



Production Team

Director: Brett Russell

Musical Director: Danielle Nicholls-Fuller

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for our production of "**Blood Brothers**", which will be performed at the **Sutherland School of Arts** in June 2019. The following information explains more about this production, your rehearsal commitments and performance requirements. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be made available when rehearsals commence.

Orientation Date

Tuesday, 4 December 2018 8pm

Como School of Arts, 15-17 Novara Crescent, Como.

Auditions (Bookings Required)

TO BOOK AN AUDITION PLEASE EMAIL: auditions@mirandamusicalsociety.com.au

All auditions will be held at **Como School of Arts**, 15-17 Novara Crescent, Como unless specifically notified

Sunday 9th December from 1pm

Tuesday 11th December from 8pm

Successful auditionees will be contacted as soon as possible after Tuesday 11th December 2018

Planned full cast announcement on MMS website: Wednesday 12th December 2018

PLEASE NOTE: Due to constraints within our constitution, the Casting Panel will not provide audition feedback under any circumstances, please do not ask.

Bump in Date

Saturday 8th June from 6am

Production Rehearsals (times subject to change)

Sunday, 9th June 2019 (10am - 10pm)

Monday, 10th June 2019 (2pm - 11pm) (public holiday)

Wednesday, 12th June 2019 (7pm - 11pm)

Performance Dates

All performances will be at the **Sutherland School of Arts**, Railway Road, Sutherland.

Friday 14th June 2019 @8pm

Saturday 15th June 2019 @2pm and 8pm

Sunday 16th June 2019 @ 2pm

Wednesday 19th June 2019 @ 8pm

Friday 21st June 2019 @8pm

Saturday 22nd June 2019 @2pm and 8pm

Sunday 23rd June 2019 @ 2pm

Bump Out Dates

Sunday 23rd June 2019 after the last performance

Rehearsals

This show will rehearse Tuesday and Friday nights from 7:30pm and several Sundays as set in the Rehearsal Schedule.

The default location for all rehearsals is the **Como School of Arts**, Novara Crescent, Como. Alternate locations will be detailed in the Rehearsal Schedule where appropriate and everyone notified of changes.

Show Synopsis

“Did ya’ hear the story of the Johnston twins”?

Blood Brothers, by the Author of Educating Rita and Shirley Valentine, is a haunting rags to riches tragedy of our times.

A woman with numerous children to support surrenders one of her new born twins to the childless woman she cleans for. The boys grow up streets apart, never learning the truth, but becoming firm friends and falling in love with the same girl.

One prospers while the other falls on hard times. A narrator warns that a price has to be paid for separating twins: the lives of the blood brothers, who die on the day they find out they are related.

Character Breakdown

MRS. JOHNSTONE (MOTHER): Female, 30-50 Range Mezzo-Soprano – expressive and lyrical vocalist. F3-C5

Original Mother of Mickey and Edward. After her husband walks out on her, she is left to take care of her children. Constantly trying to do what is best. Gets a job as a maid to support her children. While she tries her best, she cannot escape the society she has been born into.

NARRATOR: Male, Age Flexible – Suave Sophisticated Range Rock Tenor- Strong upper register. F3 – G4

“Did y’ hear the story of the Johnstone twins?” Takes the audience through the important sections of the story. Truthful, yet ominous at times.

MRS. LYONS: Female, 30-50 (Range: Alto A3 – D5)

Mrs. Johnstone’s employer. Kind with good intentions but puts herself first—no matter the cost. Adopts Edward out of desperation towards her own insecurities. A compulsive liar who gets in over her head.

MR. LYONS: Male, 30-40 (Range: Rock Tenor G3-G4)

Proper Gentleman from the upper class. Is tricked into thinking his wife has had a child while he was on an extended business trip. Constantly busy, and leaves the homely responsibilities up to his wife.

MICKEY: Male, Plays 7-20’s (Range: Expressive Baritone/Tenor C3- E4)

Blood Brother raised in the poor part of town by Mrs. Johnston. A trouble maker pressured by the rules of society.

EDWARD: Male, Plays 7-20’s (Range: Tenor to high A. D3 –A4)

Blood Brother raised in the upper class by Mrs. Lyons. Grows up with a privileged life due to his foster parents—From his opportunities with education to women.

SAMMY: Male, Plays 7-20’s (Range: Ensemble/Part Flexible Baritone C3-E4)

Mickey’s Brother. A bully and bad influence on Mickey. Constantly a trouble maker.

LINDA: Female, Plays 7-20’s (Range: Ensemble/Part Flexible Alto G3-G4)

A lovely girl from the neighborhood. Finds the attention of both Mickey and Edward.

CHORUS x 3 (1 x Male 30-50, 1 x Male 20-30 and 1 x Female 20-30)

Catalogue Man, Finance Man, Children, Policemen, Neighbours, Wedding Guests, Doleites, Councillors, Nurses, Judge

Audition Process

You will be auditioning in front of a panel consisting of the Production Team, an MMS member and an experienced non-MMS person. A representative of the MMS Management Committee may be present.

You will be expected to audition in a way that shows your skill range as a singer/actor/performer and that will give the panel the best opportunity to work out your possible placement in the production.

AUDITION PACK – Blood Brothers

There will be a piano and accompanist provided, but please provide your own sheet music in a suitable format for playing. Single separate sheets will not be suitable. A large Bluetooth speaker with Aux In will be available for backing tracks. There will be **NO** CD player available.

You may be asked to participate in on-the-spot workshopping during your audition by the Production Team. This would be done to encourage the best result from your audition.

Your audition may be recorded for the purpose of later scrutiny when the Panel is making its considerations. Please advise if you don't wish to be videoed prior to the start of your audition.

Note: *All MMS casting is run according to a set of guidelines that promote fairness and consideration of MMS Members while balancing the best result for the production. Not all auditionees will be cast.*

Singing

All auditionees will be required to prepare a 32 bar cut in the style of the show that showcases your voice. Also prepare one contrasting selection and be prepared to sing more if asked. Bring sheet Music. A pianist will be provided.

Readings

All auditionees will be required to do a reading. The readings for each character are as follows:

Narrator Page 1, pages 52-53

Mrs Johnstone – Pages 3-4

Mrs Lyons 3-6

Mr Lyons – Page 12, 27-28

Mickey – Pages 17-18

Edward – Pages 17-18

Sammy – Pages 19-20

Linda – Pages 25-27

2 x males Read Policeman page 30

1 x female – Read Linda pages 25-27

Call Backs

Will be held only if the panel see the need and if you are invited you may be required to learn a different song / reading. During this process, we are looking at how you look and perform with others and with possible new material.

Cast Announcement

The successful auditionees will be called by the Director as soon as possible after any callbacks are completed and the full cast will be announced on the MMS website and FaceBook group as soon as possible after that.

AUDITION PACK – Blood Brothers

If for any reason a role is not filled from the auditions, additional members may be invited to join the cast at a later date. All potential new cast may be asked to audition.

If you are not cast in Blood Brothers it is not necessarily a reflection on your performance but you may not fit the overall vision of this particular production. There is also a limit on the number of performers we can fit into this production.

It is an element of the MMS constitution that a member of Miranda Musical Society who auditioned equally will be given priority over a non-member

If you have plans to go away for an extended period for work or vacation during the rehearsal period or to appear in another show during the rehearsal period, please do not audition, as it is not fair on people who are available for all rehearsals

Your Commitment as A Cast Member

All cast members MUST be or become a member of Miranda Musical Society and remain financial until the completion of the season. All cast members adhere to the Code of Conduct and obey the rules of the Society.

All rehearsals up until moving into the performance venue will be held at the Como School of Arts. The venue is located on Novara Crescent Como. If travelling by car there is some off-street parking and always sufficient street parking. If travelling by public transport, Como Railway station is an easy two-minute stroll from the venue.

A draft rehearsal schedule will be available for all cast members. This may vary depending only on how quickly we get the work done. Please assume that you may be called at short notice for a rehearsal.

All weekday rehearsals will start at 7:30pm Tuesdays and Fridays. We will have a break in the middle for ten minutes. Sunday rehearsals may have varying start times but will have the same overall structure as weekday rehearsals. If (due to illness or an unplanned work commitment) you are unable to attend a rehearsal or will be late arriving, please contact a member of the Production Team as early as possible. Notifying other cast members is not sufficient. Contact details will be given to the cast at the first rehearsal.

Variations to the rehearsal schedule will be posted on the cast Facebook page. We will try to give as much notice as possible if changes are required.

ALL cast MUST be available for rehearsals once we start to run complete acts or the show as well as Bump In/Out, Sitzprobe and all rehearsals and performances at performance venue.

Miranda Musical Society reserves the right to replace any performer who misses three rehearsals without a valid and acceptable reason.

Miranda Musical Society also reserves the right to replace any performer who accepts a role in another production or activity which adversely affects their ability to attend rehearsals or their performance.

The cast is also expected to become involved in social and marketing activities and in promoting the show as well as assisting with working bees, the Bump In and Bump Out.

You will need to provide your own stage make-up, excepting special effects. Please wear shoes appropriate for your role during rehearsals.

Cast programme photos will be taken on one or two nights during rehearsal, if you do not attend any of these sessions you will need to arrange (and pay) for a private session with our photographer for your photo to be included in the programme.

Fees

Membership

Membership has an annual fee of **\$40**.

If you are cast in this production and are not a current financial member you will be required to apply for membership.

Membership is a condition of performing for Miranda Musical Society and is inclusive of insurance protection in the event of an injury sustained at rehearsal or during performance, therefore must be paid within two weeks of starting rehearsal. If you are not a financial member after this date your activity at rehearsal will be restricted and if you are not financial after one month you will be replaced.

Show Fee

In addition to membership, all cast members are required to pay a show fee. The show fee is **\$60**.

Payment of fees can be made by cash or EFTPOS with the Members' Representatives at the first rehearsal or by direct deposit. The society's bank details will be provided at the first rehearsal.

Code of Ethics

The Miranda Musical Society Code of Ethics is an important aspect of participating in an MMS production. It is an agreement that you participate in an MMS show according to agreed standards of behaviour.

1. I will give my best at all times - offering energy and enthusiasm at auditions, rehearsals, bump in/out, working bees, promotional events and throughout performances.
2. I will pay my Membership and Show Fees on the first night of rehearsal, as well any other required payments throughout the rehearsal period promptly and by the requested deadline.
3. I will be fully committed to each MMS production I am involved in, by being on time and attending ALL rehearsals and performances - unless experiencing serious illness, or if I have permission for absence either prior to auditions or with advance notice to the Production Team so my absence does not unfairly disrupt the rehearsal schedule.
4. I will communicate effectively and support my fellow cast members, crew, production team and committee members - keeping my interactions/comments towards others positive and constructive.
5. I will accept and follow all instructions and advice given to me by the production team and will express concerns/issues as soon as they arise to these individuals only, in a respectful and appropriate manner.
6. I will participate in all required rehearsals, while demonstrating flexibility, patience and understanding on necessary schedule changes.
7. I will be prepared as a cast member - learning all lines and music efficiently, being prompt on cues, as well as bringing all items required eg. script, props, costumes etc.
8. I will demonstrate care to the environment which surrounds me - the rehearsal space, theatre, dressing rooms, scenery, props and costumes.
9. I will represent and promote MMS in a positive way at all times, both in and outside of rehearsals/performances - in the way I speak, act and throughout interactions on social media.
10. I will support the decision of the casting committee and be supportive of the choices made in the best interests of MMS.
11. All cast members must conduct themselves respectfully whilst participating in an MMS show.

I hereby sign this agreed code of ethics and express my pledge to play my part in making the overall production an enjoyable experience for all involved. I understand that severe consequences, including expulsion from the show, can be imposed for a breach of the code.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____