



AMTC's 2020 Production of



LEAPIN' LIZARDS!

The iconic musical by Thomas Meehan (book), Charles Strouse (music) and Martin Charnin (lyrics) is coming to the Shoalhaven in 2020! Based on the comic book *Little Orphan Annie*, this is the heart-warming story of a girl who has nothing but the positive optimism to chase her dreams, and a man who has everything except the realisation that he needs someone to share it with.

The story is set in depression era New York (1933) and this is intended to be made very clear in our production with the look and feel of the show. The Chrysler Building, Empire State Building, Rockefeller Centre and other iconic buildings will feature in the backdrop to the Warbucks Art Deco mansion. This will stand in stark contrast to the poverty of the Orphanage and the homeless people living in a "Hooverville" beneath the 39th Street Bridge.

The musical contains the iconic tunes *Hard Knock Life; Tomorrow; Easy Street; Fully Dressed* and *I Don't Need Anything but You* as well as many others, but there are significant differences from the various movie versions that have spun off from the Musical.

(Some of) THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer: Julie Fraser **Director:** Paul Fraser **Musical Director:** Merrin Ross

Orchestra Director: Margaret Bowcher **Stage Manager:** Laura Turner

Choreographer: Ashley Howes **Assistant Choreographer:** Maddison Binns

Design Team:

Kristy Lochrin, Genevieve Coulthart, Cody Winwood, Matt MacKenzie, Oliver Gait, Michelle Kielly

Production Assistants: Marie De La Torre, Greg Lloyd, Dennis Ross (photography) Diane Blaas (dance)

SHOW SEASON

Monday 22nd June – tech rehearsal at SEC

Tuesday 23rd June – dress rehearsal at SEC

Wednesday 24th June – Full dress rehearsal at SEC

Show dates are Friday 26th Saturday 27th Sunday 28th June; Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th, Sunday 5th July.

(NB: last day of school term is Friday 3rd July)

THE CAST

We will be looking for a group of girls to play the roles of Annie and her friends in the orphanage. The minimum age to be involved in the show is 8 years old at the beginning of auditions. There is no maximum age, but orphans must have a believable stage age up to 13. Orphans will need to be strong vocally including the ability to confidently sing harmonies, to be competent dancers with tap desirable and to be able to portray their character convincingly with consistency. **All girls wishing to be considered will need to attend one of four scheduled audition dance workshops.**

It is possible that the role of Annie will be shared by two girls who will alternate performances with a role as one of the orphans. A decision on this will be made during the audition / call back process.

But it's not just about kids. There are five or six lead roles for adults plus significant featured roles for the Ensemble, both male and female. In fact, just about every person in the Ensemble could play a named character at some point with many enjoyable roles. More information about these is provided below. Ensemble members do not have to be adults but need to have a believable stage age of at least 16. Ensemble members need to be strong vocally including the ability to confidently sing harmonies but will not necessarily be required to dance. There will not be a dance workshop for the ensemble.

We will also be looking for a strong group of singers to provide backing vocals to the onstage cast. These will be selected after the audition process, but you are encouraged to indicate your interest in being involved. An expression of interest does not mean automatic inclusion. The blend of voices and ability to sing harmonies will be considered by the MD in choosing any BV's. Children will not be included in the backing vocalists.

All adults involved in the show will need to provide a Working With Children Clearance. If you do not have one, they are free to obtain as a volunteer. Information is provided here:

<https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check/applicant/help-to-apply-renew-and-update>

No show roles are pre-cast, **except** that we already have a dog!

The part of Sandy will be played by Smudge. Smudge is a well-trained Labrador who is sure to win the hearts of both cast and audience, but if you have an allergy or fear of dogs you should bear in mind that Smudge will attend some rehearsals and all shows.

ORCHESTRA / CREW

AMTC has a well-deserved reputation for quality of its live orchestra that accompanies our shows. Margaret Bowcher is the Musical Director of the Orchestra and will be recruiting the people she needs for Annie.

The stage crew who do the vital job of keeping the show running will be recruited and supervised by our Stage Manager Laura Turner. There may be an opportunity to contribute in this area. Please contact Laura.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals will mostly be held at the School of Arts (and the Annex next door) and closer to show dates will move to our shed in Bomaderry. They will commence on Monday 24/2/20, 6:30pm for Orphans and Annie, 7:00pm for adults. You must attend all rehearsals to which you are called unless you have discussed this with the Producer prior to the time. A schedule will be published, and you will be expected to avoid taking holidays etc when you are required. Rehearsals are generally Monday and Wednesday evenings, plus certain Sundays. There are some identified dates below.

The role of Annie is a huge one and Annie will be required at the vast majority of rehearsals. Children who are contemplating taking on the role of Annie should seriously consider curtailing other commitments for the duration of the show. The role of Annie would preclude taking part in the JAM production in 2020 (which by the way is *Alice in Wonderland*).

Most rehearsals for the orphans will start at 6:30pm on Mondays and run until around 8:30. (Annie will be typically finish later). There will be some Wednesday rehearsals as well, and some Sundays. These will be more frequent as we get closer to show dates, and in June all cast will be required for all rehearsals. Children will also have later finish time at rehearsals in June.

Adult start time will generally be 7:00pm and run on both Mondays and Wednesdays with a finish time around 10:00pm. Adults should also take note of the additional rehearsals listed below.

Identified **extra** rehearsals at this point are:

Sunday 22nd March, 2pm - 5pm. All cast required.

Wednesday 25th March – Orphans required for additional rehearsal. Some adults required too.

Monday 13th April – ie **Easter Monday**, 2pm -6pm All cast required.

Wednesday 29th April – Orphans required for additional rehearsal. Some adults required too.

Sunday 3rd May, 2 - 5 pm. All cast required.

Sunday 31st May, 1 – 6 pm. All cast required.

Monday 8th June – Queen's Birthday Holiday, 10am -4pm. **We move to the Shed and ALL cast including Orphans are required for ALL rehearsals from now on.**

Sunday 14th June – 2pm – 6 pm (Sitzprobe)

Monday 22nd June – tech rehearsal at SEC

Tuesday 23rd June – dress rehearsal at SEC

Wednesday 24th June – Full dress rehearsal at SEC

Show dates are Friday 26th Saturday 27th Sunday 28th June; Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th, Sunday 5th July.

(NB: last day of school term is Friday 3rd July)

Please consult your diary and identify any of the above dates as well as any other Monday or Wednesday evenings that you are unavailable. You will be asked to inform the Production Team when you apply for an audition of any dates that you are unavailable. If you attain a role in the production, you are expected to make yourself available for all rehearsals at which you are required.

Also note that this is a tentative list at this point. Other rehearsals may be scheduled if deemed necessary. Every effort will be made to consult with cast if this is needed.

AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held in the Nowra School of Arts in Berry St on the days indicated below. Please note this is subject to change depending on the number of applicants.

Each of the Children's audition days includes the compulsory dance workshops for orphans. All potential orphans (including Annie) must attend **one** of the four dance workshops. You should wear comfortable clothing in which to dance and bring appropriate footwear such as jazz shoes plus tap shoes if you have them. Bring your water bottle too – it can get very hot.

For your audition you will need to present an excerpt from a song that demonstrates your vocal ability, **preferably not from this show**. The maximum length of your presentation should be **3 minutes**. You will need to provide backing music (without vocals on the track) on a **thumb drive that we can download onto the rehearsal computer before your audition**.

In addition, those auditioning for **Miss Hannigan, Rooster and Lily St Regis** should demonstrate their ability to dance / move during their musical presentation.

You may also be asked to read a character's lines from the script during your audition.

Please Note: We expect a lot of interest. You will *not be booking* specific audition times. Please indicate *several session times* that are convenient to you. You will be informed which specific time you have been *allocated*.

Saturday 8/2/20		ORPHANS / ANNIE AUDITIONS	
Session 1: 9:15 – 10:00	Dance Workshop A 10:00 - 11:00	Session 2: 11:00 – 11:45	Session 3: 11:45 – 12:30
Session 4: 1:15 – 2:00	Dance Workshop B 2:00 - 3:00	Session 5: 3:00 – 3:45	Session 6: 3:45 – 4:30

Sunday 9/2/20		ADULT AUDITIONS	
Session 7: 10 – 11:30am	Session 8: 11:30am–1pm	Session 9: 1.30 – 3:00pm	Session 10: 3 – 4:30pm
Monday 10/2/20		ADULT AUDITIONS	
	Session 11: 7 – 8:15pm	Session 12: 8.15–9:30pm	
Wednesday 12/2/20		ADULT AUDITIONS	
	Session 13: 7 – 8:15pm	Session 14: 8.15–9:30pm	
Saturday 15/2/20		ADULT AUDITIONS	
Session 15: 10–11:30am	Session 16: 11:30–1pm	Session 17: 1.30–3:00pm	Session 18: 3 – 4:30pm

Sunday 16/2/20		ORPHANS/ANNIE AUDITIONS	
Session 19: 9:15 – 10:00	Dance Workshop C 10:00 - 11:00	Session 20: 11:00 – 11:45	Session 21: 11:45 – 12:30
Session 22: 1:15 – 2:00	Dance Workshop D 2:00 - 3:00	Session 23: 3:00 – 3:45	Session 24: 3:45 – 4:30

Call backs for children: Monday 17/2/20 from 7:00pm

Call backs for 'Annie' and adult roles: Wednesday 19/2/20 from 7:00pm

Some call backs will be structured as workshops where you will be asked to learn and perform sections of songs from the show. Other characters may be asked to prepare a song from the show.

To book an audition: please indicate at least two session times as your preference. We will then contact you with a specific time slot for your audition.

On the day: please arrive 15mins prior to your audition, allowing time for administration and to give yourself adequate time for necessary preparation. **Your backing track will be checked to ensure that it can be played successfully.** Please warm up your voice before singing auditions and stretch and warm up 15 min before dance workshops. Children will need to wait until the end of the session of auditionees to be informed of a possible reading.

All auditionees are asked to provide an accurate and labelled passport sized photo on the day.

These will be handed to the panel on entry for your audition.

APPLY FOR AUDITION BY FILLING IN A GOOGLE FORM.

THE link WILL BE ON THE AMTC WEBPAGE www.amtc.org.au

TONIGHT UNTIL MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 12 pm

Allocated times will be communicated by email a few days later.

If you have any enquiries regarding the audition process please email your questions to:

annie@amtc.org.au

AUDITION CHECKLIST

- ✓ Check that you have been advised of your session time, double check the start time and arrive at least 15 minutes early. Warm up your voice.
- ✓ Have your music ready to be transferred to the audition computer
- ✓ Bring a recent (passport size) photo of yourself labelled with your name
- ✓ Bring a list of any dates that conflict with the advertised rehearsal schedule
- ✓ If you are also attending a dance workshop for children, wear comfortable clothing in which to dance, and bring appropriate footwear such as jazz shoes plus tap shoes if you have them. Stretch and warm up **before** the workshop start time. Bring your water bottle too – it can get very hot.

CASTING

Annie

A street-wise orphan with endless optimism; she is eventually taken in by Oliver Warbucks. Spunky, friendly, big-voiced. Annie will need to be able to dance as well as sing and act. Doesn't need to be a redhead (we have wigs).

Gender: Female

Stage Age: 10 to 12

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Oliver Warbucks

A successful businessman with a warm heart. Rich, stiff-collared, bullish. Strong tenor voice; ability to dance / move an advantage.

Gender: Male

Stage Age: 40 to 55

Vocal range top: Gb5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Grace Farrell

Faithful secretary to Mr. Oliver Warbucks. Poised, sweet, gentle.

Gender: Female

Stage Age: 25 to 35

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Miss Hannigan

The orphanage matron who hates children but is fond of liquor. Very disillusioned, bitter, and cold. Strong voice, able to sing in harmony. Good sense of comedy delivery. Ability to dance / move an advantage.

Gender: Female

Stage Age: 30 to 55

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Rooster Hannigan

Miss Hannigan's no-good brother looking for a quick buck. A sleazy, slick con man. Needs to be able to move well in dance style appropriate to the period. Needs to be able to confidently sing in harmony.

Gender: Male

Stage Age: 25 to 45

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Lily St Regis

Rooster's girlfriend, who is also out for a quick buck. She is considered to be a floozy and bimbo. Good sense of comedy delivery. Ability to dance / move an advantage.

Gender: Female

Stage Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Orphans

The other girls in the orphanage with Annie. These girls are gritty, neglected and vulnerable, yet basically honest and potentially loveable. Various temperaments in their characters, they need strong vocal ability including the ability to sing in harmony. They also need to be able to dance, preferably tap.

Gender: Female

Stage Age: 6 to 13 (NB: Minimum actual age is 8 years old)

Franklin D. Roosevelt

The 32nd President of the United States. A Democrat and eventually a friend of Warbucks. Ability to impersonate FDR an advantage.

Gender: Male

Stage Age: Approx 50.

Vocal range top: F4

Vocal range bottom: Eb3

FDR's Cabinet

One female and four male members of FDR's cabinet.

Bert Healy

The ultimate radio personality. He helps Annie by broadcasting about the search for her birth parents. Sings "Fully Dressed".

Gender: Male

Age: 30 to 45

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: E4

Boylan Sisters

Healy's backing singers who sing beautiful harmonies a la the Andrews Sisters. (Bonnie – soprano, Ronnie – alto, Connie – mezzo-soprano)

Star to Be

Young starlet looking to make it big in New York, has a featured solo in the song NYC. Very strong vocals.

Gender: Female

Stage Age: 18 to 25

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Drake

Head of Staff at the Warbucks mansion. Ostensibly stuffy, warms to Annie to reveal his softer side.

Gender: Male

Age: 40 to 60

Other Servants and Ensemble

The other servants at the Warbucks mansion include Mrs. Pugh, Mrs. Greer, Cecille, Annette and others. Other Ensemble roles include Hooverville Citizens, Lt Ward the policeman, Bundles the laundryman, Judge Brandeis, Jimmy Johnson the masked radio announcer, Fred McCracken the ventriloquist, plus more.

Gender: Either

Stage Age: 16 to 60