

REDCLIFFE MUSICAL THEATRE



Music by

RICHARD RODGERS

Lyrics by

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Book by

HOWARD LINDSAY
and RUSSELL CROUSE

September 29 to October 8

REDCLIFFE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

AUDITION PACK

About The SOUND of MUSIC

"The Sound of Music" is a musical with music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, and a book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse. It is based on the 1949 memoir of Maria von Trapp, *The Story of the Trapp Family Singers*. The musical premiered on Broadway in 1959 and has since become one of the most beloved musicals of all time. It is based on a true story about the Von Trapp family, who famously escaped the occupation of Austria by the Nazi's at the start of the Second World War. It tells the story of Maria, who becomes a governess for the seven children of Captain von Trapp and the musical features many popular songs such as "My Favourite Things," "Do-Re-Mi," "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," and "The Sound of Music".

November 16, 1959 *The Sound of Music* premiered on Broadway with Mary Martin starring as Maria. Since then, *The Sound of Music* has remained one of the world's most popular and well-loved musicals. There are so many wonderful songs in this musical that it is a sheer delight to watch and perform.

Redcliffe Musical Theatre (RMT) are delighted to bring this iconic musical to the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre in September-October for a season of 8 performances.

About REDCLIFFE MUSICAL THEATRE –

Redcliffe Musical Theatre (RMT) was formed in 2009 and performed their first main stage production – *The Sound of Music* in August 2010. And we look forward to reprising this musical with a new generation of Von Trapp children – but still reaching out to our local community theatre performers to join us for the Nuns' Chorus, the wonderful cast of interesting characters including Uncle Max, the Baroness, Mother Abbess and of course Maria and the Captain.

RMT has a mission to bring high-quality, affordable productions to the Moreton Bay Region and take away the barriers of cost and travel to those who would like to enjoy musical theatre.

Since our inception we have produced over 30 major musicals at the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre and delivered quality locally-produced entertainment to over 50,000 patrons. Some of the highlights include the World Community Theatre Premier of *Saturday Night Fever* (2015), The Qld Premier of *Wicked* (2016) and also *School of Rock* (2021) and the Australian Premier of *Captain Moonlight* (2020). Our most popular shows to date (box office and audience numbers) have been *Phantom of the Opera* (2013), *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (2022) and *Mamma Mia* (2020/21).

We look forward to have you join us in 2023 for *The Sound of Music*.

PRODUCTION TEAM -

DIRECTOR – Madeleine Johns

MUSICAL DIRECTOR – Rhonda Davidson-Irwin (Viva La Musica)

CHOREOGRAPHER – Lyndon Steele

PRODUCTION MANAGER – Nichola Marshall-Jones

STAGING DIRECTOR – Jonathan Johns

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR – Richard Rubendra

COSTUME DESIGN and CREATION – Karen Van Den Bos and Barbara Bloodworth

SPECIFIC AUDITION REQUIREMENTS –

Anyone auditioning for a lead role or featured role with vocals or one of the Von Trapp children, will need to sing at least 2mins of a song from a classical style musical (Oklahoma, Carousel, The Wizard of Oz, Oliver, The King and I, Fiddler on the Roof or Mary Poppins etc).

ENSEMBLE – can sing 1min from How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria or The Sound of Music

AUDITION DETAILS –

Auditions will be held on SATURDAY 24th June (by appointment) from 9.30am to 4pm and on SUNDAY 25th June (by appointment) from 9.30am to 1.30pm at THEATRE 102 – 102 Anzac Avenue, Redcliffe (next door to the Redcliffe Hospital). There is parking on-site. We will ask you to nominate a 1-hour block in which you will have your vocal audition and reading if required. For those characters where we require some dance/movement skills (ALL the children, Maria, Rolf, Captain and Ensemble) we will ask you to join a group dance audition.

Please register to audition and select your preferred time slot on-line at

www.redcliffemusicaltheatre.com

CALL-BACK AUDITIONS –

If required will be held on Wednesday 28th June from 7-9pm at THEATRE 102

REHEARSALS –

Will start Sunday 9th July and run on Monday, 7-9pm, Wednesday 7-9pm and Sunday. 9am to 2pm. Monday will be for character work, dialogue and blocking and will focus on the adult characters; Wednesday will be MUSIC for the first 6 weeks of rehearsal and will focus on the Nuns' Chorus, Mother Abbess and Sisters, Maria and Captain, while Sunday will focus on the children for music, choreography and blocking. We will provide you with a comprehensive rehearsal schedule at auditions so you can advise us of any clashes or unavailabilities.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS to perform with Redcliffe Musical Theatre –

If you are successful with your audition and offered a role in The Sound of Music then we do have some specific requirements as follows –

1. We ask that you sign a Cast Agreement – this outlines the Code of Conduct by which we expect our performers to work. (Note all our members – Production Team, backstage and FOH assistants, as well as the technical team and costume team are all bound by this Code of Conduct).

2. RMT have a Working With Children safety policy and we ask that all adult (18yrs and over) cast members have a current blue card or equivalent – or are in the process of getting one. (RMT can assist with this).
3. We require you to become a member of Redcliffe Musical Theatre – we have 3 levels of membership – ADULT \$30 / Under 18yrs or Concession Card holder \$25 / Non-Performing \$15. Membership is for the calendar year and so if joining for the first time for Sound of Music your membership will take you through to the end of 2024.
4. We will ask you to pay a show fee – as a NFP organisation, this fee assists with the hire of scripts and scores, the making and sourcing of costumes, the opportunity to work with a world-class Musical Director and a large orchestra as well as the staging of this classic and sentimental musical at the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre. You will also receive a show shirt, programme, complimentary ticket to a performance at the discretion of the RMT Committee and copies of production photos.

LEAD ADULT CHARACTERS –

Maria Rainer – musical theatre mix, dance, 18-25yrs playing age

A postulant at Nonnberg Abbey – young, free spirited, warm, gentle and kind with much determination. She was never destined for the religious life. She transitions from free spirited and fun-loving to resolute and courageous as she matures and falls in love.

Please prepare 2 songs – one up tempo and one in the style of The Sound of Music.

CALL-BACK – The Sound of Music and Lonely Goatherd

Captain Georg von Trapp – baritone, moves well, 35-45yrs playing age

A retired Austrian naval captain. Polished yet very military in the way he runs his life to repress his sadness over the death of his wife; underneath he is warm, understanding and determined. Maria is the key to his return to the world of fatherly affection and looking forward to a future with her by his side.

CALL-BACK – Something Good

Max Detweiler (Uncle Max) – tenor/baritone, moves well, 30yrs+ playing age

Charming and vital; a man of sophistication who enjoys the good life; true and loyal friend to the von Trapp family. A diplomatic, snobbish charmer, who excels at manipulating people to get his own way.

Elsa Schrader – mezzo soprano, moves well, 35-45yrs playing age

A baroness of taste and elegance, sophisticated, dignified and mature. Cosmopolitan, wealthy and sophisticated – she thinks money can purchase anything – including love.

Mother Abbess – legit soprano, wide vocal range, 40yrs+ playing age

Motherly, understanding, strong and authoritative, but kind. Provides exactly the right guidance and support that Maria needs. Requires a strong actress.

Please prepare a song in the style of Climb Every Mountain.

CALL-BACK – Climb Every Mountain

FEATURED CHARACTERS –

Rolf Gruber – low tenor, dance playing age 17yrs

Suitor to Liesl, telegram delivery boy and later a Nazi soldier. A very pleasant young man, somewhat aggressive later in the story but in a gentle way.

Sister Berthe – alto, moves well, 30yrs+ playing age.

Mistress of Novices, prudish and straight-laced with a quick tongue. She is less tolerant than the other nuns.

Sister Margareta – mezzo, moves well, 25yrs+ playing age.
Mistress of Postulants, very kind, understanding and concerned.

Sister Sophia – soprano, moves well, 25yrs+ playing age.
Neither demanding nor critical, sticks with the rules.

Franz – non-singing role, playing age 30yrs+
The Von Trapp butler – rather formal, but not without spirit – he is very German and loyal to the Fascist cause. Great character role.

Frau Schmidt – non-singing role. playing age 30yrs+
The house-keeper, stoic and no personality – she does her job efficiently but without affection.
Strong and somewhat dominating – typically Austrian.

Herr Zeller – non-singing role, playing age 40yrs+
Stern and unsmiling, a typical Nazi official whose primary concern is to see that everyone toes the line.

LEAD CHILDREN'S ROLES –

All children need to be able to be conservative and “serious” when required

Liesl von Trapp – mezzo, dance, playing age 16yrs
The oldest child, blossoming into a young lady with an interest in boys. She has a maternal edge to her and cares very deeply for her younger siblings. She has stars in her eyes – and doesn't see the swastika on Rolf's armband.

Friedrich von Trapp – playing age 14yrs
Tough exterior, very much trying to be “the man” of the family.

Louisa von Trapp – playing age 13yrs
Rebellious attitude

Kurt von Trapp – falsetto, playing age 10yrs
Gentle and mischievous

Brigitta von Trapp – playing age 9yrs
Smart, reads a lot

Marta von Trapp – playing age 7yrs
Very sweet and gentle

Gretl von Trapp – playing age 6yrs
Must have the cute factor

ENSEMBLE –

New postulant, nuns, novices, postulants and contestants in the Festival Concert, Nazi soldiers, neighbours, Salzburg citizens, Georg's friends (of naval background)