

CHRIST'S COLLEGE &
RANGI RURU GIRLS' SCHOOL

AUDITION PACK

WEST SIDE STORY

Somewhere ... there's a place for us

The combined forces of Rangi Ruru Girls' School and Christ's College are launching a new production project.

One boy, one girl, two rival gangs, and a fatal love affair.

Set amidst the vicious rivalry of teenage gangs in 1950s New York, West Side Story changed the face of musical theatre forever when it burst onto the stage in 1957. The provocative finger snapping of street gangs, flexing of muscle, and the mean streetscapes evoke the age-old struggle of ordinary people trying to find their place.

Sixty years later our younger generation is still searching for solutions. Our *Somewhere Project* is about wellbeing, democracy and the future. In the final song, *Somewhere*, the cast sing of finding their place in the world - somehow, someday, somewhere.

Girls and boys in Years 11, 12 & 13 in 2018 are invited to audition for *West Side Story* on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th February, with callbacks on Waitangi Day Tuesday 6th February 2018.

Rehearsal commitments:

- Cast members are not called for all rehearsals, but must be available if called.
- It is possible that additional rehearsals could be called by negotiation.
- Throughout Term One
 - **First rehearsal:** **Sunday Feb 11th, 1pm – 5pm**
 - **Tuesday Evenings** **6.30pm to 9pm at Christ's College**
 - **Thursday Evenings** **6.30pm to 9pm at Christ's College**
 - **Sundays** **1pm – 5pm at Christ's College**
- All cast and crew and orchestra are required for **the production intensive** Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd, Friday 4th and Sunday 6th May (**RR Week 3 of holidays, CC Week 1 of Term 2**).
- In addition there will be an ORCHESTRA REFRESHER rehearsal on Tuesday 1st May at RR from 4 - 6.30pm.
- Between 6th -19th May, time commitments will increase until closing night as this co-curricular production becomes THE priority, "first among equals".

Opening Night is Wednesday 16 May, for four performances.

Audition Information
Saturday 3rd – Sunday 4th February
in the Christ's College Old Boys' Theatre

Sat 3rd February**Audition Group 1 - Girls**

Session A: 9am - 12 noon - individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour, followed by group dance 2 hours.

Session B: 10am - 1pm - group dance 2 hours, followed by individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour.

Audition Group 2 - Boys

Session C: 2pm - 5pm - individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour, followed by group dance for 2 hours.

Session D: 3pm - 6pm - group dance for 2 hours, followed by individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour.

Sun 4th February**Audition Group 3 - Boys**

Session E: 9am - 12 noon - individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour, followed by group dance 2 hours.

Session F: 10am - 1pm - group dance 2 hours, followed by individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour.

Audition Group 4 - Girls

Session G: 2pm - 5pm - individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour, followed by group dance for 2 hours.

Session H: 3pm - 6pm - group dance for 2 hours, followed by individual or pairs 5 minute singing audition slots over 1 hour.

Tue 6th Waitangi Day**Recall Auditions**

10.30 - 1pm	All character role
2pm - 3pm	Non-singing adult roles
3pm - 6pm	Principal roles

What you do at the audition:

1. Everybody will sing extracts from two songs, (provided) - you do not need to memorise them:
* **Boys:** "Jets", "Tonight Chorus" * **Girls:** "America", "Tonight Chorus"
2. If you are auditioning for a principal's role you will sing the other songs and read a short piece of script specified for that role.
You don't have to memorise the script or songs, but please be very familiar with them.
3. You will do a group dance (movement) audition, with everyone else in your session. Please bring comfortable clothing and appropriate footwear.

Auditions

- The auditions are being held at Christ's College in the OBT.
- Singing and acting auditions are solo OR in pairs. If you are auditioning for a principal role (Tony, Maria, Riff, Anita, Bernardo) you should audition as a solo. Other roles may be auditioned for in pairs if you prefer.
- If you are auditioning for a principal role, please read the character notes carefully.
- Please arrive for your audition early enough to get settled and to fill out the audition information sheet, which will be given to you on arrival.
- Your photo will also be taken.
- Be available for the whole 3 hour session. You will have some wait time, between your singing and dancing.

We are looking for strong story-telling ability through the music, energy and vitality on stage, and flexibility in approach.

Audition extra information:

- You will be taken to the audition room and introduced. You will be asked to step to a mark on the floor, introduce yourself, your song and sing. You may be recorded on video – just ignore the video camera.
- You might be asked to sing some scales or a short phrase back.
- You might be asked to read your audition script with your audition partner, or a staff member.
- You might be asked to move under direction.
- You might be asked to answer some questions about the songs, about yourself or about roles you are prepared to take in the production.
- Members of the audition panel might talk to each other while you are auditioning and might not look at you – they might be making notes, etc.

OR None of these might happen.

RECALLS: Tuesday February 6th

- Individuals will be advised of recalls for a role(s) by 5pm Monday February 5th.
- Recalls will occur from 10.30am – 6pm on Tuesday February 6th, 2018.
- People who can't come to recalls won't be considered for the specific role(s).
- We will only call back if we can't make a choice at the audition (so don't despair if your are not called back).
- Please ensure your e-mail or txt contact is accurate at time of audition!
- Recall songs will be selected from material in this audition pack.
- Casting for all roles will be announced @ 7pm on Friday February 9th.

**First rehearsal - Cast Only
Sunday 11th February 2018. 1.00 – 5.00pm
at Christ's College Assembly Hall**

**Performance season
Wednesday 16th - Saturday 19th May, 7.30pm
at Christ's College Assembly Hall**

Character and Ensemble List 2018

NAME	AGE	RANGE	NOTES
ALL GIRLS	Teen	Variety	Two groups of girls (Sharks and Jets) who are rivals over the turf that was once dominated by the Jets. All girls sing and dance. (Individual characters are part of these groups). Some have dialogue. Audition Songs are America(Chorus) , Tonight (Chorus)
ALL BOYS	Teen	Variety	Two groups of boys (Sharks and Jets) who are rivals over the turf that was once dominated by the Jets. All boys sing and dance. (Individual characters are part of these groups). Many, but not all, have dialogue. Audition Song is Jet Song , Tonight (Chorus)
Tony (audition script)	20+	Bb4 - Bb2	A romantic young man and former leader of the Jets, he has gone straight, living a new life that doesn't involve gangs. Tony finds himself violently torn between his friendships and love. Falls in love with Maria and meets an unfortunate death. He is idealistic, ready for something big to happen. Soloist. Strong tenor voice. Movement required. Auditions songs: Maria , One Hand One Heart . Jets Song
Riff (audition script1) (audition script2)	Teen	G4 - Bb2	A spritely, quick-tempered leader of the Jets. The "West Side Turf" has traditionally been the domain of the Jets. He seeks to eliminate the Sharks and establish his own gang's dominance. Edgy, loyal. Tony's best friend, he is eventually murdered by Bernardo. Soloist. Singing and Dancing required. Audition song: Cool , Jets Song
Bernardo (audition script1) (audition script2)	Teen	Eb4 – Bb2	A proud, strong, handsome Puerto Rican man. Bernardo seeks to carve out territory as a sense of identity for him and new immigrant community and his friends. Maria's brother and Anita's boyfriend. Leader of the Puerto Rican Sharks. Dark, brooding type. Soloist. Singing and Dancing required. Audition song: Tonight , Jets Song
Maria (audition script)	Teen	C6 - Bb3	Ingénue and innocent Puerto Rican young girl who is longing for something to happen. She falls in love with Tony and finds herself at the center of the violent conflict between the two gangs. Bernardo's younger sister. dress shop worker. Soloist: Strong soprano voice. Dancing required. Audition Song: I Feel Pretty , One Hand One Heart , America(Chorus) , Somewhere
Anita (audition script1) (audition script2)	Teen	Mezzo - Alto	Feisty and assertive Puerto Rican. She gives "older sister" advice to friend Maria as she watches over her and tries to shield her from the dangers of the gangs. Bernardo's girlfriend. Dress shop worker. Soloist: Strong Alto. Dancing required. Audition Song: A Boy Like That , America , Somewhere
Sharks girls: Rosalia Consuela Francisca (audition script)	Teen	Mezzo	Puerto Rican girls who are friends with both Anita and Maria. They have fiery dispositions and are very cheeky in group situations. Soloists: Strong sing and dancing required. Audition Song: I Feel Pretty , America , Somewhere

A Girl	Teen	Mezzo	One of the crowd, she sings solo, out of nowhere, "Somewhere" Audition Song: Somewhere , America(Chorus) .
Jets girls: Velma Graziella (audition script)	Teens	Speaking, ensemble singing	Two girls, confident, head strong, Exceptional dancers Audition song: America , Somewhere
Jets boys: lots of them (audition script)	Teens	Speaking, Ensemble singing	2nd-generation New Yorkers who know the turf and resent the Sharks intrusion. Support Riff and expect Tony to be on their side. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: easily angered and excited • Diesel: toughest of the gang • A-Rab: the weary one of the gang • Baby-John: youngest • Big Deal: hangs around with Diesel • Ice: Cool, calm, collected • Others All dance and sing as ensemble Audition Song is Jets Song
Anybody's (audition script)	Teen girl	Speaking, ensemble singing	Spunky tomboy who is desperate to become a member of the Jets. the other Jets mock her ambition but enjoy her company. Full of energy and heart. Audition song: America(Chorus) , Jets Song
Sharks girls: Teresita Estella etc (audition script)	Teen girls	Ensemble singing	Newly arrived immigrants to New York, who are establishing their own community with other Puerto Rican Sharks. All dance and sing as ensemble. Audition song: America(Chorus) , Somewhere .
Sharks boys: Chino Pepe Indio etc (audition script)	Teen boys	Ensemble singing	Newly arrived immigrants to New York, who are establishing their own community with other Sharks. All dance and sing as ensemble. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chino: young, shy • Pepe: Bernado's right hand man, Consuelo's boyfriend Audition Song is Jets Song
Male actors: Doc Krupke Schrank Glad Hand (audition script)	Adult males	Character roles,	Doc: Serious, owner of drug store where Tony works Schrank: Police lieutenant Krupke: Bigoted neighbourhood cop Glad Hand: Social worker and dance hall chaperone No song/dance required.

[Click here to access the audition booking form](#)

Introducing our musical

In May 2018 the multiple Tony Award-winning Broadway musical that is *West Side Story* will hit the Christ's College stage - led by a Rangī Ruru / Christ's College megacast who'll be taking on all the classics with emotionally-charged favourites like *Maria*, *Tonight*, *America* and *I Feel Pretty*. The entire company and audience will fall into the whirling, finger-snapping world of mambo, rock 'n' roll and jazz, telling a love story that's unmatched in intensity.

The tale of star-crossed lovers riffs on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, except this 60-year-old production – which *The Times* called 'Broadway's greatest dance musical' – is set in the darker reaches of 1950s New York, where a relationship is forced apart by a vicious rivalry between two street gangs: the Jets and the Sharks, whose arrival from Puerto Rico threatens to upset the hierarchy in the area. In the sweltering New York summer that's heated as much by the gang rivalry as by the weather, a forbidden romance quickly develops.

Contacts:

Hannah Clarkson	Choreographer, RR	h.clarkson@rangiruru.school.nz
Peter Rutherford	Co-director, RR	p.rutherford@rangiruru.school.nz
Janet Kingsbury	Musical Director, RR	j.kingsbury@rangiruru.school.nz
Helen Charlton	Vocal Director RR	sing@helencharlton.co.nz
David Chambers	Co-director, CC	dchambers@christcollege.com
Grant Bennett	Technical Director, CC	gbennett@christcollege.com
Robyn Peers	Production Manager, CC	rpeers@christcollege.com

Christ's College & Rangī Ruru Girls' School SENIOR Production 2018
Opening May 16th

CAST Rehearsals

You must attend all rehearsals, as this musical is demanding and technically difficult. It will require a lot of individual work, plenty of practice and dedication and commitment. Only an effective and hard working team will succeed and the success of the show relies upon every member being present.

1. Be in 10 minutes before rehearsal starts
2. No cell phone use or talking in rehearsal spaces
3. Respect and support other performers
4. Bring pencil and script to every rehearsal
5. Emergency apologies to RMP: 027 233 4051. More than **three** absences are unacceptable.

You are making a firm commitment to this production and you must re-organise any other commitments so that you can attend. If you have other major school commitments you must negotiate with the staff concerned. You must also be aware that as the performance dates approach the frequency and length of rehearsals will increase. You can expect that in the last two weeks before the performances, this should be the only thing you are doing out of school time.

Rehearsal Intensive

Wednesday 2nd May - Friday 4th May and Sunday 6th May at Rangī Ruru.

Attendance is mandatory.

The first term holidays are different for each school.

Christ's College: There are no rehearsals during your two week holiday. We have permission for the intensive to happen during school time in Week 1 of Term 2.

Rangī Ruru: The intensive rehearsal during the Rangī holidays is at the end of the third week of your holidays Wednesday 2nd May - Friday 4th May and on Sunday 6th May, so check with your parents if they have made any holiday arrangements.

Holiday Crew Workdays

Work on the stage and technical rig will take place between Wednesday 18th April - Sunday 22nd April. Attendance is **mandatory** for those wishing to be part of the crew (unless you have another in-school commitment). The purpose of the workdays is to prepare the rehearsal space, clear the stage, assemble rehearsal props, and get everything ready for Term 2. Cast can volunteer to help during this time.

Your script/score

It is important that you look after **your** numbered script/score and that you understand that it is your responsibility to bring it to each rehearsal and return it on the specified date. You may mark the script with useful notes and stage directions but this must be done in **pencil**. Do not use a highlighter pen to indicate your parts on the scripts.

If you damage or lose your script, you will be charged on account for a replacement.

COMPANY EXPECTATIONS

Every member of the RR/CC *West Side Story* production team will be working exceptionally hard to ensure a high quality and professional production. During the production period you will:

- Attend all rehearsals as called, including the intensive rehearsals and occasional negotiated extras.
- Be on time for all rehearsals.
- Miss no more than three rehearsals. You must negotiate absence well in advance.
- Never use “the musical” as an excuse for missing academic deadlines
- Keep up with your school work
- Keep up to date with information through email, Facebook group and school notices.
- Learn your lines, practise your songs.
- Have scripts down before the end of Term 1, Tuesday 10th April.
- Know where you should be on stage.
- Remain focused when on stage.
- Be a part of a team and be aware of the needs of other members of the team.
- Fully promote the show on behalf of the company.
- Enjoy yourself.

COMPANY ETIQUETTE

Please:

- Respect rehearsal space – keep it tidy
- Respect performers, technicians and production staff
- No put downs
- No idle chatter in rehearsal spaces
- No cell phones during rehearsals
- No chewing gum – it’s dangerous when singing and dancing
- No going into backstage areas, technical or band areas without permission
- No-one in fly-floors or lofts without permission
- Bring your own clearly marked drink bottle
- Bring scripts and soft 2B pencils to every rehearsal – no biro or highlighters
- Rehearsal spaces and designated green room areas are the only spaces used during the rehearsal

We will do our best to maximise rehearsal times – we need you to as well.

A balance is **needed** between academic, sporting, cultural and spiritual commitments. You need to use your time wisely to ensure you keep everything under control.

The School Rules of each school apply during the rehearsal and performance periods.

Christ's College & Rangī Ruru Girls' School SENIOR Production 2018

CAST CONTRACT

Name:

I have read the "Company Expectations & Etiquette" and agree to abide by them. I understand that there will be consequences if I do not meet them, and I may be asked to leave the company if I have more than three unjustified absences.

I understand that the rehearsals up until May will occur on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays and that I must make the rehearsals a **priority** if called.

I understand that there will be **Intensive** Rehearsals Wednesday 2nd May - Friday 4th May and on Sunday 6th May.

I understand that I have to be available as required between Monday May 7th - Sunday May 20th.

I will notify you of any changes to contact details as they occur.

Student signature:

I understand the commitment required for this exciting production. I agree that my son/daughter has read the rules of the Company and that s/he will be available for Intensive rehearsals as outlined above as well as the regular rehearsal pattern throughout Term One. (Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday). I also understand that the first weeks of Term 2 (until 20 May) are going to demand more time.

Parent Signature:

Please return to:

Robyn Peers

rpeers@christcollege.com

Mobile 027 233 4051

Christ's College & Rangī Ruru Girls' School SENIOR Production 2018
Opening 16 May

FRIENDS OF DRAMA SUPPORT

The production team for *West Side Story* is on the lookout for parents from RR and CC who are keen to assist with the production. We need the many and varied talents that parents can provide.

Please consider how you can help us to help our students to realise the dream!

I can assist with

- Wardrobe
- Set construction
- Makeup
- Props construction
- Hairdressing
- Promotions and publicity
- Painting
- Programme sponsorship
- Other _____

Parent's Name:

Phone number:

Email address:

Please return to:

David Chambers

dchambers@christscollege.com

Peter Rutherford

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