

NATIONAL THEATRE MELBOURNE

CASTING BRIEF

ABOUT SCHOOL OF ROCK

Get ready to rock out with School of Rock, the high energy musical that is loud, proud and packed with fun for the whole family. Based on the hit Jack Black film, this crowd pleaser follows slacker musician Dewey Finn as he bluffs his way into a prestigious prep school and transforms a class of straight A students into a mind blowing rock band. With heart, humour and powerful anthems, it is a feel good story about finding your voice and chasing your dreams.

Featuring a Tony nominated score by the legendary Andrew Lloyd Webber, School of Rock brings a thrilling mix of original songs and iconic movie moments to the stage. But the real stars of the show are the kids. These quadruple threat performers who act, sing, dance and play their instruments live are set to shine. Their passion and talent light up the stage and will leave audiences amazed.

Perfect for families, fans of the film and anyone who loves live music, School of Rock is more than a musical. It is a full blown rock concert with heart. Bring the whole crew, grab your air guitar and get ready to cheer. This is one class you will not want to miss.

ABOUT THEATRICAL

Theatrical is a not-for profit theatre production company that aims to give artists an opportunity to get involved in a positive community theatre experience. As a member of the Theatrical team, your time, participation, and talent is incredibly valuable to us. Your focus will be to develop your character, learn your lines, lyrics and choreography and, most importantly, have a great time in a supportive, safe, and creative environment.

Theatrical does not have a traditional committee. There are no politics, no slow decisions and no hidden agendas. Simply, Theatrical is all about creating great quality community made theatre with heart. We want you to have a memorable experience as part of the Theatrical team, and together we can make it a great experience for audiences too.

Theatrical is:

- an independent, privately funded, not-for-profit community run theatre company and a registered charity
- committed to providing people with the opportunity to get involved in pretty much all aspects of producing musical theatre
- dedicated to creating a safe, positive and creative experience for all of our volunteers
- encouraging people with talent and commitment to become involved
- devoted to providing genuine training opportunities to people who are interested and committed to developing their skills in any aspect of performing arts

Theatrical is an independent theatre production company registered as a charity by the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Executive Producer: Andrew Gyopar

Director: Cody Riker

Musical Director: **Mal Fawcett** Choreographer: **Jaimee White**

CASTING PANEL

Andrew Gyopar, Cody Riker, Mal Fawcett, Jaimee White

There will also be an audition pianist and videographer in the audition room.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, 1 November 2025, 1:30 PM Preview

Saturday, 1 November 2025, 7:30 PM Opening Night

Sunday, 2 November 2025, 1:30 PM

Sunday, 2 November 2025, 6:30 PM (*second release)

Tuesday, 4 November 2025, 7:30 PM (*second release)

Wednesday, 5 November 2025, 7:30 PM

Thursday, 6 November 2025, 7:30 PM

Friday, 7 November 2025, 1:30 PM

Saturday, 8 November 2025, 1:30 PM

Saturday, 8 November 2025, 7:30 PM

Sunday, 9 November 2025, 1:30 PM

Sunday, 9 November 2025, 6:30 PM (*second release)

Tuesday, 11 November 2025, 7:30 PM (*second release)

Wednesday, 12 November 2025, 7:30 PM

Thursday, 13 November 2025, 7:30 PM

Friday, 14 November 2025, 7:30 PM

Saturday, 15 November 2025, 1:30 PM

Saturday, 15 November 2025, 7:30 PM

* Second Release performances are those for which tickets may not be available for sale at launch but may be released later, depending on ticket sales for the season. Cast must be available for all performances including Second Release performances. Theatrical will confirm Second Release performances with cast as early as possible.

INCLUSIVE CASTING POLICY

At Theatrical, our team values inclusivity and diversity, and acknowledges historical barriers in the theatre sector which have excluded certain artists. We commit to casting all roles in a conscious and respectfully representative manner. Theatrical is committed to ensuring that the auditions, rehearsals, pre-production process, and performances are accessible and foster a sense of belonging and inclusion for all our talent and crew.

Unless specified in the character descriptions, we encourage all performers, particularly Indigenous, Bla(c)k, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse, gender-diverse, disabled, neurodiverse and/or body diverse performers to audition for any role they feel is suitable to them. We want to see you the way you see yourself!

AUDITION SCHEDULE & RUNDOWN

We request all auditionees to complete the audition registration form online (theatrical.com.au/audition). Please upload a copy of your current headshot and a performance CV. You do not need to bring a hard copy of your application form, headshot or resume to the audition.

VOCAL AND ACTING AUDITIONS

Venue: Studio Melbourne - The Basement, 3 Victoria Street, Windsor

Date: 2, 4, 6, 9, 16 August 2025

Each audition is an 8 minute time slot for adults and 10 minutes for kids. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your booked audition time. If you are running late, please SMS us on 0494 039 580. Whilst we will make every effort to adhere to the schedule, the auditions may inevitably run over time so please aim to be onsite for at least 30-45 minutes.

Vocal Audition Requirements for all roles excluding Dewey and Student Musicians

Please prepare one song showcasing vocal range and acting ability. Please choose an appropriate starting place and note the panel may not be required to hear all your song. Part of your vocal audition may include range extension and vocal testing.

Please ensure your sheet music is clear and legible, and marked with specific cuts, repeat marks and instructions clearly highlighted, and is in the correct key. No transposition will be done. Music should be presented in correct order in a non-glare display folder.

A piano accompanist will be provided, however own accompanist is permitted. No backing tracks or unaccompanied auditions will be accepted. Note that you will have time to review this with the audition pianist prior to your audition.

Acting Auditions

Adults may be asked to perform one of the included monologues, while children will read from selected audition sides linked in this document. Each character has a different set of sides. You are welcome to bring a hard copy of the relevant monologue or side(s) into the audition room.

DANCE AUDITION (by invitation)

Date: Saturday 23 August, 10.00am @ Studio Melbourne - The Basement, 3 Victoria Street, Windsor You may be required to attend a dance audition. All performers, who wish to be considered for roles in this production, must make themselves available for the dance call upon request.

CALL-BACK AUDITIONS

Date: Saturday 23 August from 1pm @ Studio Melbourne - The Basement, 3 Victoria Street, Windsor We will notify you if you are required to attend a call-back. We may call-back some roles, however, if you do not receive a call-back, you may still be in consideration. We will notify all auditionees of the outcome of their audition.

We will send you additional material when we notify you of a call-back request. During call backs you will be asked to perform song cuts & dialogue from the show. You may be grouped with other auditionees to test chemistry. We are looking for authentic performers who make bold offers, are collaborative, and support each other throughout the audition, rehearsal, and performance phases. If you receive a call-back and cannot attend at the scheduled time, please let us know by contacting us via email (prod@theatrical.com.au).

Please direct all enquiries regarding auditions to prod@theatrical.com.au

CHARACTERS DESCRIPTIONS (Adults)

Adult Principals

Dewey Finn

An overly ambitious, rock-obsessed, underachiever. A highly energetic and comedic role. Improvisation skills desirable. A wannabe rock star with big dreams. Dewey finds himself in urgent need of some cash after getting kicked out of his band. He impersonates a teacher to land a job at the prestigious Horace Green prep school, where he turns his class of straight-A students into a rock group and enters them in the Battle of the Bands.

Please note: Guitar playing is required.

Gender: Male Age: 30 to 45

Vocal range top: E5
Vocal range bottom: B2

Patty Di Marco

Ned's domineering girlfriend who lives with Ned and Dewey. She calls the shots in their relationship and isn't too happy about Dewey's presence in their flat – or his influence on Ned.

Gender: Female Age: 25 to 30

Vocal range top: E5
Vocal range bottom: B3

ADULT ENSEMBLE CHARACTERS

Adult Teachers, Parents, and Others may be doubled as in the original Broadway production.

TEACHERS PARENTS

Mrs. Sheinkopf Mr. Mooneyham

Mr. Noble Mrs. Hathaway
Mr. Green Mr. Williams
Gabe Brown Mr. Spencer
Mr. Sanders Mr. Sandford
Ms. Gordon Mr. Ward

Ms. Bingham Mr. Hamilton Mr. Woodward Mrs. Turner

Mr. Janes Mrs. Travis

Ms. Macapugay Mr. Wagner

Rosalie Mullins

Proper and a bit uptight, Rosalie is the headmistress of Horace Green School. She has a secret love of rock music and yearns to recapture the carefree spirit of her youth.

Please note: Opera skills are desirable.

Gender: Female Age: 30 to 45

Vocal range top: D6
Vocal range bottom: A3

Ned Schneebly

Ned is an old friend of Dewey's, and the two currently share a flat with Ned's girlfriend Patty. He used to play in Dewey's band but is now a substitute teacher – who Dewey impersonates to get the job at Horace Green. Ned is still passionate about his music but tends to let his bossy girlfriend Patty tell him what to do. Please note: Guitar playing required.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: F#4
Vocal range bottom: C3

OTHERS

Jeff Sanderson - Manager of Battle of the Bands

Stanley - Owner of the record shop Dewey gets fired from

Security Guard 1 & Security Guard 2

No Vacancy Band Members (Dewey's Former Band)

Theo (No Vacancy)-Vocal Range (D3-D5) Doug (No Vacancy)- Vocal Range (G3-G4) Bob (No Vacancy)-Vocal Range (G3-D5) Snake (No Vacancy)-Vocal Range (G3-G4)

Dewey Vocal Audition Requirements

For Dewey auditions - It's time to rock out! Please prepare 2 songs that show off your insane rock vocals and guitar prowess. Guitar playing will be live onstage during the show (no miming). You must have energy to burn, own the stage and be a total front man.

Ned Vocal Audition Requirements

For the role of Ned, you will be required to play guitar live onstage with Dewey so as part of your audition in addition to your vocal, please prepare a guitar instrumental (min 16 bars) that is at least at a moderate skill level. A guitar amp will be provided, however you will need to bring your own instrument and lead.

Student Musician Audition Requirements

For Student Band auditions please prepare one vocal and two instrumental songs (1. your choice, and 2. Stick it to the man - your instrument part).

For your own instrumental please bring your backing track on a USB without the part you're playing.

For Stick it to the man, learn your part from the lessons using the YouTube links provided below:

Guitar - https://youtu.be/LUn2aN1LDL0

Bass - https://youtu.be/uE6oZrXuXuA

Drums - https://youtu.be/5o3wT4sim6M

Keys - https://youtu.be/ZfQnDEYaDal

The following will be available - keyboard and amp, guitar/bass amp, Drum kit (5 piece with cymbals), drummers may bring their own snare drum if desired, and must bring their own drum sticks.

Guitar and Bass players must bring their own instruments and leads.

CHARACTERS DESCRIPTIONS (Youth Roles)

NOTE: Youth Roles that play instruments will be required to play their instrument live. Youth Roles are ages 9-13

Summer Hathaway

Confident and outspoken, Summer is the ideal manager for the band. Ambitious and very clever, she hopes that winning Battle of the Bands will look good on her college application.

Gender: Female Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Tomika

New girl Tomika is struggling to fit in at Horace Green. She conquers her shyness to reveal her phenomenal singing ability and becomes a lead vocalist alongside Dewey in the band.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: A3

CHARACTERS DESCRIPTIONS (Youth Roles) [continued]

Zack Mooneyham

Zack is the band's lead guitarist and also a talented songwriter. He desperately wants to impress his father, who's usually too busy with work to take an interest in his family.

Instrument: Onstage Guitar

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Katie

Katie is a quiet, serious girl who keeps mostly to herself. She plays the cello at school but is quick to pick up the bass at Dewey's encouragement. She is stone-faced when she plays and takes her instrument and the band very seriously, although not as much as

Summer takes managing. Instrument: Onstage Bass

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: D#5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Lawrence

Awkward and lacking in confidence, Lawrence is hesitant to attempt something "cool," like joining a band, but he soon turns out to be a fantastic keyboardist.

Instrument: Onstage Piano/Keyboard

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D#5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Mason Ward

Mason is a total whiz with technology and creates special effects and fantastic lighting designs for the band's performances using his laptop.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Freddie Hamilton

Freddie loves a bit of rowdiness and noise, making him a great drummer. His own father doesn't see his ability, constantly belittling his son.

Instrument: Onstage Drums

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Billy Sandford

Flamboyant and artistic, Billy has a passionate interest in fashion, even though his father wants him to be a footballer like the other men in his family. He designs the band's costumes.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: A3

Marcy & Shonelle

Quiet girls with angelic voices, Marcy and Shonelle are the band's backup singers and dancers.

Gender: Female Vocal range top: G5 Vocal range bottom: A3

Sophie & Madison

Sophie and Madison are technically the band's roadies but also serve as backup dancers

during performances.

Gender: Female Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: A3

James

James is tough and reliable, making him a good security guard for the band. Mostly, he keeps an eye out for anyone coming while the

band is secretly rehearsing!

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: A3

AUDITION SIDES

Option 1:

Dewey: Give up, just quit, because in this life, you can't win. Yeah, you can try, but in the end you're just gonna lose, big time, because the world is run by the Man. The Man, oh, you don't know the Man. He's everywhere. In the White House... down the hall... Ms. Mullins, she's the Man. And the Man ruined the ozone, he's burning down the Amazon, and he kidnapped Shamu and put her in a chlorine tank! And there used to be a way to stick it to the Man. It was called rock 'n roll, but guess what, oh no, the Man ruined that, too, with a little thing called MTV! So don't waste your time trying to make anything cool or pure or awesome 'cause the Man is just gonna call you a fat washed up loser and crush your soul. So do yourselves a favor and just GIVE UP!

Option 2:

Rosalie: (about the teachers) They hate me.

Yes, they do, I can see. I wasn't always like this, you know, I wasn't always wound this tight. There was a time where I was fun. I was funny! I was. But you can't be funny and be the principal of a prep school! No, you cannot. Because when it comes to their kids, these parents have no sense of humor. No. And if something goes wrong, it's my head in the smasher. And these parents will come down on me like a nuclear bomb! I can't make a mistake! I gotta be perfect! And that pressure has turned me into one thing that I never wanted to be!

(silently mouthing the B word) Oh yes, I am. I am a big one!

AUDITION SIDES

Audition sides for kids characters are available to download here:

School of Rock Audition Sides

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Rehearsals will commence on Wednesday, 27 August 2025. Rehearsals will be scheduled on Monday and Wednesday from 7.00-10.30 PM and Sundays from 10.00 AM to 5.30 PM at **Studio Melbourne The Basement, 3 Victoria Street, Windsor.**

All cast are expected to be available for every rehearsal (unless otherwise advised).

Promotional Photoshoot

We ask all successful candidates to make themselves available for a photoshoot on Sunday, September 28, 2025.

Sitzprobe is scheduled for Sunday 26 October 2025 from 1.30 PM at Studio Melbourne.

Production Week (National Theatre)

Please note the following important dates during production week:

Monday, 27 October 2025: Thursday, 30 October 2025:

6.00 PM call (Tech Rehearsal, Act 1) 6.00 PM call (Dress rehearsal, incl orchestra)

Tuesday, 28 October 2025: Friday, 31 October 2025:

6.00 PM call (Tech Rehearsal, Act 2) 6.00 PM call (Dress rehearsal for performing covers)

Wednesday, 29 October 2025: Saturday, 1 November 2025:

6.00 PM call (Dress Rehearsal, incl orchestra) 1.30 PM call (Preview Performance)

Please note, you may be required from 5.00 PM on Thursday 30 October for a pre-show media/publicity call. It is critical that all cast are available for this call.

Working With Children Check (WWCC)

Everyone over the age of 18 who is involved in this production will be required to have a current WWCC (or VIT registration). Please register Theatrical as a nominated organisation and provide us with a copy of your WWCC Statement/VIT card.

Please note: You will be required for all rehearsals. If you have any unavailability during the rehearsal & performance period, please advise us of these dates & times in your audition form. We also ask that you notify us of any other prior commitments which may impact your attendance at rehearsals/performances. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be provided to you at the induction night.

Costume fittings will be scheduled to coincide with rehearsal times where possible. We will negotiate times with you if additional costume fittings are required.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Wed, Aug 27, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Sun, Aug 31, 2025	Cast rehearsal 10am-5:30pm
Mon, Sep 1, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Wed, Sep 3, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Sun, Sep 7, 2025	Cast rehearsal 10am-5:30pm
Mon, Sep 8, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Wed, Sep 10, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Sun, Sep 14, 2025	Cast rehearsal 10am-5:30pm
Mon, Sep 15, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Wed, Sep 17, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Sun, Sep 21, 2025	Cast rehearsal 10am-5:30pm
Mon, Sep 22, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Wed, Sep 24, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Sun, Sep 28, 2025	Cast rehearsal 10am-5:30pm
Mon, Sep 29, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Wed, Oct 1, 2025	Cast rehearsal 7pm-10:30pm (young cast leave early when possible)
Sun, Oct 5, 2025	Cast rehearsal 10am-5:30pm
Mon, Oct 6, 2025	Cast rehearsal (revise/clean)
Wed, Oct 8, 2025	Cast rehearsal (revise/clean)
Sun, Oct 12, 2025	Cast rehearsal 10am-5:30pm FULLY BLOCKED FULL RUN
Mon, Oct 13, 2025	Cast rehearsal (full run)
Wed, Oct 15, 2025	Cast rehearsal (full run)
Sun, Oct 19, 2025	Cast rehearsal (full run)
Mon, Oct 20, 2025	Cast rehearsal (full run)
Wed, Oct 22, 2025	Cast rehearsal (full run)
Sun, Oct 26, 2025	Sitzprobe & pack for bump in
Sun, Oct 26, 2025	9am Bump in, set build, lx plot, PA & mic sound checks

FAO

What can I expect at the audition?

The casting panel comprises the Executive Producer, Director, Musical Director, Choreographer, & Casting Consultant. A pianist will be in the room to accompany your singing audition. Our Casting Consultant will be present at the venue to help everyone feel welcome and culturally safe during the casting process.

We know that auditions are challenging. The audition panel commits to conducting auditions in a respectful and supportive manner. We want you to be comfortable during your audition. Please let us know if you have any questions about the auditions.

Casting a show is a complex process which involves placing performers in the roles which suit them best. If you are unsuccessful, we acknowledge this is a disappointing outcome. We can offer feedback on your audition if you would like it. Please reach out to prod@theatrical.com.au with any pre/post audition enquiries.

What can I expect at rehearsals?

As a part of our commitment to creating a safe and collaborative environment, the production team will support you every step of the way. We understand that some of the subject matter of the show may be sensitive, confronting, and/or challenging - we commit to approaching this content with the utmost respect and care. We aim to create an atmosphere that encourages creativity and mutual respect, whilst maintaining professionalism at all times. We believe that open communication is key to the success of our productions.

Will the show be judged by the Music Theatre Guild of Victoria?

No. Theatrical has decided not to renew its Music Theatre Guild of Victoria membership. This decision reflects our commitment to a different philosophy: we prioritise collaboration, inclusivity, and storytelling that unites our community. We feel that the Guild's awards process leans too heavily on politics and popularity, which doesn't align with our values or the spirit of the work we aim to create. Instead of focusing on competition, we choose to highlight our productions by attracting professional reviewers and mainstream media, whose feedback resonates more meaningfully with our audiences and industry peers. This approach fosters deeper connections and celebrates the heart of community theatre in a way that truly matters to us.

I'm unavailable for some of the rehearsals. Can I still be involved?

All Cast members are expected to attend every rehearsal unless they are otherwise advised. During the audition process, you will be asked to indicate your unavailability in the audition form. We understand that there may be unforeseen circumstances which may arise and we ask you to maintain an open line of communication with us. Rest assured that our team will provide adequate notice of any updates to schedules throughout the casting and rehearsal process.

Is this a Theatrical or Andrew G production?

This is 100% a Theatrical Inc. show! Theatrical Inc. is a not-for-profit theatre production company founded by Andrew G, who also runs AG Theatre (a commercial production company). Andrew serves as Theatrical's Executive Producer, manages the theatre website TheTheatre.au, hosts the Showtime podcast, and shares his passion for theatre on social media (@AndrewGShowtime).

While Theatrical Inc. is behind the production, it gets a big boost from Andrew's strong digital presence and marketing channels helping to connect with an even bigger community of theatre lovers. Plus, the amazing AG Theatre team is here to support Theatrical shows, bringing their expertise and energy to make each production the best it can be!

My age is different to the Stage Age listed in the Character Descriptions. Can I still be considered for that role?

Stage age is a guide, provided to us from the writes of the show. Whenever possible we try to find performers who can play a character within the recommended stage age range. If you feel that you can play a character within the recommended stage age we would be very happy to see you audition for that role, regardless of your actual age.

FAQ (continued)

If I am cast in this show, can I audition for other shows?

There are a lot of people on and off stage who invest a lot of time and energy into making a Theatrical production. So, we ask everyone involved to make a 100% commitment to the show. If you would like to audition for something else during your time on the show, all we ask is that you discuss it with the production team first, so we can make sure that it doesn't conflict with your commitment to this show.

How much are the show fees?

Show Fees are \$280 which includes a \$70 libretto deposit which is refundable once your libretto is returned unmarked and undamaged.

What is a libretto deposit?

Theatrical has to pay for any damaged or missing libretto/script. So we ask our cast to pay a \$70 deposit, but once you return your hard copy libretto after the show closes we will refund that to you in full by EFT, so long as it is clean and undamaged.

Will I have to sell tickets and fundraise for the show?

We have a great team of fundraisers, marketers, publicists and social media creators who focus on letting people know about our shows. Our cast will never be required to participate in fundraising activities, and there is no pressure to sell tickets (but we hope that you are as proud and excited about the show as we are so tell your family and friends to come and support this work).

Am I expected to help with bump-in and bump-out?

At our final rehearsal at Studio Melbourne you will be expected to help pack everything for transport. And after our closing show we request your help with the bump-out. We use professional removalists for the actual bump-in and bump-out.

What else does Theatrical expect from cast members?

At Theatrical we want our cast focused on developing and presenting a great show. But if you have other skills that you would like to offer, we are always looking for volunteers to help with set building, costumes, scenic artistry and all the other stuff that goes into making great theatrical experiences.

A sense of community is important at Theatrical. You will be invited to social events throughout the season, which we encourage you to attend. It's a great way to get to know the whole Theatrical team.

When will I find out the outcome of my audition?

SMS and phone call offers are made by the production team within 48 hours after call-backs. We ask that you confirm your acceptance within 24 hours after the offer is made. We will notify all candidates of an audition outcome within 3-4 days after call-backs.

Sometimes, auditions and call backs can run longer than expected. If the process takes longer than planned, we apologise in advance for any delays in notifications.

I have other questions, who can I chat with?

If you have questions about the casting process, rehearsals, or the production plans please email prod@theatrical.com.au.

On the day of your audition, please feel free to call the Production Manager on 0494 039 580 if you need to contact the production team for any reason.