

AUDITION PACK



Thank you for your interest in auditioning for our production of "Priscilla Queen of the Desert", which will be performed at the **Sutherland Entertainment Centre** in September 2020. 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.

Production Team

Director: Garth Saville

Musical Director: Josh Ransom

Choreographer: Craig Nhobbs

Dramaturg: Meg Day

Production Design: Bob Peet & Garth Saville

Miranda Musical Society

Miranda Musical Society Inc is a not-for-profit community association, incorporated in NSW through the Office of Fair Trade. It is operated by a Management Committee on behalf of members and is not a production company. It is run according to a constitution voted by the majority of the members at the time of incorporation and auditions are run according to those requirements. All members, Committee and production teams are volunteers. More information is available at www.mirandamusicalsociety.com.au.

Cast Required

Up to 32 people will be cast - 17 males/15 females.

Priscilla is a high energy production which will require every cast member to be able to move.

Important Dates

Orientation

Sunday, Tuesday, 19 November 2019 at 7.30pm at Como School of Arts, 15-17 Novara Crescent, Como

Auditions (*Bookings required*)

Audition venues are varied. Please note the location of your audition date below. See **Page 7** for details on how to book an audition.

Day	Date	Time	Venue
Saturday	30 November 2019	10am to 6pm	Como School of Arts 15-17 Novara Crescent, Como
Sunday	1 December 2019	10am to 6pm	Como School of Arts 15-17 Novara Crescent, Como
Wednesday	4 December 2019	8.30pm to 10.30pm	Oyster Bay Community Hall 117 Como Road, Oyster Bay

Call Backs & cast announcement

Day	Date	Time	Venue
Thursday	5 December 2019	7.30pm to 10.30pm	Oyster Bay Community Hall 117 Como Road, Oyster Bay

Successful auditionees will be contacted as soon as possible after **Thursday, 5th December 2019**. Planned full cast announcement on the Miranda Musical Society website scheduled for **Saturday, 7th December 2019**. We will make our best efforts to contact everyone prior to the public announcement of the cast on our website. Please note that if we are unable to contact successful auditionees prior to the public announcement, we will still go ahead with the public announcement on **Saturday, 7th December 2019**.

Bump-in

Saturday, 29 August 2020 from 7.30am

Sitzprobe (*cast music/singing rehearsal with the orchestra*)

Saturday, 29 August 2020 – approximately 2.00pm

Production Rehearsals

Sunday, 30 August 2020 (10am to 11pm)

Monday, 31 August 2020 (7pm to 11pm)

Tuesday, 1 September 2020 (7pm to 11pm)

Performance Dates

All performances will be at the **Sutherland Entertainment Centre**, Eton Street, Sutherland

Wednesday, 2 September 2020 at 8pm

Thursday, 3 September 2020 at 8pm

Friday, 4 September 2020 at 8pm

Saturday, 5 September 2020 at 2pm and 8pm

Sunday, 6 September 2020 at 2pm

Bump-Out Dates

Sunday, 6 September 2020 at the conclusion of the last performance

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will take place on Monday and Wednesday evenings at Como School of Arts, Novara Crescent, Como starting at **7.30pm from Monday, 27 April**. Sunday rehearsals will be scheduled as required.

A draft rehearsal schedule will be available at the beginning of the rehearsal period.

If there are events that will stop you being able to attend all required rehearsals, please notify us during the audition process.

Synopsis

Based on the 1994 popular movie of the same name, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* follows the journey of two drag queens, Tick and Adam, and a transgender woman, Bernadette, as they travel across Australia in their bus, named Priscilla.

Tick has been asked to perform at a hotel in Alice Springs by his estranged wife, Marion. Taking Adam and Bernadette along with him, the trio drive from Sydney to the remote resort town in the middle of the desert. Tick tells his companions that the trip is a favour to his wife, from whom he is separated, but does not reveal that he also has an 8-year-old son he does not know, but who now wants to meet his father. As they head west, Tick, Adam, and Bernadette learn to accept and support each other, whilst encountering a number of strange and colourful characters.

After experiencing violent homophobic threats, Adam is forced to realize that not everyone is accepting of his flamboyant lifestyle, whilst Bernadette opens up to the possibility of love again following the death of her husband. Upon reaching Alice Springs, Tick finally meets his son, Benjamin, who accepts his father's homosexuality and drag queen persona. The trio perform at the resort and realize that they have forged a bond that will last forever.

Full of well-known pop songs including **It's Raining Men, I Say A Little Prayer, I Will Survive, Hot Stuff, Finally, Go West, Girls Just Wanna Have Fun, I Love The Nightlife** and **two Kylie Medleys** and supported by three divas flying high above the stage, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* is a flamboyant, funny, disco-fuelled musical that gets the audience up on their feet.

Character breakdown

Role	M/F	Age	Breakdown	Vocal	Dance
Bernadette	M	40's – 50's	Transsexual who also plays drag	Baritone	Good dancer
Mitzi/Tick	M	mid 30's – early 40's	Male who also plays drag	Baritone	Good dancer
Felicia/Adam	M	Early to late 20's	Male who also plays drag	Tenor	Strong dancer
Bob	M	50's – 60's	Scruffy & rugged	Baritone	Basic dancer
3 Divas	F	Open ages	Confident & sassy	Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Alto	Good dancer
Marion	F	mid 30's – early 40's	Ex-wife of Tick. Will also do ensemble	Mezzo	Good dancer
Cynthia	F	Late 20's – early 40's	Wife of Bob, needs to be of Asian/ Eurasian origin	Mezzo	Good dancer
Miss Understanding	M	Open age	High energetic performer who sings like Tina Turner	Tenor	Good dancer
Benji	M	9-11 yrs old	Tick's young son		Basic dancer

Featured Ensemble

These roles will also be involved in other ensemble numbers

Role	M/F	Age	Breakdown	Vocal	Dance
Young Bernadette	M	Mid 20's	Lip sync's "A Fine Romance"	Not required	Strong dancer
Farrah	M	mid 30's – early 40's	Drag queen who works in club with Mitzi	Baritone	Good dancer
Jimmy	M	Open	Must identify as aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	Baritone	Good dancer

Ensemble

8 required consisting of: 5 females and 3 men

Vocal Requirements:..... Bass, Baritone, Tenor, Alto, Mezzo and Sopranos

Dancing Ability: Good movers

Featured Dance Troupe of 8-10

8-10 required consisting of: ... a mix of females and males that will play drag queens.

Vocal Requirements:..... Would be an advantage but not essential

Dancing Ability: Strong dancers

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.

Reading Audition

If auditioning for a principal or featured role, script excerpts will be provided. An independent reader will read other parts. You may be asked to participate in an on-the-spot workshopping during your audition by the Production Team. This would be done to encourage the best result from your audition.

Singing Audition

Please sing with an Australian accent a song of your choosing relevant to the style of music from the show. Please bring sheet music for our accompanist and ensure that your music is in a suitable format for the accompanist and not in single separate sheets. Alternatively, a large Bluetooth speaker with "Aux-In" will be available if you choose to use backing tracks.

You may be interrupted to try your song in a different manner or if the panel has heard enough. You may also be asked to sing a scale to ascertain your singing range.

Dance Audition

Everyone will be required to undertake a dance audition. An extra section of choreography will be taught for those wanting to be a featured dancer. The Audition style will be a Jazz/Broadway inspired piece.

Dance auditions will take approximately 45 minutes and are scheduled for 11am, 12.45pm, 2.30pm and 4.15pm on Saturday, 30 November and Sunday, 1 December. Depending on your audition timeslot, you will be required to arrive early for your audition or remain after your audition to participate in the dance audition. For Wednesday, 4 December the dance audition is scheduled for 9pm.

Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

Please note that is the policy of Miranda Musical Society not to give feedback from Auditions.

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.

Also note: With the exception of auditioning for the role of Benji all auditionees must be 16 years of age at the time of audition.

Your Commitment as a Cast Member

Before auditioning, please read and sign the Miranda Musical Society Code of Conduct document at the end of these information pages. The expectation is that you understand and will adhere to the Code at all time associated with this production.

All rehearsals up to Performance Week 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 closed cast Facebook page will be created once the cast is announced.

A rehearsal schedule will be available at Orientation and by request when booking an audition. Please note, that this schedule may vary depending cast availability and other unforeseen circumstances. Please assume that you may be called to rehearse at short notice for a 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 weekday rehearsals will start at 7:30pm Mondays and Wednesdays and follow a short warm up. 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.

ALL cast **MUST** be available for rehearsals once we start to run complete Acts and/or the complete show as well as all rehearsals and performances at the performance venue.

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 the rehearsal period, 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.

Publicity photos will be scheduled as soon as possible after the start of rehearsals to ensure we have enough time to provide quality publicity for the production. You are expected to attend these where scheduled.

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.

Fees

All cast members **MUST** be or become a member of Miranda Musical Society and remain financial until the completion of the season. Fees are to be paid on the night of the first rehearsal.

Membership fees

Membership is an annual fee of **\$40** and renewed yearly by **1st of July**

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 removed from the production.

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.

How to apply for an audition timeslot

To register for an audition please either:

- register at the end of the Orientation session to be held on **19 November 2019**; or
- send an email to auditions@mirandamusicalsociety.com.au

When booking an audition via the email address above it is necessary to advise the character or characters you are auditioning for or if you are auditioning for ensemble. Audition forms will be available at Orientation and at auditions or can be emailed on request. Please do NOT email your completed audition form, but rather please bring it with you to your audition.

All bookings for audition timeslots are handled by a volunteer at the request of the Miranda Musical Society Committee. While all care is taken to provide you with a timeslot suitable to your needs, sometimes demand outstrips the number of slots available. At busy times, we may run a wait list for timeslots but cannot guarantee you will have an opportunity to audition. Also, we ask that if you need to cancel your audition, you inform us via email at auditions@mirandamusicalsociety.com.au so that your timeslot may be made available to others.

Code of Conduct

The Miranda Musical Society Code of Conduct 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 am medically fit to attend and participate in the high energy activity that is musical theatre, including events such as rehearsals and performances.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. I will participate in all required rehearsals, while demonstrating flexibility, patience and understanding on necessary schedule changes.
8. 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.
9. I will demonstrate care to the environment which surrounds me - the rehearsal space, theatre, dressing rooms, scenery, props and costumes.
10. 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.
11. I will support the decision of the casting committee and be supportive of the choices made in the best interests of MMS.
12. All cast members must conduct themselves respectfully whilst participating in an MMS show.

I hereby sign this agreed Code of Conduct 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 removal from the show, can be imposed for a breach of the code.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

AUDITION FORM

Name: _____ **Male / Female**
(Given Name) (Family Name) (Please circle)

Address: _____

Mobile: _____ **Home No.** _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ **WWC ID:** _____
(Day / Month / Year)

Do you have medical training: Yes No

Would you consider being the Medical Officer for this production: Yes No

Are you a: Current Member New Member Former Member

Are you auditioning for: Ensemble Role(s) _____

Will you accept another role: Yes No **Will you accept ensemble:** Yes No

SINGING:

Voice Type: Soprano Mezzo Alto Tenor Baritone Bass

Skill Level: Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Voice Training: None Trained How many years: _____ Vocal Coach: _____

DANCE:

Dance style: Classical Tap Jazz Modern Contemporary Ballroom

Other: _____

Skill Level: Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Training None Trained How many years: _____ Studio/Teacher: _____

During the rehearsal period, are you, or do you, intend to be involved in any other theatrical productions: Yes No

If yes, please provide details of show dates & rehearsal obligations: _____

During the rehearsal period, are you or do you intend to be absent due to holidays, family commitments, school excursions, exams or business trips etc? Yes No

If yes, please provide dates of absence(s): _____

Previous experience (please complete or attached details):

Year	Show	Role	Company

Miranda Musical Society Terms of Membership (please read carefully and sign below):

I understand that, if successful in my audition, I must become a member of Miranda Musical Society Inc. and that the applicable membership and show fees **MUST BE PAID AT THE FIRST PRODUCTION REHEARSAL**. I will abide by the Miranda Musical Society Code of Ethics, and will make myself available for all rehearsals and production dates and understand that my absence from these, unless previously approved by both the Production Team and Management Committee, may result in my replacement in the production.

I understand that I may be required to assist with set construction/painting as well as bump in/ bump out, and that production accessories, such as make-up, hosiery and footwear, will be at my own expense.

Note: Membership fee (payable annually) is \$40 and Show Fee (per production) is \$60 – **Totalling \$100**

Distribution Release: Any information collected by Miranda Musical Society Inc. may be used for promotion and advertising of its productions. By signing this Audition Form you are agreeing to the Miranda Musical Society Terms of Membership and give permission for Miranda Musical Society to provide any details to our Publicist, Michelle Lansdown.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Note: Parent/Guardian to sign if Auditionee is under 18 Years of age

Privacy Policy: All information collected by Miranda Musical Society Inc. is for use only within the Society and Miranda Musical Society will only distribute this information with your consent.

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Signature: _____

Date: _____