will not be made available before the auditions.

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

- **Tuesday March 15 between 3.30pm and 7pm**
- **Wednesday March 16 between 3.30pm and 7pm**

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

www.rscproduction.com.au/auditions.html

DANCE

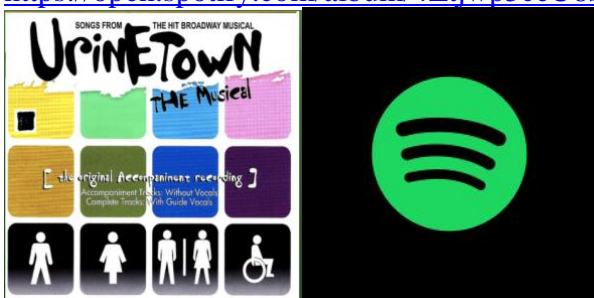
****In addition to the general audition, there will be a **compulsory** dance call on **Friday March 18 from 3.30pm until 5.30pm**. Believe it or not URINETOWN is a heavy dance show and all prospective leads, principal dancers and ensemble members **MUST** attend. This year, a video will be sent out with a section of choreography for you to pre-learn before the dance audition. 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	Audition songs
Privilege to Pee	Snuff That Girl
<i>Mr Cladwell</i>	<i>Run Freedom Run</i>
Follow Your Heart	Tell Her I Love Her
Look at the Sky	I See a River
<i>What Is Urinetown</i>	

You can access the backing tracks on Spotify by using the link below:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/4Ztjwp5ceU8SF8xyZ85XOP?si=xGQGk-qRRI6DE0hGyAsqvQ>



Tracks are also available on Youtube.

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.

Callback Auditions

Following the general auditions, some students will be invited to a subsequent **callback audition** either at **lunchtime** or at **4.00pm – 8.00pm** on **Tuesday March 22**. There will be two sessions.

Session 1 will run at lunchtime

Session 2 will run from **5.30pm until 8.00pm**.

As always, no inference about casting decisions should be drawn from whether or not students are invited to this audition. Also, not all roles will be called back.

Additionally, there will be an 'Advance Dance Callback' on **Monday March 21** at Lunchtime. This will be organized by request only.

Cast Announcement

The cast for 2022's production of **URINETOWN** will be published on the website at 5pm on **Friday March 25th**. 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 – URINETOWN

URINETOWN is a show with an array of lead roles, cameos, acting roles, dance parts and terrific ensemble participation. Prospective auditionees are expected to do some research into the show, the characters and potential interpretations. There will be a pre-audition info session on **Thursday March 3** where new and returning students can have their questions answered and we will be able to tell you more about the show.

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.

Character Breakdown

Bobby Strong

The dashing, rebellious everyman who works for Miss Pennywise at the poorest, filthiest town urinal. He becomes an unsuspecting protagonist and romantic hero when he starts a revolution and falls in love with Hope Cladwell.

Hope Cladwell

Cladwell's ravishingly beautiful daughter, torn between her father and her new love for Bobby. She begins as an innocent, naive angel but becomes vengeful and determined after being exposed to her father's evil.

Little Sally

A precocious and irreverent street urchin. She serves as a quasi-narrator who often questions Lockstock and the play's logic.

Officer Lockstock

The tongue-in-cheek narrator of our story, they are a corrupt police officer who secretly kills off the guilty offenders. Bold, brash, and larger than life in many ways.

Caldwell B. Cladwell

The evil president and owner of the Urine Good Company. He is a stingy money-grubber who gleefully exploits the poor. He is the father of Hope Cladwell

Penelope Pennywise

The tough, jaded warden of the poorest, filthiest town urinal. She is Cladwell's one-time lover and possible mother to Hope.

Dr. Billeaux

Head of Research and Development at UGC with a loopy disposition.

Mr. Mcqueen

Cladwell's backslapping lackey. A subservient assistant.

Senator Fipp

A greedy politician in Cladwell's pocket. A bumbling coward.

Officer Barrel

Lockstock's patrol partner. A thuggish and aggressive police officer. They are Lockstock's partner in all things criminal. They have a secret!

Joseph "old Man" Strong

Bobby's rebellious father. His refusal to pay the fee sends him to Urinetown, ultimately launching the revolution.

Tiny Tom

One of the Poor, he is an idiotic man-child.

Soupy Sue

One of the Poor, she is excitable and easily panicked.

Little Becky Two-shoes

One of the Poor. She is foul-mouthed, impulsive, and accusatory.

Josephine "ma" Strong

Bobby's mother and Joseph's wife. A strong-willed woman with a bite, able to withstand the hard hand life has dealt her.

Hot Blades Harry

One of the Poor, he is psychopathic and can become a violent loose cannon.

Ms/Mr Millennium

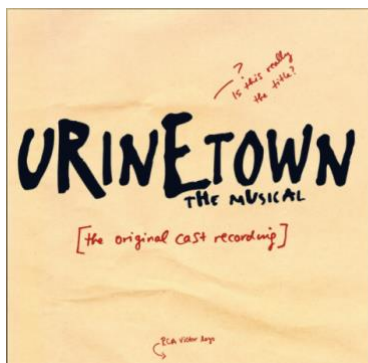
One of Cladwell's lesser lackeys. Office worker who aspires to be Cladwell's Head Secretary.

Robby the Stockfish

A poor rebel who frequents Public Amenity Number# 9.

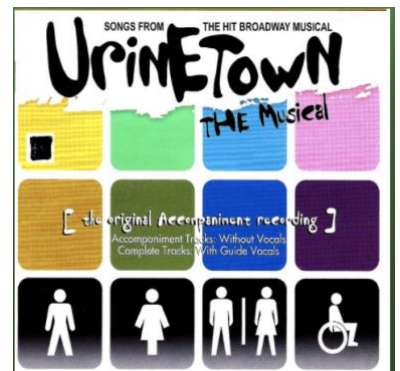
Mr Cladwell's Secretary

Prim and proper in nature and look. Straight – laced.



RECOMMENDED RECORDINGS

There is one official Broadway cast recordings of Urinetown in English. This version of the soundtrack is a bit different to the stage version but it is a fairly accurate representation of the show. Another recording you might find easily is the Urinetown Accompaniments (available on Spotify). This recording has interpretations of the musical and the backing tracks without the vocals.



The recordings (available on iTunes and Spotify) are 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 the cast and familiarise themselves with the show.

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 2022 Production Calendar 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 honor 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 will 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/or 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 show recording**, copying of rehearsal material and afternoon tea at regular rehearsals in Term 2.
 - \$90 per cast member
 - \$75 per cast member if more than one from the same family (includes a second show recording per family)
- Production Camp – compulsory for all cast and orchestra **(July 20-22)** – The 2nd week of Term 3
 - \$250-\$280 per student – cost to be confirmed in Term 1.
- Other expenses may include some basic cast supplied personal costume requirements.

FULL CAST MEETING AND SHOW LAUNCH EVENING!

On **Tuesday April 26** we will be holding the **URINETOWN PRODUCTION LAUNCH** and Parent Information Evening. This will be from 7pm – 8pm and there will be a performance by the cast! Rehearsals will have already been running with cast learning music and some movement. This will be the official launch of the

company for URINETOWN and is designed to kick start the production. In addition to dealing with the basic information and questions we will ensure that all administrative matters are completed. Opportunities for parent involvement will also be outlined.

EXTRA pArts

Extra pArts 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.

All parents are welcome to assist, the only requirement will be attending an OHS Training session, which is a DET regulation and also supplying to the College a copy of a Working with Children's Card.

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. We also provide backstage and front of house assistance during the season.

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 URINETOWN will go on sale to members of the company and their families on **Tuesday May 17**. General sales will commence on **Tuesday May 24**. All sales will once again be funneled through the production website. This year there may be reduced seating due to government advice and standards.

Please note – there is the provision for extra performances on **August 12 & 13**. This is to compensate for the possibility that we will not be able to fill the RSC Hall to capacity. The Production Team will inform cast and their families when a decision has been made about these performances.

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.

Please visit www.rscproduction.com.au for more information.

Karl McNamara
Producer
Director

Gaynor Borlase
Choreographer/
Assistant Director

Lauren Rowe
Assistant Director

Michael Phillips
Chief Patron

Annamarie Stelfox
Production Manager

Vicki Quinn
Musical Director -
Vocal

Dane Sorensen
Musical Director

PLEASE NOTE: The dates below are subject to change and will be confirmed at the time of casting.

2022 SENIOR PRODUCTION CALENDAR

TERM 1

Thursday March 3	Production audition info session	Lunch
Tuesday March 15	Cast Auditions – Session 1 (by signup only)	4.00pm – 7pm
Wednesday March 16	Cast Auditions – Session 2 (by signup only)	3.30pm – 7pm
Friday March 18	Dance Call	3.30pm – 5.30pm
(for those unavailable for	the after school audition please advise at the time of	your initial audition)
Monday March 21	Advance Dance - by request	Lunch
Tuesday March 22	Callback Auditions – by request Session 1	Lunch
Tuesday March 22	Callback Auditions – by request Session 2	4.00pm – 8.30pm
Friday March 25	Cast published – www.rscproduction.com.au	5pm
	Applications for non-cast positions open	5pm

REHEARSALS

PLEASE REVIEW THE DATES BELOW – MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

Monday March 28	Specialist Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday March 29	Ensemble Singing Session 1	3.30pm – 5.30pm
	Leads Singing	5.30 – 6.30
Monday April 4	Specialist Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday April 5	Ensemble Singing Session 1	3.30pm – 5.30pm
	Leads Singing	5.30 – 6.30

TERM 2

Tuesday April 26	Rehearsal 1	3.30pm – 6.30pm
	Official Production Launch	7pm – 8pm
Monday May 2	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday May 3	Rehearsal 2 (including twilight open night)	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Monday May 9	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday May 10	Rehearsal 3	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Monday May 16	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday May 17	Rehearsal 4	3.30pm – 6.30pm
SATURDAY May 21	Special Leads Character Workshop	10am – 4pm
Monday May 23	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday May 24	Rehearsal 5	3.30pm – 6.30pm

Monday May 30	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday May 31	Rehearsal 6	3.30pm – 6.30pm
SUNDAY June 5	FULL CAST SUNDAY REHEARSAL 7	10am – 4pm
Monday June 6	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday June 7	Rehearsal 8	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Tuesday June 14	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday June 14	Rehearsal 9	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Monday June 20	Specialist Lunch Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday June 21	Rehearsal 10 Sidzprobe	3.30pm – 9.30pm

TERM 2 HOLIDAY!!!

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

Saturday July 9	COSTUME CALL	
Sunday July 10	COSTUME CALL	

TERM 3

Monday July 11	Leads Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday July 12	Full Cast Rehearsal	3.30pm – 7.30pm
Monday July 18	Leads Rehearsal	Lunch
Wednesday July 20 – Friday July 22	Production Camp Mt Evelyn Recreation Camp	12pm – 1.30pm
Monday July 25	Specialist Rehearsal	Lunch
Tuesday July 26	Stage Rehearsal	3.30pm – 9.00pm
THURSDAY July 28	All Day Stage Rehearsal	8.50am – 3.15pm
Sunday July 31	COSTUME & STAGE RUN Costume Working Bee and Checking	9am – 2pm
Monday August 1	Tech and Stage Crew Rehearsal (CAST MOVING SET WILL BE REQUIRED)	3.30pm – 9pm
Tuesday August 2	Full Dress Rehearsal 1 (5pm)	3.30pm – 9pm
Wednesday August 3	Full Dress Rehearsal 2 (5pm)	3.30pm – 9pm
Thursday August 4	Performance 1 – Preview Performance (12pm) Performance 2 – Opening Night– (7.30pm)	8.50am – 3.15pm 5.30pm – 10.30pm
Friday August 5	Performance 3 – (7.30pm)	5.30pm – 10.30pm

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Saturday August 6	Performance 4 – (7.30pm)	5.30pm –10.30pm
Sunday August 7	Performance 5 –Matinee (1.30pm)	11.30am – 4.30pm
Thursday August 11	Performance 6 – Matinee (7.30pm)	5.30pm – 10.30pm
Friday August 12	Performance 7 (7.30pm)	5.30pm – 10.30pm
Saturday August 13	Performance 8 (1.30pm)	11.30am – 4.30pm
Monday August 15	Bump out	9am – 11.30am
