



Welcome to the information session for NLTC's October 2018 production of Seussical!

'Seussical' is based on Horton Hears A Who and Horton Sits On An Egg, but it isn't just a few stories set to music: it's a full-length book musical that weaves together more than 15 of Dr Seuss' most beloved books and characters. The messages at the heart of the books are integrated throughout the story—the power of helping a friend, of not giving up, of keeping a promise, of valuing the dignity of others, and a pure belief in the power of imagination.

In 'Seussical', the Cat in the Hat guides us into The Jungle of Nool where we see Horton, the kind-hearted elephant who discovers a speck of dust—Whoville. He meets JoJo, a Who child sent to military school for thinking too many "Thinks," and tries to convince the other Jungle animals of the existence of the Whos, but is ridiculed and shunned. Only his loyal neighbour, Gertrude McFuzz, never loses faith in him. Horton decides he must protect this speck of dust, while at the same time guarding an abandoned egg left in his care by lazy Mayzie La Bird. Despite all odds, and the Cat's good-hearted mischief and through-the-fourth-wall manipulation, Horton, Gertrude and JoJo band together to save the Whos, free Horton, and restore peace and unity to the Jungle of Nool and Whoville.

'Seussical' is a fun romp with lessons and laughter for all ages, and we are thrilled to be bringing it to the Shedley stage.

IMPORTANT DATES

Information Session

Sunday 10th June 2018

Auditions

Saturday 16th June 2018

Rehearsals Commence

Sunday 1st July 2018

Season Dates

Friday 12th October 8:00pm

Saturday 13th October 2:00pm

Saturday 13th October 8:00pm

Sunday 14th October 2:00pm

Thursday 18th October 8:00pm

Friday 19th October 8:00pm

Saturday 20th October 2:00pm

Saturday 20th October 8:00pm

ABOUT NORTHERN LIGHT THEATRE COMPANY

Northern Light Theatre Company is the resident musical theatre company at the Shedley Theatre in Elizabeth.

Since its formation in 1965, NLTC has produced many memorable and award-winning productions, including the Adelaide Critics Circle Coopers Award for Excellence for its productions of Copacabana and Jesus Christ Superstar and the ATG "Best Technical" and "Most Popular Show" awards for Singin' in the Rain.

The committee of NLTC consists of nine positions - five office bearers and four ordinary members. The committee meets about once a month and is responsible for the overall management of NLTC.

The current committee members are Sue Pole (President & Treasurer), Cheryl Ford (Vice President), Tom Howie (Business Manager), Jan Powell (Secretary), Lance Morgan and Russell Ford (General Members).

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Director: Stephen Tulip

Music Director: Bec Mason

Choreographer: Rose Vallen

Production Manager: Russell Ford

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST ME TO BE PART OF THIS CAST?

Membership

All cast members are required to become full financial members of NLTC. Full Adult Membership is \$40 for twelve months. Junior Membership (15 years and younger) is \$20.

As a paid member of Northern Light Theatre Company you will receive:

- Two complimentary tickets for each of the two shows during the twelve month membership period, to be used on opening weekend only.
- Cast price tickets
- Accident insurance cover while on stage.
- Full voting and speaking rights at all General and Special General Meetings (adult members).
- After being a member for six months you may stand for election to any office in the company except President. After two years on the Committee you may stand for the position of President.

Show Levy

You will also be required to pay a show levy of \$30 to help defray the costs of rehearsal venues and resources, pianists, costumes, etc.

T-shirts and Clothing

A range of T-shirts and other clothing items with the Seussical logo will be available for purchase by those directly involved in the production. Items range from approx. \$20 to \$45. ***This is an optional purchase, but is an excellent way to promote the show!***

Costumes

While every endeavour will be made to supply you with your costumes, you will be asked to supply some items, particularly shoes and socks or stockings.

Appearance

Please speak to the director before having any major changes to your appearance, i.e., dramatic haircut, body piercings, visible tattoos.

Publicity

As a cast member, it is expected that you will be available to take part in any publicity events and stunts we may arrange.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals for Seussical will be held each Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30pm until 10:30pm and Sundays from 1:30pm until usually 4:30pm. Some Sundays will begin earlier or finish slightly later depending on requirements, but will finish no later than 5:00pm and will not exceed six hours total. First rehearsal will be on 1st July 2018. Rehearsals on Tuesday nights will be held at the Shedley Theatre, on Thursday nights at Uley Rd Hall (806 Forrestall Road, Elizabeth Downs), and on Sundays at the TIDC Performing Arts Studio (Unit 4, 183 Phillip Highway, Elizabeth).

Please note that all rehearsals are closed. This means that friends, family and partners cannot attend and observe rehearsals. Due to a lack of a suitable separate space at the Uley Rd Hall (Thursday rehearsals) parents are permitted to remain in the rehearsal room, but must not disrupt rehearsal.

Please wear clothing appropriate to move in to every rehearsal. Even if it is basically a singing rehearsal, we will often revise dance numbers that have been set previously.

Rehearsal Schedule

A full schedule will be available at the first rehearsal. On your audition form, please make note of any dates on which you are not available. We are usually able to work around any planned absences as long as we know in advance.

Cast who miss rehearsals other than those indicated on the audition form will upset the rehearsal schedule as we have planned around you being available! We cannot emphasise this enough. We will make every effort to not waste your time and leave you sitting around at rehearsals not being used. In response, we ask that you please be ready to start on time. Plan to arrive 10-15 minutes early. Please also keep rehearsal times free, even if you are not scheduled for rehearsal, as the schedule can sometimes be changed and you will be expected to be available.

Reporting an absence or lateness:

Absence or lateness needs to be reported to the Production Manager (Russell) by texting 0414 614 163. It is expected this will only be for emergencies and illness.

Probationary Period

All cast are subject to a six-week probationary period from the commencement of rehearsals. Also, any cast member consistently arriving late or missing rehearsals completely may be removed from the production at any time.

Police checks

For the safety and security of under-age cast members, NLTC requires various key production team members and supervising backstage personnel to obtain police check certification.

Bump-in/Bump-out

Cast are not expected to help with bumping into the theatre, although if you want to help, the Stage Manager will be able to find you jobs! Please note, however, that all cast members are expected to help with bump out. You will be allocated tasks based on your abilities.

Audition Information

Seussical auditions will be held at Parks Theatre, 46 Cowan Street, Angle Park 5010 on Saturday 16th June 2018. You will need to bring your completed Audition Form, a headshot photo and a water bottle. Adults will need the sheet music for 'Biggest Blame Fool', kids will need the sheet music for 'The Military'—these can be downloaded at www.northernlight.org.au. The audition form is included at the back of this information pack. Please wear comfortable, loose clothing and shoes suitable for dancing/moving in. Tight jeans or heeled shoes (other than chorus shoes) are not acceptable.

Group Audition

Everyone is required to participate in either the adult or child group audition. Bookings for these can be made by filling out an online form—the link can be found at www.northernlight.org.au. Failing that, bookings can also be made by phone on 0414 614 163 (Russell). Please learn the music for the ensemble. Each group will learn some choreography to this music and audition in small groups.

The timetable for the morning is:

- 8:30 Registration (child ensemble auditions)
- 9:00 –9:45 Child ensemble auditions, working in groups. Children will then be advised whether the production team would like to see them for an individual audition.
- From 9:45 Child solo auditions, by invitation.
- From 10:15 Registration (adult ensemble auditions)
- 10:45 – 12:15 Adult ensemble auditions, working in groups. Adults will then be advised whether the production team would like to see them for an individual audition.
- 12:15 – 12:45 Bird Girl/Wickersham auditions. You must remain for this portion of the group audition in order to be considered for these roles.
- From 1:20 Adult solo auditions, by invitation.

Individual Audition

In your audition you can expect to sing your song(s), read the dialogue, possibly do some more movement, and have your vocal range tested.

Be prepared to sing the section of music specified for the character you are auditioning for PLUS the music learnt for the group audition. Familiarise yourself with the music BEFORE coming to the audition. We want to see your version of the character's song. Do some research! The soundtrack can be found on YouTube for reference. You may also be asked to sing some simple vocal exercises.

Character audition information and dialogue is located at the end of this info pack, or can be downloaded at www.northernlight.org.au. You can also download sheet music and MP3s of the audition music.

Closed Auditions

All auditions are closed.

Notification of Audition Outcome

We will try where possible to notify you by phone. Every attempt will be made to finalise the cast as soon as possible but please be aware it can sometimes take a while.

Further Questions

If you need any information leading up to auditions, please email the Production Manager at fordco@adam.com.au or check the website (www.northernlight.org.au). If you need to contact anyone on audition day please call Russell on 0414 614 163.

ACT ONE

The show opens on a bare stage, save for an odd red-and-white-striped hat in the centre. A small boy wanders into view and notices the hat, only to mention the infamous Cat in the Hat, who magically appears before the Boy and reveals to him that he has been brought to life by the Boy's "Thinks". The Cat creates the "Seussian" world and characters around the Boy ("Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!"), then reveals he is about to tell a story about someone as imaginative as the Boy is.

To begin the story, the Cat encourages the Boy to Think up the Jungle of Nool, where Horton the Elephant is bathing. Horton hears a strange noise coming from a nearby speck of dust calling out for help. He carefully places the speck on a soft clover and decides to guard it ("Horton Hears a Who"), but is mocked mercilessly by the Sour Kangaroo and the other animals of the jungle, who do not believe him. The only exception is Horton's neighbour, Gertrude McFuzz, who admires his compassion ("Biggest Blame Fool").

Horton soon discovers that the speck is actually a microscopic planet populated by people called Whos. The citizens of Whoville introduce themselves and explain that, in addition to being unable to control where the speck flies, they are on the brink of war ("Here on Who"). Upon thanking Horton for believing in them, they ask for his protection and he agrees. At this point, the Cat pushes the Boy into the story; he becomes JoJo, the son of the Mayor of Whoville and his wife. JoJo is scolded by his parents: he has been suspended for having Thinks at school. Although grounded for his actions, JoJo is sent to take a bath before bed, where he blames the Cat for getting him into trouble and demands that he call off the show. However, the Cat refuses to cancel the show, and persuades JoJo to imagine the tub is McElligot's Pool ("It's Possible"). JoJo is consoled until he inadvertently floods the bathroom, leading the Mayor and his wife to contemplate what to do with their son ("How to Raise a Child"). When the Cat hands them a brochure, they decide to send JoJo to a military school run by General Genghis Khan Schmitz ("The Military"). While there, JoJo "meets" Horton, and finds a mutual friend in him ("Alone in the Universe").

Gertrude, meanwhile, has fallen in love with Horton, but is afraid he does not notice her because of her tail, which consists of only one 'droopy-droop' feather ("The One Feather Tail of Miss Gertrude McFuzz"). On the advice of Mayzie, whose tail is enormous and dazzling, she consumes pills that make her tail grow new feathers. Gertrude is so excited that she overdoses, causing her tail to grow long and unwieldy ("Amazing Mayzie"/"Amazing Gertrude").

Horton is ambushed by the Wickersham Brothers, a gang of mischievous monkeys, who steal the clover and make off with it ("Monkey Around"). Horton gives chase until the Wickershams hand the clover to an eagle named Vlad Vladikoff, who drops it into a large patch of identical clovers ("Chasing the Whos"). Here, the Cat cuts briefly into the action to remind the audience how lucky they are to not be Horton ("How Lucky You Are"). Undeterred, Horton begins to look for the clover, hoping the Whos are still alive, when Gertrude catches up with him and tries to get him to notice her new tail. Horton is too busy, so she leaves to take more pills ("Notice Me, Horton").

Horton is about to search his three-millionth clover when he loses hope. Mayzie, sitting in a nearby tree, asks him to care for an egg that she is too lazy to hatch. Horton reluctantly agrees, and Mayzie leaves for a vacation ("How Lucky You Are (Reprise)"). Horton sits through months of harsh weather as he tries to decide between the egg and the Whos ("Horton Sits on the Egg") before he is unexpectedly captured by hunters, who take him away along with the entire tree. Gertrude tries to stop the hunters, but cannot fly due to her heavy tail. The Cat closes the act with a reprise of "How Lucky You Are", and conducts the band during the intermission.

ACT TWO

Horton, still hatching the egg, is auctioned off to the traveling Circus McGurkus ("Egg, Nest, and Tree"). At a show in Palm Beach, he meets up with Mayzie, who insists that he keep the egg ("Amazing Horton"). Horton, betrayed, mourns the loss of the Whos and JoJo, but vows just as surely to protect the egg as it too is alone without its mother ("Alone in the Universe (Reprise)"), and sings it a lullaby about a magical place called Solla Sollew. At the same time, the Mayor and his wife begin to miss JoJo, and wish for Solla Sollew as well ("Solla Sollew").

JoJo is with General Schmitz and his platoon as the Butter Battle finally commences. However, JoJo questions Schmitz and flees the battle into a minefield, vanishing in an explosion. Schmitz assumes the worst and heads to Whoville to tell JoJo's parents that their son has been lost. In reality JoJo has survived, but cannot find his way home. The Cat appears to him with a band of Hunches, encouraging him to use his Thinks to find his way home ("Havin' a Hunch"). JoJo does so and happily reunites with his parents.

Gertrude sneaks into the circus and frees Horton, explaining she plucked out all but one of her tail feathers to fly there, and confesses her love for him. She also reveals she has found his clover, and Horton is delighted and relieved to find the Whos alive and well ("All For You"). However, their reunion is cut short when the Sour Kangaroo and the Wickersham Brothers suddenly arrive to take Horton back to the Jungle.

Horton is put on trial by Nool's officials for the crimes of "talking to a speck, disturbing the peace, and loitering... on an egg" ("The People Versus Horton the Elephant"). Aided by Gertrude, Horton does his best, but Horton is found guilty as charged and sentenced to life imprisonment, while Judge Yertle the Turtle orders for the dust speck to be boiled in a kettle of hot "Beezle-Nut" oil. Desperate, Horton encourages the Whos to make as much noise as possible to prove their existence, but the animals refuse to hear them. JoJo finally uses his Thinks to conjure a new word, "Yopp", which he shouts loudly enough to reach the animals' ears.

Finally convinced, the animals repent and promise to help protect the Whos, and Horton is acquitted by the court. JoJo is accepted by his parents and the Whos as "Thinker Non-Stop" for saving their planet. Horton's egg hatches into a tiny "Elephant-Bird", amazing everyone. Gertrude offers to help Horton raise the child, and he accepts. With the story finished, the Cat returns to close the show ("Finale"/"Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!"), then vanishes along with the scenery, leaving his hat and JoJo, who is now the Boy again. The Boy picks the hat up, dons it, and says, "Seuss!"

During the curtain call, the company performs a number based on Green Eggs and Ham ("Green Eggs and Ham").

Character	Stage Age and Requirements	Vocal Range	Vocal Audition
Cat in the Hat: the essence of mischief, fun and imagination who stirs things up but always puts things right.	Ageless, but cheeky. <i>Comic, physically adept, comfortable improvising with an audience.</i>	F2–F4 Baritone	How Lucky You Are
Horton: A gentle giant. Likeable, big-hearted, steadfast and responsible, but also imaginative and receptive to the world around him. Completely unselfconscious and genuine.	Adult	A2–F5 Tenor	Horton Hears a Who/Alone in The Universe
Gertrude: Begins the show extremely self-conscious, neurotic and shy, but becomes self-accepting and empowered. Finds the clover and saves the day without being asked—the quiet hero.	Adult	F3–F5 Mezzo	All For You/One Feathered Tail
Jolo/Boy: smart, curious, imaginative and a little impertinent—a Thinker, non-stop! Learns responsibility by the end of the show.	8–12	Ab3–C5 Soprano	It's Possible/Alone in the Universe
Mayzie La Bird: Selfish, vain and manipulative—but somehow likeable. Exasperating, not villainous.	Adult	G3–Eb5 Mezzo	Amazing Mayzie/How Lucky You Are (Mayzie's Reprise)
Sour Kangaroo: Not really sour, just has a lot of attitude. Loud, brassy and interfering.	Adult <i>Strong vocals.</i>	F#3–F5 Mezzo	The People vs. Horton the Elephant/Chasing the Whos
Wickershams 1–3: Not bad guys! Like kids, who enjoy teasing, playing pranks and making mischief... at other's expense.	18–40 <i>Three-part harmony throughout.</i>	Tenor Baritone Bass	Monkey Around
Bird Girls 1–3: The Jungle's Greek chorus. They narrate and sing back-up for many of the songs. A little sassy, a little funny, a little sexy.	18–40 <i>Three-part harmony throughout.</i>	Soprano Mezzo Alto	Amazing Gertrude

Mr. Mayor & Mrs Mayor: Parents trying hard to raise a difficult child. They get aggravated, but love him dearly.	30+	Mezzo/Bartone	How to Raise a Child
General Genghis Khan Schmitz: Proud of his military academy, with some strange ideas about growing up. Not sadistic, mean or abusive—but extremely misguided. A comic character who learns his lesson by the end.	40+ <i>Comic.</i>	Bartone	The Military
Young Kangaroo: Sour's equally-sassy child.	6–12 <i>Strong vocals.</i>		Biggest Blame Fool (Bars A–3, Sour+Young)
Minor roles: Vlad, Yertle, The Grinch	These roles will be cast from the ensemble.		
Ensemble (Whos, Fish, Hunches, etc.)	18+		Biggest Blame Fool
Child Ensemble	6–12		The Military (12–end)

Audition Monologues

Cat in the Hat: (p80) How sad. Oh, how sad! How unspeakably dreary! The parents despairing and terribly teary. Their poor little Jojo no longer alive. But wait! Could it be! That the kid did survive? A re-enactment! (*As Schmitz:*) It's a minefield out there! This is no time for play! (*As Jojo:*) Sir, I think what I think! Now get out of my way! (*As Schmitz:*) Soldier, you will obey! You will halt! Jojo, come back! Wait! *and*

The Circus McGurkus! In town for one week! Each marvellous marvel is ten cents a peek. Oh, the sights that you'll see! Why, our big top is packed. And there's no telling where we may find our next act! And now, all you folks, for the first time on view, From the Jungle of Nool, near the River Walloo, a pendulous pachyderm! Look! Can it be? Who sits on an egg... in a nest... in a tree?

Horton: That bird let that clover drop somewhere inside of a great patch of clovers, a hundred miles wide! I'll find it. I'll find it! I'll find it or bust! I shall find my friends on their small speck of dust. Yes, clover by clover by clover with care, I'll listen and I'll call: are you there? Are you there? Are you there? Are you there? *and*

Why, Mayzie, it's Horton! Remember? It's me! I've sat on your egg now for fifty-one weeks! I've sat here while people have paid to take peeks! I've sat here through lightning and hailstorms and snow! Won't you take back your egg?

Gertrude: I'm Gertrude McFuzz, and I live right next door. He's never done anything crazy before! He's always been friendly, and loyal, and kind. I just don't believe Horton's out of his mind! *and*

I bet you forgot about Gertrude McFuzz. Well, that's nothing new. I mean, everyone does. But Gertrude did something that few birds could do. So this is the Tale of Miss Gertrude. Part Two.

Jolo/Boy: Now that is a very unusual hat. I wonder what's under a hat such as that? It could be a creature they call the Gazat... who balances things on his head, 'cause it's flat! Or a stripe-loving pipester from Upper Mount Bat... or a sort of a kind of a hat wearing . . . CAT! Are you a very large "think," or a genuine cat? I can't say I've ever met a cat in a hat.

Mayzie La Bird: I won't be gone long, kid, I give you my word. I'll hurry right back, 'cause I'm that sort of bird. Oh, Horton, I promise! I'll fly back real soon. I'd only be gone for, say, one afternoon!

Sour Kangaroo: *no monologue*

Mr Mayor/Mrs Mayor: Son, we just had a talk with your teachers today and they didn't have one single good thing to say. You invented new Thinks that defy all description. You gave Miss O'Dooley a nervous conniption! Your Thinks were so wild they disrupted your classes and made Mrs. Mackel-Who drop her new glasses. Which is why you're suspended; yes, that's what they said. Young man, what in Who has got into your head? We don't mean to scold you—we love you, oh yes, dear—but couldn't you try thinking just a little bit less, dear?

General Genghis Khan Schmitz: Look at these boys. Why, you'd never know that just a few short months ago this one hummed in the shower! This one couldn't colour within the lines. And this one actually had an Opinion! We've arrived at the war, as I said that we would, and war is a thing that does every boy good! We will sleep in the trenches and go without supper to make the world safe for each Butter Side Upper!

Adult ensemble: And the Grinch, with his Grinch feet ice-cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling: how could it be so? It came without ribbons, it came without tags, it came without packages, boxes, or bags! Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps... means a little bit more.

Child ensemble: Jolo/Boy monologue

Northern Light Theatre Company

Audition Form/Membership Application

Audition No: _____



PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: _____ Date of Birth (if under 16): _____
Address: _____ Height: _____
Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____ Phone (H): _____
Email Address: _____ Mobile: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT DETAILS (FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS ONLY)

Name: _____ Contact Number: _____
Email Address: _____

PRODUCTION DETAILS

Title of Show: _____
Preferred Role(s): _____

If you are not selected for your preferred role, would you be interested in any of the following? (please circle):

Another role Ensemble Booth singer Understudy

If only prepared to play/understudy certain roles, please indicate them here: _____

If you are not selected as a member of the cast, would you be interested in any of the following? (please circle):

Set construction Backstage crew Front of house Publicity Costume construction

Other: _____

How late in the evening can we call you with regard to your audition? _____

Please list below any dates/times that you are unavailable to attend rehearsal due to prearranged events/holidays. Cast who miss rehearsals other than those indicated on this audition form will upset the rehearsal schedule as we plan around you being available.

EXPERIENCE/TRAINING

Vocal Range (please circle one): Soprano Mezzo Alto Tenor Baritone Bass Unknown

Can you read music? (please circle one): Well A Little Not at All

Do you play an instrument? How long? _____

VOCAL/DANCE/ACTING TUITION

Type of Tuition	Teacher	How Long

PREVIOUS STAGE EXPERIENCE

Show	Company	Role	Year

AGREEMENT AND SIGNATURE

- I understand that if I am cast in the show I will be required to become a financial member of Northern Light Theatre Company. Membership Fee: Adult \$40, Junior (under 16)\$20.
- I understand that if I am cast in the show I should not change my appearance (eg hairstyle) without first discussing it with the Director.

Please indicate if you would like to be added to the Northern Light Theatre Company Mailing List: Yes / No

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or Guardian if under 16)

Office use only:

Date Paid: _____ Amount Paid: \$ _____ MOP: _____

M/ship #: _____ Database: M/ship card: