



OUR HOUSE

THE MADNESS MUSICAL

CAMBRIDGE YOUTH THEATRE BY CTC 2021

INFORMATION PACK

CAMBRIDGE YOUTH THEATRE BY CTC

Thank you for your interest in CTC's Youth Theatre Musical Project 2021.

Even if you have taken part in the Project before, we politely request that you read this pack very carefully.

Following the success in October 2019 of Chicago School Edition, which featured 43 young people, the show has recently been nominated for NODA's 'Best Youth Production', which is a great testament, not only to those young performers, but also, to our incredible creative and production team. We believe that there is a continuing appetite and desire to produce full-length musicals for young performers in Cambridge.

We are now looking for a cast of enthusiastic, talented and committed young people to take part in *Our House*, this very British musical.

Participants must be at least 13 and no older than 21 years of age on Monday 23rd August 2021.

Proof of ID may be requested. Unfortunately, we are unable to make any exceptions to these age restrictions.

THE INFORMATION PACK

This information pack is made up of the following documents:

Information Pack

Audition Form

The participant must read through the pack and, if they are under the age of 18, share the information with their parents/guardians and get their consent to apply for a place.

OFFICIAL OVERVIEW

Our House tells the story of London lad Joe Casey, who, on the night of his sixteenth birthday, takes Sarah, the girl of his dreams, out on their first date. In an effort to impress her, he breaks into a building site overlooking his home on Casey Street. The police turn up, at which point Joe's life splits into two: Good Joe, who stays to help, and Bad Joe, who does a runner.

Featuring a collection of Madness hits including House of Fun, Baggy Trousers, Driving in my Car, It Must Be Love, and of course *Our House*, this show is a very British musical.

YOUNG COMPANY PROJECT

The Youth Theatre Project aims to bring over 60 young people together to create a fantastic show. The friendships, experiences and memories that are formed during projects like these are wonderful, unique and can last a lifetime. The project is the product of a lot of time and hard work, and it is only through the commitment of everyone involved that the final result is so spectacular.



CTC's *West Side Story*



CTC's *Les Misérables*



OUR HOUSE CREATIVE TEAM

Director and Choreographer
Chris Cuming

Musical Director
Jennifer Edmonds

Assistant Choreographer
Nicola Brooks

Produced by
Louis Ling
for Cambridge Theatre Company

DIRECTOR'S VISION

Chris Cuming, Director

Back for my 4th Year with CTC and what a show to put on for this year's Young Company production.

Our House is a wonderful story, with real British heart and energy. It follows the story of Joe Casey and two possible ways his life could go, one well and one not so well... or so we think. Full of loads of fun parts to play and a great dancing ensemble, *Our House* is an exciting pop musical, requiring lots of involvement from the entire company.

As ever, I'm keen to dig a bit deeper, to explore the true meaning of the story and to ensure that each member of the company has their own character and personality to portray throughout the show, so that we won't repeat the DVD version of the West End production, but instead find our very own, new CTC production of *Our House*.

Please bring your energy, youth and enthusiasm to the auditions. Jennifer (Musical Director) and I are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking and driven young people, who not only want to have a good time, but are also committed to putting on a high quality professional production.

See you at the auditions.



CTC's *Chicago*



CTC's *Les Misérables*

THE AUDITION PROCESS

The first auditions will take place on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th May with recalls taking place on Sunday 16 May 2021.

The location is **Netherhall School, Queen Edith's Way, Cambridge CB1 8NN.**

Please enter via the Sports Centre entrance and follow the signs to the Sixth Form Atrium.

There is car parking at this venue but it does get busy.

All participants should arrive promptly in order to register and sign in. Anyone wishing to audition after this time will not be admitted.

SATURDAY 8 MAY

Workshop 1: 9.45am-11.15am

Workshop 2: 11.30am-1pm

Workshop 3: 1.45pm-3.15pm

Workshop 4: 3.30pm-5pm

SUNDAY 9 MAY

Workshop 5: 9.45am-11.15am

Workshop 6: 11.30am-1pm

Workshop 7: 1.45pm-3.15pm

Workshop 8: 3.30pm-5pm

SUNDAY 16 MAY

You will be notified after your first audition if you have been successful to the recall stage.

Recalls, 10am-1pm by invite only

The audition form at the end of this pack must be completed. Please bring this along to your audition with a passport-sized photo of the participant attached to it.

HOW TO BOOK YOUR AUDITION SLOT

Please request your audition by email to, **ourhouse@camtheatrecompany.co.uk** with your name, preferred workshop date/time, age and OUR HOUSE in the subject line of the email.

CLOTHING

Participants will be required to wear sensible clothing and footwear (soft-soled, no heels). All participants will take part in a physical warm up so please come in comfortable, loose clothing. Please do not wear jewelry or anything that might prohibit your movement or cause an injury whilst dancing.

You will not be allowed to audition either barefoot or in socks.

HOW THE AUDITION DAY WORKS

Once everyone is signed in, the members of the production team will introduce themselves and explain how the workshop will be run.

Participants do not need to prepare anything for the audition workshop. Participants will be taught a verse and chorus of the show and a short dance piece on the day. It's important to highlight that we don't expect only the 'best' singers, dancers and actors; we like to recognise potential and work with individuals throughout the process.

At the end of the audition workshop all participants will be given a coloured slip regarding the next stage. It's not possible to see everyone for recalls.

We will select individuals to come back for recalls on Sunday 16 May so it's vital that you are available for this.

We would recommend bringing a mobile phone so that you can contact your parents/guardians regarding pick up at the end of the audition. CTC will not take any responsibility for personal belongings that may get lost.

Parents/guardians are not permitted to stay in the Foyer this year.

Please request your audition by email to **ourhouse@camtheatrecompany.co.uk** with your name, preferred workshop date/time, age and OUR HOUSE in the subject line of the email.



CTC's Chicago

BREAKDOWN OF ROLES

Please note that all roles are available, and casting is open. Newcomers to Cambridge Theatre Company are welcome and encouraged.

JOE: sixteen, rough diamond but a diamond, nonetheless.

SARAH: the girl next door, slightly more middle-class background.

EMMO AND LEWIS: Joe's best mates, loosely related to him and taken in by Joe's Mum. The former is a big kid who would chase sticks if you threw them, the latter a more sensitive lad with a more exposed moral nerve.

BILLIE AND ANGIE: Sarah's best mates, sharp-tongued and sassy with their eyes on a way out of their lowly social beginnings. Intolerant of males, except well-bred ones.

REECEY: a smiling, charming, superficially likeable force of darkness.

MISTER PRESSMAN: like Reecey, except middle-aged and in control of a large company.

THE OTHER CHARACTERS: schoolkids, relatives, barristers, clowns, dogs, prisoners, market traders etc.



CTC's West Side Story

REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

Full commitment is expected throughout the rehearsal and production period, including the intensive rehearsal week at the end of August. Regarding regular rehearsals, if a character isn't required on a specific day, they will be informed in advance, but that will be a bonus! The breakdown of the rehearsal schedule will be made available to those successful cast members before the project begins.

Production week is in October 2021 half term week (week beginning 25th October). The performances will take place at the Great Hall at The Leys School. The production week times vary and are subject to change but check the provisional schedule below.

INTENSIVE REHEARSAL WEEK

Monday 23 – Saturday 28 August 2021, 10am-6pm

This week is compulsory. All participants must be available for the entire week.

REHEARSAL LOCATIONS

Intensive Rehearsal Week Venue: **Trumpington Meadows Primary School, Kestrel Rise, Trumpington, Cambridge CB2 9AY**

Friday Rehearsals Venue: **Trumpington Meadows Primary School, Kestrel Rise, Trumpington, Cambridge CB2 9AY**

Sunday Rehearsals Venue: **Netherhall School, Queen Edith's Way, Cambridge CB1 8NN**

REGULAR REHEARSALS

Sunday 5 September, 11am-5pm

Friday 10 September, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 12 September, 11am-5pm

Friday 17 September, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 19 September, 11am-5pm

Friday 24 September, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 26 September, 11am-5pm

Friday 1 October, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 3 October, 11am-5pm

Friday 8 October, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 10 October, 11am-5pm

Friday 15 October, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 17 October, 11am-5pm (Siztprobe)

Friday 22 October, 6pm-10pm (Final run through with costumes and props)

PRODUCTION WEEK DATES

Monday 25 October, Technical Rehearsal, times TBC

Tuesday 26 October, Technical Rehearsal and Dress Rehearsal, times TBC

Wednesday 27 October, 7.30pm performance (call time 3pm)

Thursday 28 October, 2.30pm and 7.30pm performances (call time 12.30pm)

Friday 29 October, 7.30pm performance (call time 5.30pm)

Saturday 30 October, 2.30pm and 7.30pm performances (call time 12.30pm)

PARTICIPATION FEE

£170 per participant

If a family has more than one sibling in the project, each additional sibling will be charged £150.

The participation fee does not include meals or transportation, which remain the responsibility of the parents/guardians.

We endeavour to keep project membership fees as low as possible but, unfortunately, we do have to cover increasing costs for venue hire, pastoral care and tuition fees during the project period.

FEE PAYMENT SCHEDULE

This year we are introducing two payment schedule options:

Option 1

> Full payment of the participation fee to be made in late May 2020 on accepting a part in *Our House*.

Option 2

> £100 is payable in late May 2021 on accepting a part in *Our House*

> The remaining balance of £70 (£50 for siblings) to be paid by Sunday 4 July 2021.

SUBSIDISED PLACES

There are a limited number of subsidised places on offer for those who genuinely cannot afford the fees. Please contact Louis Ling, office@camtheatrecompany.co.uk for a subsidised place application form.

You may be asked to supply proof of household earnings.

COSTUMES AND PROPS

Although we are providing costumes and props, participants will be asked to provide some basic elements of costume that hopefully can be found easily at home or from a charity shop etc. We will also create a props list for participants to ask family and friends to look in attics and garages for items that we can use in the production.

NOTE TO PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

We rely on good communication with parents/guardians to ensure that the project runs smoothly, therefore please ensure that all the forms are filled out correctly. We will endeavor to email any information to you as well as your child to keep you informed of rehearsal times and schedules. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need to discuss further any information regarding your child and their involvement in *Our House*.

DECISIONS

You will be notified of the result of your audition by email no later than Tuesday 18 May 2021. The full cast list will be posted on the CTC website once all the offer emails have gone out and the roles have been accepted. The decision of the production team is final and correspondence regarding casting will not be entered into.

ENQUIRIES

We look forward to seeing you at auditions and please tell your friends about this fantastic opportunity. It is going to be a wonderful experience that we would love to share with you all.

If you have any questions concerning the Young Company Project, please email **ourhouse@camtheatrecompany.co.uk**.