



AUDITION INFORMATION

FAME JR.
January 2025

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Tauranga Musical Theatre's audition pack for Fame Jr.

Please read all information carefully, particularly regarding rehearsals, show dates, and character descriptions.

About the show

Tauranga Musical Theatre is very excited to be staging *Fame Jr.* Following the international acclaim of the hit motion picture, television series and stage show, *Fame JR.* is nothing short of a global phenomenon. *Fame JR.* features a high-energy, contemporary pop score (which includes the hit title song) and a touching coming-of-age story.

Set during the last years of New York City's celebrated High School for the Performing Arts in the early 1980s, *Fame JR.* is the bittersweet, but ultimately inspiring, story of a diverse group of students who commit to four years of grueling artistic and academic work. With candour, humour and insight, the show explores the issues that confront many young people today. With its topical subject matter and a cast that exhibits all aspects of the performing arts, *Fame JR.* is an ideal musical for aspiring artists.

Performance season

17th January- 25th January 2025, West Side Theatre 141, 17th Avenue, Tauranga

Production Team

Director	Aadit Tandon
Vocal Director	Ethan Shiriwastow
Choreographer	Amy van Leeuwen
Production Manager	Charlene Kitching

Note: Audition Panel will consist of the Production Team listed above.

Additional Production Team Members

Assistant Vocal Director Jacob West

Assistant Choreographer Ruby Rendle

Audition dates

Audition bookings are now available to be booked online at the following booking link:

<https://go.oncehub.com/FameJRAuditions>

Vocal/Acting Individual Auditions: Friday 11th October – Saturday 12th October 2024 at Westside Theatre.

Dance Audition Call: Saturday 12th October 2024 from 3:30pm – 5:00pm at Westside Theatre.

Callback: Sunday 13th October 2024 between 9:00am – 2:00pm at Westside Theatre.

Audition timeslots may be extended through to Sunday 13th October 2024 if required.

Please enter through the green room door.

Preparation for auditions

Auditionees must be aged 10 - 18 (as at 26th January 2025) to be part of Fame Jr. Diversity is a large aspect of this show and all ethnic groups are encouraged to audition.

On the day, please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your audition time, already warmed up.

Please bring a backing track for your audition song (without vocals) on a USB or on your phone. We will provide backing track playback facilities for smart devices. Please prepare a short (approximately two minutes or less) musical theatre song of your own choosing that showcases your voice, range and character. Do not be offended if you do not get to sing all your prepared vocals. It does not mean you are not being considered.

You will also be asked to read a segment from the show opposite the director. It will be a cold read, so no need to prepare anything for this part of the audition. However, please make sure you read and familiarize yourselves with the character descriptions at the bottom of the pack.

Every auditionee must attend the dance call on Saturday afternoon, please arrive 15 minutes beforehand to warm up. There will also be a group warm up at the start of the dance call. Please wear comfortable, fitted clothes so that we can clearly see your movements. Appropriate footwear: Jazz shoes or sneakers.

Please learn this video segment of the audition dance ahead of time, this is intended to give you the opportunity to practise and truly shine on the day. We will be adding onto this routine during the dance call. We want to see the best version of you so there will be an improvisation section in the dance call for you to show us your style along with any tricks, kicks, leaps and jumps you may be able to do.

This is the track we will be dancing to, starting around the 2min mark. ['There She Goes/Fame' | Fame: The Musical](#)

Here is a google drive link to the video segment of the audition: [FAME AUDITION DANCE.mov](#)

You will be auditioning before a panel consisting of the director, musical director, choreographer, and production manager.

Call backs

Please be prepared for the possibility of a call back. Timing will be dictated by the total number of those auditioning, but will be some time between 9:00am – 2:00pm on Sunday the 13th of October 2024. Getting a call back does not guarantee a role. Likewise, you may be cast even if you are not called back.

Please ensure that you have entered a contact telephone number on your audition application form where we can easily reach you during the audition dates.

Timeline

- Individual Vocal/Acting auditions: Friday 11th October – Sunday 13th October 2024
- Dance audition (all auditioning must attend): 3:30pm - 5pm Saturday 12th October 2024, at Westside Theatre, Tauranga;
- Callbacks: Sunday the 13th of October 2024
- Rehearsals will begin with a read through Sunday 20th October 2024 from 2pm-4pm and will be as follows:
 - Mondays 5:30pm - 7:30pm: From, October 21st - December 16th 2024
 - Wednesdays 5.45pm - 8.30pm: From, October 23rd - December 18th 2024
 - Sundays 9am - 1pm: From, October 27th to December 15th 2024
 - (Sunday rehearsals may extend after the 7th of December)
 - There will be a two week break over the Christmas / New Year period from after rehearsal on Wednesday 18th December 2023 to Sunday 5th January 2025, when we will begin rehearsing again.
 - 1st rehearsal 2025- Sunday 5th, Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th of January.
 - Black Week (Tech Runs) weeknight rehearsals 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th, 15th January 2025 5:30pm -8:30pm
 - Sponsors night (final dress rehearsal) on the 16th of January 2025.
 - Show season - 17th January to 25th January 2025
 - Pack out - 26th January 2025 COMPULSORY

Production expectations

Your participation in this production requires your undivided commitment in order to ensure a production of the highest possible quality. If cast, you cannot commit to any other production during the rehearsal period and production season. You should not audition if you are unable to commit to the rehearsal and production schedule. If you have any other commitments (personal or work) that may impact on your ability to attend rehearsals, you must provide full relevant details in your audition

application. Not all performers will be required at all rehearsals, and rehearsals will be scheduled as carefully as possible to make the best use of your time.

Casting announcement

Performers will be notified by email or phone of the outcome of their audition as soon as possible following casting. Feedback will not be given. A full cast announcement will be subsequently made on the Tauranga Musical Theatre media channels.

All cast and crew are considered to be goodwill ambassadors for Tauranga Musical Theatre and for the show and we expect all cast and crew to meet that responsibility both in person and online. There will be a closed group Facebook page which cast and crew are encouraged to join and actively participate in.

Other information

All involved in this production will need to become a financial member of Tauranga Musical Theatre, and are required to agree and adhere to a code of conduct that covers health and safety, personal well being, and responsibilities to fellow cast and crew members.

Please direct any queries that you may have to Charlene Kitching chazzakit547@gmail.com

Character descriptions

Nick Piazza

Nick Piazza, an actor with maturity and wisdom, dedicates his time to learn the craft of "real" acting. He is enveloped by the works of Constantin Stanislavsky and devotes his schooling journey to his work. The arc he goes on throughout the show allows him to find balance between his studies and his social schooling experience, specifically developing his relationship with Serena.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: Db4

Serena Katz

Serena Katz loves the life of an artist but is equally as interested in boys, specifically Nick. She is bright, bubbly and full of life. She is quick to admire and obsess over specific things, but is a dedicated performer. She is very much a romantic and throughout the show pursues an amorous and (to begin) unrequited relationship with Nick, regardless of the rough patches throughout her journey.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: Eb5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Tyrone Jackson

Tyrone Jackson has talent, but he wants to use it his own way rather than conform to the school's rules. He is constantly switching between his tough-guy persona and a young man trying to woo Iris. Tyrone is a dancer, and struggles heavily with his academic subjects, which we later find out is due to him suffering from dyslexia. Tyrone is a multi-layered character who shows different sides of himself based on who he is around, his journey follows a discovery of self and being in acceptance of all his qualities, knowing he has people that love and support him.

Gender: Male

(Non-singing role)

Carmen Diaz

Carmen Diaz believes she is ready for stardom, and nothing is going to stop her. This role requires a triple threat performer (a confident actress, dancer, and singer). She is talented in all facets of the arts, however she wants stardom instantly without doing the work, this thirst for Fame is what ultimately leads to her downfall.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Iris Kelly

Iris Kelly pretends she is wealthy and high-class but drops these pretenses once she feels comfortable. She is one of the most talented dancers at school however she worries about her social life and status therefore building a false persona, hiding her true character in fear of not being liked. She and Tyrone form a close relationship, helping each other to be comfortable with who they are.

Gender: Female

(Non-singing role)

Mabel Washington

Mabel Washington enjoys performing as much as she hates dieting. Mabel eventually learns to be happy with herself and her body, but not before fully experiencing the pains of being a dancer. The actress playing her must exhibit lots of soul, sass, comedy and comfort talking about her weight onstage. A Texan American accent for this role, the actress playing Mabel must be a confident actress, singer and dancer.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: C4

Schlomo Metzenbaum

Schlomo Metzenbaum is a really likable guy who tries to get along with everyone. He becomes good friends with Carmen, looking out and caring for her through thick and thin. He specialises in Piano and starts a band with Goodman and Lambchops. He is also pressured by family standards, his dad being a famous violinist, and Schlomo's journey looks to finding his own place in the world rather than being in a shadow cast by his father.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: C4

Joe (José) Vegas

Joe (José) Vegas is the class clown who loves performing on and offstage. He is funny and over the top, with the actor playing him exhibiting excellent comedic timing. He is not as dedicated to the craft as other characters and is more fixated on parties, and girls rather than improving his craft.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: A#3

Grace (Lambchops) Lamb

Grace (Lambchops) Lamb is a drummer with a lively personality. Her taste in music is very much against the teachings of Mr. Sheinkopf. Grace is unafraid and willing to call someone out if necessary while also exhibiting a punk personality.

Gender: Female

(Non-singing role)

Goodman (Goody) King

Goodman (Goody) King is the third band member, which is at first rocky and filled with creative differences. He is mainly a trumpeter but can play multiple instruments.

Gender: Male

(Non-singing role)

Miss Esther Sherman

Miss Esther Sherman (English Teacher) is a powerful, strong woman who firmly believes academic subjects are the core of a solid education. She is mature with strong and articulated vocal and physical

energy, ready to dominate the stage. She, although seeming like a bad person at times, will do whatever she can for her students, pushing them to their limits and making sure that they have a strong academic base if their careers in the arts are unsuccessful.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Ms. Greta Bell

Ms. Greta Bell (Dance Teacher) is a passionate teacher who is not afraid to push her students to reach their full artistic potential. She believes in the talent of Tyrone and invests time and effort to see him thrive. She also quarrels with Miss Sherman over Tyrone not being able to academically achieve, and how that should not result in a consequence with his dance. The actress playing Ms. Bell must be a confident actress, singer and dancer.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: C4

Mr. Myers

Mr. Myers (Acting Teacher) is perhaps the most relaxed of the teachers, but he still demands full commitment from the student. Like the other teachers, his intentions of pushing the students to discover their true potential can often be perceived negatively. However he truly wants his students to have thriving careers and looks out for them.

Gender: Male

(Non-singing role)

Mr. Sheinkopf

Mr. Sheinkopf (Music Teacher) adds a bit of comic relief to the show but still doesn't let up when there is work to be done. This is a role where the performer can branch out with accents, normally he is German.

Gender: Male

(Non-singing role)

Ensemble

Throughout the show the ensemble members all play their same individual characters, Fame is very much a diverse show and invites a cast of all backgrounds to come together and create the school. Although a scene may only require limited cast, ensemble members will be added into them in order to showcase the business and buzz of the school. As an ensemble member you will also be specified into a facet of the arts: acting, dance, music, however all cast members are still required to sing, act, and dance

