



School of Rock

FALL 2024

AUDITION INFORMATION

Show Synopsis

Based on the hit film, this hilarious musical follows Dewey Finn, a failed wannabe rock star who decides to earn a few extra bucks by posing as a substitute teacher at a prestigious prep school. There he turns a class of straight-A students into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping, mind-blowing rock band. While teaching these pint-sized prodigies what it means to truly rock, Dewey falls for the school's beautiful, but uptight headmistress, helping her rediscover the wild child within.

Featuring 14 new songs from Andrew Lloyd Webber and all the original songs from the movie, this high-octane smash delivers face-melting guitar riffs and touching romance in equally awesome doses.

Artistic Team

Artistic Director – Ronald DeBeck

Ronald began his 39-year directing career back in 1985 in the US. Since that time, he has directed some of his favorite musicals such as *West Side Story*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Into the Woods*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and *Les Miserable*. Recently he directed *Kinky Boots* at The Rose Theatre, and *The Addams Family* at The Woodlands School. He has also had the good fortune of playing some of his favorite characters, including Harold Hill, Miles Gloriousus, and Jamie Lockhart. Since moving to Canada, he has played various roles such as Joseph Pulitzer in *Newsies*, Harry in *Mamma Mia* and Georg Von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*. Currently, Ronald is in his final years as a teacher in Peel and looks forward to working in the arts in his upcoming retirement. *The School of Rock* is his first venture with EMP, with high hopes of many more!

Terence Vince - Music Director

After almost 15 years, Terence is excited to come back to EMP to join the creative team of *School of Rock*. Terence is the resident Musical Director for The Children's Theatre Project, working with their prestigious Master Class Program. In addition, he is the lead Musical Director for Marquee Theatrical Productions' Youth Core and Intensive divisions. Favourite Music Director credits include *Mean Girls: School Edition*, *Heathers: School Edition*, *Mamma Mia*, *Cabaret*, *RENT*, and *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*. Occasionally, Terence dabbles on the stage, having played Berger in *Hair* (Jaybird Productions), King Triton in *The Little Mermaid* (MTP London), Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde* (Chicken Coop Theatre), and Judas in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Etobicoke Musical Productions). An accomplished musician, Terence does session recording/performing with

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independent artists across the GTA, and also hosts his own weekly piano bar show at the Madison Avenue Pub. In addition, he most recently joined the pianist roster for *Great Canadian Dueling Pianos*, as seen on Canada's Got Talent. Terence looks forward to Climbing to the Top of Mount Rock and Sticking it to the Man!

Ann DeNardis-Tomcko - Stage Manager

Ann is thrilled to have the opportunity to join this fun artistic team to make this a show to remember. Recent Stage Management credits include Mamma Mia (TUPA 2024 We Will Rock You (EMP 2023), Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (TUPA 2023), 42 nd Street (EMP 2022). Sound of Music (BMT 2022). Ann is a hard working, accountable, creative and, hopefully, fun Stage Manager. She will be responsible for maintaining our rehearsal schedule, ensuring rehearsals are running efficiently but most importantly, she is dedicated to ensuring that all of the technical components come together effortlessly every show to make the cast and the artistic work come to life as intended.

Monique Lackey - Producer

Monique is thrilled to be stepping into the role of producer for EMP's performance of *School of Rock*. With a background in elementary education, Monique has always believed in the power of the arts to inspire and empower young minds. Her journey in theatre began with directing and producing adaptations of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and beloved Disney classics such as *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, *The Lion King Jr.*, and *Frozen Jr.*, where she witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of theatre on her students. Driven by her passion for fostering creativity and self-expression, Monique has helped students discover their talents and build confidence in themselves. Monique's love for musical theatre runs deep, with a special place in her heart for the emotional depth of *Les Misérables* and the heartwarming storytelling of *Come From Away*. These productions have influenced her approach to theatre, emphasizing the importance of storytelling and the power of music to unite and uplift audiences. As she takes on the role of producer for *School of Rock*, Monique is excited to continue her mission of providing enriching theatrical experiences for performers and audiences alike. She believes in the magic of theatre to ignite imaginations, cultivate teamwork, and instill a lifelong love of the arts in the next generation.

Megan Cruz - Assistant Producer

Megan is excited to join the team as assistant producer, this is her first season working with EMP. Currently, she is a photographer and used to working with youth that love the spotlight. She comes from a film background and has produced many short films. In theater she recently assisted in CCMP'S Rocky Horror. Last summer she won a grant to produce her own written stage production in a local park.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will start on Sunday August 11th

- **Sundays:** 1-5pm @ Royal Canadian Legion Branch 643 - 110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke
- **Mondays:** 7-10:30pm @ Royal Canadian Legion Branch 643 - 110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke
- **Thursdays:** 7-10:30 pm @ Mimico Presbyterian Church -119 Mimico Avenue (at Royal York Road)

Notes:

- ❖ not all cast members are called for all rehearsals, but must be available if called.
- ❖ it is possible that additional rehearsals could be called from time to time.

Performance Information

Location: Meadowvale Theatre, Mississauga

Dates:

- Friday Nov 1st - 8pm (6pm call)
- Saturday Nov 2nd - 8pm (6pm call)
- Sunday Nov 3 - 2pm (12pm call)
- Thursday Nov 7 - 8pm (6pm call)
- Friday Nov 8 - 8pm (6pm call)
- Saturday Nov 9 - 2pm (12pm call)
- Saturday Nov 9 - 8pm (6pm call)
- Sunday Nov 10 - 2pm (12pm call)

Note

All members of the cast are required to become members of EMP and pay membership fees. In addition, all cast members are expected to help out in other areas of the production *from time to time* with activities such as flyer drops, set construction and painting, etc. All cast members assist in move-in and strike after the final performance.

Audition Information

Auditions and call backs will be held at Royal Canadian Legion Branch, 643 - 110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke

Audition dates:

- Sunday, May 26th - 1pm - 4pm
- Monday May 27th - 6pm - 10pm
- Tuesday May 28th - 6pm - 10pm

Call backs date:

- Monday June 3rd - 6pm - 10 pm

Audition Format & Requirements:

Auditions are booked in 7-minute increments on the available date of choice.

- Please prepare 32 bars (approximately 1 minute) of a rock ballad of your choosing, as well as 1 minute of a contrasting music piece. ***Please note choosing one particular role to audition for will not discount you from other potential roles.***
- You **MUST** bring sheet music in the correct key for the accompanist. Pre-recorded accompaniment is not permitted. Please, no a cappella
- You *may* be asked to perform some basic vocal range tests or improvisational work with the song
- Sides are included at the end of this document for you to be able to prepare for your acting audition. If you are auditioning for the role of Dewey, you can choose any of the sides for your audition.
- **If you are auditioning for a role that involves the ability to play music, please submit a 30-60 second video of you playing your instrument.**
- Everyone auditioning will participate in a movement / dance audition. The group audition will occur in the middle of each audition session. If your audition time is set during the first part of the session, you will be asked to wait in the audition location until after the dance portion. If your audition time is set during the last part of the session, you are asked to arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled dance break.
 - o Sunday movement/dance audition: 2:20-2:50
 - o Monday and Tuesday movement/dance audition: 7:45-8:15
- Please bring comfortable clothing and appropriate footwear.
- Individuals will be advised if they are called back for a role (or roles) by end of day on May 30, 2024 after the initial auditions. Arrangements will be made to get call back material to

those chosen, most likely by e-mail. Please ensure your e-mail contact information is accurate at time of audition!

- All principal roles and potentially some supporting/featured roles will require a call back. Casting for all roles will be announced as soon as possible after call backs. (See also call back requirements, below). All those auditioning will be notified via email or phone (their choice) as to their casting status as soon as possible after June 3, 2024

Please arrive for your audition in sufficient time to get settled and to fill out the necessary paperwork (audition information sheet). Bring a Theatre Resume & photograph if available (preferred, but not mandatory).

Call-back Requirements:

Those called back for **principal roles** will be asked to prepare specific musical selections and sides from the show. Some performers may also be called back to do a dance audition.

If you are auditioning for one of the principal roles, please indicate on the audition information sheet (obtained at the sign-up or at the audition) if you are willing to be considered for another role IF you are not given a call back for the principal role(s) you indicate.

Only people who are required for call-back auditions will be notified by phone or e-mail no later than end of day May 20, 2024, and materials required for the call-back will be forwarded by e-mail. ***Please ensure your e-mail contact information is accurate at time of audition!***

Call backs will occur on Monday, June 3rd, and you will be notified of specific times when you are advised of the call back.

All others not required for call-backs will be considered for non-principal roles. No casting for any roles will be determined prior to the end of the auditions (call-backs).

People who cannot attend their call back cannot be considered for the role(s).

Character Information

PRINCIPAL ADULTS

Dewey Finn

- Late 20s to mid-30s.
- Rock Tenor (B2-A5)
- A passionate and energetic rock musician with a heart of gold. Dewey is down on his luck and desperate for money, leading him to impersonate his friend and take a substitute teaching job at a prestigious prep school. He's charmingly irresponsible, but ultimately inspires his students to embrace their musical talents and break out of their shells. Dewey is the life of the party, with an infectious enthusiasm for rock music and a knack for thinking on his feet.
- **Must be able to play electric guitar**

Rosalie Mullins

- Late 30s to early 50s
- Soprano (A3-D6)
- The strict and uptight principal of Horace Green Prep School. Rosalie is all about order and discipline, but she harbors a secret passion for music deep down. She's fiercely dedicated to maintaining the school's reputation and is initially skeptical of Dewey's unconventional teaching methods. However, as the story progresses, she gradually loosens up and discovers her own love for rock music. Rosalie is authoritative and poised, with a hidden vulnerability beneath her tough exterior.

Ned Schneebly

- Mid 20s to early 40s.
- Baritone (C3-F#4)
- Dewey's well-meaning but slightly nerdy roommate. Ned is struggling to make ends meet, working a dead-end job and dealing with his overbearing girlfriend. He's initially frustrated with Dewey's irresponsibility but ultimately supports him in his journey as a substitute teacher. Ned is kind-hearted and loyal, with a penchant for video games and a desire for stability in his life.

Patty Di Marco

- Mid 20s to early 40s.
- Mezzo-soprano (B3-E5)
- Ned's girlfriend and Dewey's antagonist. Patty is ambitious and controlling, constantly nagging Ned about his lack of direction and pressuring him to prioritize their relationship over everything else. She sees Dewey as a nuisance and is suspicious of his influence on Ned. Patty is assertive and no-nonsense, with a tendency to prioritize practicality over passion.

Students

Children and teens, 8 to 14 years old.

A diverse group of students from Horace Green Prep School, each with their own unique personality and musical talents. They range from shy and reserved to outgoing and confident, but they all share a love for music and a desire to break free from societal expectations. The students form a band with Dewey's guidance, showcasing their individual strengths and learning valuable lessons about teamwork and self-expression along the way.

PRINCIPAL STUDENTS

Zach (Guitar)

- A highly gifted musician and songwriter with a mixture of anger at his father's indifference and a passion for the music that is raging inside him. He knows he has more in him than he has ever been able to show
- Pop/Rock singer who moves well.
- **Excellent guitar skills necessary**

Summer

- Highly intelligent, over achieving and overly controlling Horace Green student with a demanding presence. Holds high expectations and standards for herself and everyone around her. Suspicious of Dewey and his unorthodox teaching ways
- Pop singer (A3-D5) with the ability to move well

Lawrence (Keyboard)

- A shy, awkward boy, unconfident and gauche, but a genius on the keyboard, who needs a free spirit like Dewey to lead him out of the darkness.
- Pop/Rock Singer who moves well
- **Serious piano skills are needed**

Freddy (Drums)

- A student who is happy to be released. This is the kid who comes from a working-class background and unlike many of his classmates - was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth.
- **Killer drummer with a LOT of personality**

Katie (Bass)

- Energetic and enthusiastic with a lot of rhythm and attitude
- Pop/Rock Singer who moves well
- **Must be able to play bass.**

Tomika (Strong vocalist)

- A new student at Horace Green and a wonderful singer, she is a girl who is exasperated by her two fathers' inability to see that she needs help. Tomika barely speaks until she finally summons the courage to open her mouth and sing out, so we have to be blown away by her sound
- Pop/Rock singer who moves well
- **Must have a strong singing voice (A3-G5)**

Marcy & Shonelle: Back-up singers with style, they can do more than just carry a tune... they can rock it.

Billy: A student with a marked artistic flair, and a bit of a snobby attitude.

James: Serves as security for the band, and he's going to make sure no one messes with these rock stars in training

Mason: A whiz on the technical side

AUDITION SIDES

NED, PATTY, DEWEY

NED Do we have to do this now?

PATTY Yes, he's trashed the house again, I'm sick of it!

NED He's lived here a long time.

PATTY What does that mean? He's been here longer than me so I matter less?

NED No, Patty-cake, of course not, it's just – we went to High School together, we were in a band together. He's my best friend.

PATTY He's not your friend. He's a freeloader, Ned, and he never pays rent. He takes advantage of you. He's rude to me, and it's time he paid some rent!

NED Waking him up in the morning is a bad idea. It's like using a beehive as a piñata – it's dangerous!

PATTY You can't live your life letting people push you around. Go! Do it!

DEWEY (*Talking in his sleep*) Yes, I understand guacamole is two dollars extra...

NED Dewey. Dewey? Dewey!

PATTY Wake up, Dewey! Time to get up!

She rips the covers off Dewey. He stumbles out of bed with a start.

DEWEY Patty! What do you want?

PATTY The rent.

DEWEY You woke me up for that?

PATTY Yes, we woke you up for that!!

DEWEY I am so sick and tired of being the guy everyone comes to for the money I owe them.

PATTY Well, sorry to disturb your beauty sleep, but we're going to work now, Dewey. You see we work. I serve the Mayor of this city – the whole city – and Ned... Ned has the most important job there is!

DEWEY Temping?

PATTY Teaching! A substitute teacher is not a temp!

DEWEY He's a babysitter.

NED I'd like to see you try it!

DEWEY Sweet comeback, bro.

PATTY I don't care what you think of us, Dewey. Pay some rent!

DEWEY Tell her, Ned! The Battle of the Bands is in three weeks! I need every penny I make!

PATTY So do we! And you know what? It belongs to us! Why don't you sell that stupid guitar?

DEWEY (*Lunging for guitar*) Noooo! Would you ask Picasso to sell his guitar?

PATTY Oh my God, you're an idiot.

DEWEY Ned? Help me here. You can't have forgotten what I'm playing for. What's happened to you? You used to be a blood sucking, cross-dressing incubus from Maggot Death!

NED That's not who I am anymore

PATTY He's moved on, Dewey. It's called "growing up"! You should try it.

Patty exits.

DEWEY I don't want to try! Ned?! I've been mooching off you for years and it's never been a problem before.

NED Come on. If you don't pay rent, Patty might leave me.

DEWEY So I shouldn't pay the rent then?

NED Dewey. I may never get another girlfriend

DEWEY AND ROSALIE

DEWEY No, Hi. I'm Ned Schneebly. The substitute?

ROSALIE You're very late Mr. Schneebly... Never mind, you're here now. Principal Rosalie Mullins, we spoke on the phone.

DEWEY Sure. First things first: is there any chance of being paid up front?

ROSALIE What?

DEWEY It'd be really great if I could be paid now. In cash.

ROSALIE We don't do that.

DEWEY If you say so, but no checks made out to Ned Schneebly, OK? Everything made out to cash. Tax purposes.

ROSALIE You can discuss that with Candace in administration at the end of the day.

Dewey raises his hand

ROSALIE Mr. Schneebly

DEWEY When is the end of the day?

ROSALIE The school hours are from eight forty-five to three.

DEWEY Can I duck out a little early? I had a few last night and my head is like pounding. That's if you don't mind.

ROSALIE I mind.

DEWEY Cool.

ROSALIE Mr Schneebly, perhaps you're not familiar with this kind of institution. Let me explain something to you.

DEWEY No worries with me. If a kid gets out of line, I smack 'em. Real hard.

ROSALIE There is no corporal punishment at Horace Green

DEWEY But you do spank 'em, right?

ROSALIE No.

DEWEY, SUMMER, ZACK, LAWRENCE, FREDDIE

DEWEY Who's got some food?

SUMMER We're discouraged from brining unauthorized food into the building.

DEWEY Nobody's going to get in any trouble. I'm hungry. You. I know you've got food.

LAWRENCE I have a cereal bar.

DEWEY Give it here.

Takes a bite, clearly doesn't like it.

DEWEY What is this? Don't you have any real food?

LAWRENCE Real food?

DEWEY A burger! A pizza! What's the matter with you?

LAWRENCE I'm gluten intolerant.

DEWEY Oh God! You! What's your name?

FREDDY Freddy Ham –

DEWEY Get up here, Freddy Mercury. You got any money?

FREDDY I have ten dollars.

DEWEY Great. Now I want you to go out and get me a meatball sub with extra cheese and a large Diet Coke.

SUMMER Mr. Schneeibly, we can't leave the school.

DEWEY Ever?

SUMMER Not until the final bell.

DEWEY OK. Here's the deal. I've got a hang-over. Who knows what that is?

LAWRENCE Does it mean you're drunk?

DEWEY No. It means I was drunk yesterday.

ZACK It means you're an alcoholic. *All children laugh.*

DEWEY (*Sarcastic laugh*) Alcoholic. What's your name?

ZACK Zack Mooneyham.

DEWEY Well, shut up, Zack Mooneyham. The point is, today you can just chill out. We'll start on the teaching rubbish tomorrow. Take recess. Have fun. Leave me alone. Summer raises her hand

DEWEY You. Lucy Liu.

SUMMER Summer Hathaway. Do you have any questions about our schedule? Mrs. Dunham starts with vocabulary followed by a word quiz, then she divides us into reading groups –

DEWEY Don't you see that Mrs. Dum-Bum is not your teacher today? I am. And I say it's time for recess.

SUMMER My parents don't spend fifty thousand dollars a year for recess.

DEWEY Fifty thousand dollars?

SUMMER Mr. Schneeibly. Come with me. This poster tracks our achievements. We get gold stars for how we do in class.

Dewey walks over to chart.

DEWEY What kind of sick school is this? This is a tool of The Man.

ZACK The who?

DEWEY Not The Who, The Man! The man is everywhere! Don't you know who The Man is? Ms. Mullins is the Man. The man is responsible for global warming, tuxedos, Jar Jar Binks and the Kardashians.

ZACK So what are we supposed to do about it?

DEWEY You're supposed to fight him! With Rock'n'Roll and spirit and everything you've got to give.

SUMMER That's all very well, but how can we be graded or get any gold stars today, if we just have recess.

Dewey rips poster down and tears to shreds.

DEWEY Now, listen! As long as I'm here, there will be no grades and no gold stars and absolutely no achievements! We're gonna have recess all the freakin' time. Geddit? Not re-cess! Go!

SUMMER We'll see what Ms Mullins has to say about this.

DEWEY (*Mocking Summer*) Mey-Meh May-Meh May! No we won't. Now go!

ALL OTHER ROLES

Freddy enters the garage and tries to avoid his father on his way into the house.

MR HAMILTON Where's your homework?

Freddy hands his father a CD.

MR HAMILTON I don't believe it. More music? Should I tell you what my homework was? Or how I had to chop wood and bring it in when I finished? Jeez. Freddy, if I had your life...

FREDDY OK, Dad. I get the message.

MR HAMILTON No, you don't. Do you even know why I'm paying for this school? Or why I'll pay for an Ivy League College? So you can have any career you choose.

FREDDY I choose or you choose?

MR HAMILTON Pick up that hammer and get to some real work.

Billy is reading a copy of Sports Illustrated

MRS SANDFORD What are you reading?

BILLY Sports Illustrated.

Mrs. Sandford grabs the magazine finding a copy of Vogue hidden underneath

BILLY Vogue. I'm going to go to my room.

MRS SANDFORD No you're not! You're going come here and watch the game!

BILLY Do I have to?

MRS SANDFORD Yes! You're my son! You're a Sandford! Your granddad played football, your Dad played football and you're gonna play football, too. It's a legacy, Billy. Now sit down and watch the game.

Billy sits. The light fades up on Tomika with her fathers.

TOMIKA I don't fit in.

MR SPENCER But we love your new school.

MR WILLIAMS Your old school was falling apart. Do you know how long we were on the waiting list for Horace Green?

TOMIKA I miss my friends.

MR SPENCER Don't be silly! You can make friends anywhere you go!

MR WILLIAMS BBFs! Besties!

TOMIKA They're much smarter than me!

MR SPENCER No one is smarter than you, Tomika. No one is better than you.

TOMIKA But I don't know how to talk to anyone.

MR SPENCER Tomika. We know what's best for you.

Zack has arrived home. His father talks into his phone.

MR MOONEYHAM Look, I'm not asking anymore, just get it done.

ZACK Hey, Dad. You won't believe the day we had –

MR MOONEYHAM What did I say when Daddy's on the phone?

ZACK You're working.

MR MOONEYHAM I'm working. Hey, Jim? I want ten thousand shares in Northbrook Chemicals. Never mind why. I know what I know. Just do it.

For further information, please contact

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