



# *Highlands Summer Festival*

Scot Denton – Artistic Producer  
Melissa Stephens – Executive Producer

## **2015 Audition Information**

*Lend Me a Tenor*

*Nunsensations*

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*

### **Back for 2015 – *Early Stages***

An apprenticeship theatre program for young performers aged 10 to 14.  
Please see separate *Early Stages* Application Package

Thank you for your interest in the Highlands Summer Festival's Season for 2015. We have just celebrated another entertaining and challenging season, which provided opportunities for many participants. We began with *Great Expectations*, an adaptation of one of the greatest works of classic literature, followed by the madcap, murder mystery musical comedy, *The Last Resort* and then Paul Rudnick's hilarious comedy, *I Hate Hamlet*.

Each season, a number of our actors and crew are new to the Festival – last season a number of our performers appeared on stage for the first time. **We encourage you to audition, even if you feel you have limited or no stage experience.** We are committed to developing skills in all areas of theatre work. Many dedicated individuals contributed to last season's productions by working with our designers to build sets and costumes or by assisting with the creation of the on-stage product by being part of the running crew. Our upcoming season should provide you with an opportunity for you to become part of the Festival Team in some way.

The building of our season is an enormous amount of work. The rewards, however, can be tremendous. Before you make a commitment, please study the contents of this package carefully, especially the dates for rehearsals and performances. The Highlands Summer Festival is a regionally based community theatre with charitable status. We pride ourselves on producing stage work of the highest calibre. We work hard each year to improve every facet of our operation. Our patrons have come to expect quality programming and we are committed to delivering it.

Should you have any questions regarding the audition process, the rehearsals, or about the Festival in general, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Melissa Stephens – Executive Producer – 705-455-2366 [melistep@gmail.com](mailto:melistep@gmail.com)

**Audition Information**

Please note: Ages listed for a character may refer to the character's age in the script or the performer age range, and serve as guidelines only. The director will adjust them as required by the production.

***Lend Me a Tenor*** by Ken Ludwig

Set in the 1930s, *Lend Me a Tenor* is a madcap screwball comedy that takes place when Tito Merelli, the fiery-tempered and world famous Italian superstar, arrives in Cleveland, Ohio to make his debut with the local opera and promptly goes missing. Quite possibly the funniest play written in the last 30 years.

**Cast of Characters**

<b>Max</b>	<b>Assistant to Saunders – 20s</b>
<b>Maggie</b>	<b>Max's girlfriend – 20s</b>
<b>Saunders</b>	<b>Maggie's father, General Manager of the Cleveland Grand Opera Co. – 50 - 65</b>
<b>Tito Merelli</b>	<b>A world-famous tenor, known also to his fans as Il Stupendo – 35 - 50</b>
<b>Maria</b>	<b>Tito's wife – 35 - 50</b>
<b>Bellhop</b>	<b>A Bellhop – 20 - 40</b>
<b>Diana</b>	<b>A Soprano – 30 - 45</b>
<b>Julia</b>	<b>Chairman of the Opera Guild – 50 - 65</b>

**\*\**Lend Me a Tenor*** is a play, not a musical, but there is a short scene where Tito and Max sing together briefly. They are both tenors, but it is not essential that they be highly trained singers.

# *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*

by Dale Wasserman

From the novel by Ken Kesey

McMurphy thinks he can get out of doing work while in prison by pretending to be mad. His plan backfires when he is sent to a mental asylum. He tries to liven the place up a bit by playing card games and basketball with his fellow inmates, but the head nurse is after him at every turn. McMurphy's outrageous actions change the conditions for the better, until he faces the ultimate showdown with Ratched in a heartbreaking ending that is both powerful and uplifting.

## Cast of Characters

<b>Chief Bromden</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 25 – 35</b>
<b>Aide Warren</b>	<b>Hospital Aide – 20 – 40</b>
<b>Aide Williams</b>	<b>Hospital Aide – 20 – 40</b>
<b>Nurse Ratched</b>	<b>Head Nurse at the Hospital – 40 – 55</b>
<b>Nurse Flinn</b>	<b>Hospital Nurse – 18 – 25</b>
<b>Dale Harding</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 35 - 50</b>
<b>Billy Bibbit</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 18 - 25</b>
<b>Scanlon</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 30 - 50</b>
<b>Cheswick</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 30 - 50</b>
<b>Martini</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 30 - 50</b>
<b>Ruckly</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 30 - 50</b>
<b>Randall McMurphy</b>	<b>Hospital patient – 35 - 40</b>
<b>Dr. Spivey</b>	<b>Psychiatrist – 50 - 65</b>
<b>Aide Turkle</b>	<b>Hospital Aide – 50 – 65</b>
<b>Candy Starr</b>	<b>McMurphy's Girlfriend – 30 - 40</b>
<b>Sandra</b>	<b>Candy's friend – 30 - 40</b>

# *Nunsensations*

by Dan Goggin

The Nunsense Vegas Revue takes the Little Sisters of Hoboken on a brand new adventure. When a parishioner volunteers to donate \$10,000 to the sisters' school if they will perform in a club in Las Vegas, Mother Superior is hesitant to accept. However, after being convinced by the other sisters that "what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas", Reverend Mother agrees. What follows is the most feather-filled, sequin-studded, fan dancing Nunsense show ever!

## Cast of Characters

*Each of the roles listed sings at least one solo number and also some harmonies in the ensemble numbers.*

- 50+**            **Sister Mary Regina**, Mother Superior – A feisty, Sophie Tucker-type who can't resist the spotlight
- 50+**            **Sister Mary Hubert**, Mistress of Novices – The second in command, she is always competing with the Mother Superior
- 25 - 40**        **Sister Robert Anne** – a streetwise tough character. A constant source of aggravation for the Mother Superior
- 25 - 40**        **Sister Mary Amnesia** – This nun lost her memory after a crucifix fell on her head. She is very sweet.
- 18 - 25**        **Sister Mary Leo** – The novice, who has entered the convent with the firm desire to become the first nun ballerina.

## Audition Dates and Location

Auditions will be held on Saturday January 24th and Sunday January 25th at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School located at 5358 County Road 21, Haliburton.

Please book an audition time by contacting **Joan Hawley** at **705-457-1789** or [joanhawley99@hotmail.com](mailto:joanhawley99@hotmail.com).

Print the last page of this package (pages 7) – the Audition Information Sheet – fill it in and bring it to your audition. Dress comfortably and bring indoor shoes.

If you are new to the Festival, be prepared to either perform a short monologue (max. 2 minutes) or tell a short story. You may be asked to read “sides” (a short scene). Be prepared to spend up to an hour for the audition process.

### Audition Requirements

If you are new to the Festival and would like to audition for the musical, we will need to hear your singing voice - please prepare just 16 bars or one verse of any **song from the Music Theatre repertoire**. **Please have a copy of your music with you for the accompanist.** **If you have questions about material for your song, please contact Melissa Stephens at 705-457-2366.**

Candidates are encouraged to be familiar with the specific shows. A limited number of scripts are available. They can be borrowed for a short period of time by calling **Jim Frost** at **705-457-4031**. You will be required to leave a \$20 deposit, which will be refunded when you return the script. Librettos for *Nunsensations* are not readily available at this time. (Some information about the musical and the plays is available online.)

**Please Note: The casting process takes time and is a critical part of each production – it may be several weeks before it is finalized.**

### Rehearsal Schedule

It is the expectation that a minimum of 100 hours of rehearsal time for each Main Stage production will have been achieved prior to performance (120 hours for the musical). The weekly rehearsal schedule will be established by the directors and the cast. However, each production has rehearsals each week on Friday evening and/or Saturday and Sunday during the day, beginning towards the end of April or early in May. Actors cast in supporting and ensemble roles may not be required at every rehearsal.

Please note: The Festival moves into the theatre towards the end of June. During the ten days to two weeks prior to each production's opening (see dates below), rehearsals may be more frequent.

### Performance Schedule

*Lend Me a Tenor*                      June 29, 30, July 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9

*Cuckoo's Nest*                      July 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24

*Nunsensations*                      July 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, August 5, 6, 7

## **The Commitment**

Part of the mandate of the Highlands Summer Festival is to develop the talents and skills of people, especially young people, in the performing arts. And wherever possible, we prefer to utilize the talents of the residents of Haliburton County.

In order to achieve and maintain a standard of high quality, a commitment of time, talent and energy must be made by all involved. The expectation is that performers will be in attendance and on time for all rehearsals/performances. In our community theatre, it is further expected that performers will be willing to assist with move-ins and move-outs of Festival shows, especially their own. If you decide to audition, we hope you can also make this commitment.

**To book an audition time, please contact:**

**Joan Hawley at 705-457-1789**

**[joanhawley99@hotmail.com](mailto:joanhawley99@hotmail.com)**

# Audition Information Sheet

Please print legibly when completing this form and bring it with you to the audition.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone: Home:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Age (if under 20):** \_\_\_\_\_

The above information will be used by the Festival to contact you and will be retained only if you get a role or you have indicated an interest in other aspects of the Festival. The contact information may be shared with others involved in the Festival.

If you are familiar with the plays and/or musical, you may wish to indicate which roles you are interested in auditioning for.

**I am interested in auditioning for the role(s) of:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate one of the following:**

If not chosen for the role(s) indicated, I would consider another role.

I am interested only in one of the role(s) indicated.

The Festival requires reliable contributions from people with a strong work ethic and a desire to help bring our productions to life. Of extreme importance are Assistant Stage Managers, Tech Assistants, Crew and off-stage support. We offer support and training for all of these positions. Please indicate if you wish to be considered for any of these opportunities.

Yes

No

**Please indicate specifically any conflicts you might have with the rehearsal schedule:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Your signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

You may use the reverse side to summarize any experience and/or training you have which you will bring to the Festival or you may wish to attach a resume.