



Albury Wodonga Theatre Company

The Wizard of OZ

AUDITION PACK

Production Team

Director Lisa Cullen

Musical Director Katja Jorgensen

Choreographer Caitlin Clarke

THE WIZARD OF OZ

By L. Frank Baum

With Music and Lyrics

by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg

Background Music by Herbert Stothart

Dance and Vocal Arrangements by Peter Howard

Orchestration by Larry Wilcox

Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company

Based upon the Classic Motion Picture owned by

Turner Entertainment Co. and distributed in all media by
Warner Bros.

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AWTCo's production of "*The Wizard of Oz*" will be performed at the Albury Entertainment Centre May 13 - 21, 2022. Rehearsals are usually held at the AWTCo's Olive Street Theatre on Sundays 1pm – 5pm and Tuesday & Wednesday evenings 7pm – 11pm. Production week will be in the week beginning May 8 with a call time at the theatre of 6pm to approximately 9 pm. All cast are required to attend all rehearsals in production week.

The Wizard of Oz, L. Frank Baum's classic 1900 children's novel, has received many iterations on stage. L. Frank Baum himself created the first adaptation, a musical extravaganza that drew from theatre, operetta, and vaudeville. This production is only loosely based on the events of the novel. It was immensely successful, playing on Broadway and touring the United States for seven years. In 1945, a new adaptation of the story was produced at [The Muny](#). This production stuck closer to its source material, with a few changes, and used most of the 1939 film's successful song list.

In the mid-1980s, the Royal Shakespeare Company commissioned a new adaptation of *The Wizard of Oz*, seeking to create a family-friendly show that could be performed annually during the winter holiday season. In 1986, John Kane was approached to pen the book of the musical. This adaptation is the most faithful to the 1939 film; the RSC obtained the rights so as to incorporate the film's script in its entirety. Some music that had been cut from the film was reintegrated into the show: another verse of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and the cut song "The Jitterbug."

The Albury Wodonga Theatre Company is very pleased to present this production.

SYNOPSIS

Act I

Dorothy Gale, a young girl living on a Kansas farm with her Aunt Em and Uncle Henry, dreams of escaping her mundane life ("Over The Rainbow"). The family's mean neighbour, Miss Gulch, threatens to impound Dorothy's cherished dog, Toto, so Dorothy and Toto run away. They meet up with kindly Professor Marvel, who subtly convinces Dorothy to return home. Suddenly a cyclone hits, and Dorothy and Toto, seeking shelter in the house, are transported to the Land of Oz.

In Oz, Dorothy meets Glinda, the Good Witch of the North (who has an uncanny resemblance to Aunt Em). Apparently, Dorothy's house has landed upon – and fatally stricken – the Wicked Witch of the East. The Munchkins, now freed from the Wicked Witch of the East, celebrate and hail Dorothy as their new heroine ("Ding Dong! The Witch Is Dead/Munchkin Musical Sequence"). The celebration is interrupted as the Wicked Witch of the West suddenly appears, seeking vengeance. Unable to reclaim her sister's shoes, which are now on Dorothy's feet, the Witch vows to return and disappears in a cloud of smoke. Dorothy, seeking a way back home to Kansas, sets off to see the Wizard of Oz ("Follow the Yellow Brick Road").

Along the way, Dorothy meets three new friends, each of whom lacks a crucial characteristic: The Scarecrow ("If I Only Had A Brain") The Tinman ("If I Only Had A Heart") and the Lion ("If I Only Had The Nerve"). Together, the four new companions make their way towards Oz ("We're Off To See The Wizard"). The Witch attempts to sedate the travellers with a poisonous field of poppies, but Glinda reverses the spell with healing snowflakes ("Poppies/Optimistic Voices").

Act II

The travellers, arriving at the Emerald City, are delayed by a stubborn Gatekeeper, but Dorothy's tears convince him to relent and let them in ("Merry Old Land Of Oz"). As the group awaits its audience with the Wizard, the Lion boasts he is "King Of The Forest." Finally, they meet the imposing and irritable Wizard, who demands the broomstick of the Wicked Witch of the West.

The four friends travel deep into the haunted forest. Suddenly, they encounter jitterbugs, who make them [tap] dance until they collapse from exhaustion ("Jitterbug"). The Wicked Witch's flying monkeys swoop down, capturing Dorothy and Toto. At the castle, the Witch vows to take Dorothy's life. Meanwhile, the Lion, Scarecrow, and Tinman infiltrate the castle disguised as Winkie guards. The foursome and Toto are reunited, but the Wicked Witch interferes, threatening the Scarecrow with fire. Dorothy, dousing the flames with a bucket of water, accidentally strikes the Witch, who smoulders and melts into nothing ("Ding Dong The Witch Is Dead – Reprise"). The four friends, triumphant, take the Witch's broom back to the Wizard.

The Wizard remains imperious and imposing, but Toto pulls aside a curtain to reveal a meek and ordinary man speaking into a microphone. The Wizard, revealed to be a "humbug," nonetheless grants each traveller's request, giving the Scarecrow, the Tinman, and the Lion each a token of his newly acquired ability. The Wizard offers to take Dorothy back to Kansas in his hot-air balloon, but the balloon accidentally takes off, and Dorothy is left alone and crestfallen. Glinda appears and explains that Dorothy has always had the power to return home. All she must do is close her eyes, tap her heels together three times, and repeat to herself, "There's no place like home."

Back in Kansas, Dorothy awakens, confused, with a bump on her head. Reunited with all her loved ones, and relieved to learn the storm has left Miss Gulch incapacitated by a broken leg, Dorothy shares the tale of her miraculous journey, celebrating the joy and healing power of home.

AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th November, 2021 at the Olive Street Theatre, 234 Olive St, Albury. Book your audition online at <https://awtco.org.au/>.

Call backs will be held as required. You'll be notified as soon as possible after your singing audition if you will be required for a call back. At this time we intend to hold the call back one evening of the week beginning 8th November, 2021.

To be eligible to audition you must be turning 12, or older, in 2022.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Singing (all roles)

Auditionees should prepare one of the songs from "*The Wizard of Oz*" for their audition as per the information in this pack and be consistent with the character you are auditioning for. Please be aware that you may not get to sing all of your song. We are expecting large numbers of people to audition, so if the Audition Panel feels they have heard enough to determine your vocal quality they may stop you mid note. This should not be taken as any indicator of whether you will or will not be cast!!

Dancing

While some roles do not require dancing, there is a lot of dancing in "*The Wizard of Oz*" and we'd like to see how everyone moves. A separate dance audition will be held after the singing auditions on Sunday 7th November 2021 at the Olive Street Theatre:

- Auditionees for principal roles @ 3.00pm – 4.00pm
- Other roles and ensemble @ 4.00pm – 5.00pm

VIDEO AUDITIONS

Video auditions will be considered under some circumstances. Please contact AWTCo directly to discuss this option.

COVID-19

AWTCo has a COVID-19 plan and will follow all current Public Health orders to stay COVID safe. There is an expectation that all cast members abide by these requirements and also with the Albury Entertainment Centre policies when we are in the theatre

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL AUDITIONEES

- AWTCo is an equal opportunity organisation.
- No roles have been pre-cast.
- Audition time is strictly limited so use your time to show the panel what you can do. No extra time will be available. The panel will be looking for vocal quality, range and pitch as well as dramatic and movement ability.
- Audition pieces should be well prepared. Remember, it is in your own interests to present yourself well.
- Backing tracks will be provided.
- All auditions are private and may only be attended by the panel and auditionees.
- Your singing audition will take about 5 mins and consists of you singing your selected song for the panel. The panel will evaluate your song on what we hear. We know what we are looking for, so don't be concerned if you are not required to sing an entire song.
- In compliance with the AWTCo COVID-19 plan, please do not attend the auditions if you are unwell.
- Please printout and complete the last 2 pages of this document and attach your headshot and bring this with you to your audition.
- All auditionees will be notified of the outcome of their audition as soon as possible. Please do not contact us, we will definitely contact you via the email address you provided. Cast announcement will occur via our website, <https://awtco.org.au/>, and our Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/awtco> ASAP.
- Cast are required to commit to all rehearsals. Please provide us with any dates you are not available during the rehearsal process on the audition form. Absences may necessitate replacing you in the production.
- There is a plan to fly the Witches and one Flying Monkey which will require additional training at the Flying Fruit Fly Circus gym and additional rehearsal in the theatre for these roles.
- Cast must adhere to the company code of conduct at all times
- No photos or videos of rehearsals, costumes, props, or choreography are to be published (**particularly on social media**) without the express consent of the AWTCo Committee or production team.
- AWTCo reserves the right to take photographs of cast members for casting, costumes, make up, publicity and program purpose and these may be used in any form of media
- Cast will be required to provide their own hosiery, basic make up and shoes

Please note that AWTCo reserves the right, at its sole and absolute discretion, to not cast any role from these auditions if, in the opinion of the Audition Panel, the right person for the role is not found. In this event AWTCo may pursue other means to fill a vacant role.

SONG LIST

Act One

- Overture - Orchestra and Girls Chorus
- Over the Rainbow - Dorothy
- Munchkin Musical Sequence
- Yellow Brick Road - Munchkins (featured soloists: Mayor, Coroner, Fiddler)
- If I Only Had a Brain - Scarecrow, Dorothy, 3 Crows
- We're Off to See the Wizard - Dorothy and Scarecrow
- If I Only Had a Heart - Tin Man, Dorothy, and 3 Trees
- We're Off to See the Wizard (Trio) - Dorothy, Scarecrow, and Tin Man
- Lions, Tigers, and Bears - Dorothy, Tin Man, and Scarecrow
- If I Only Had the Nerve - Lion, Dorothy, Scarecrow, and Tin Man
- We're Off to See the Wizard (Quartet) - Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Lion
- Poppies - Glinda and Female Ensemble
- Act I Finale - Glinda, Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, Glinda, and Ensemble

Act Two

- Entr'acte - Orchestra and Girls Chorus
- Merry Old Land of Oz - Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, Emerald City Guard, Ozians (featured: Beauticians, Polishers, and Manicurists)
- King of the Forest - Lion, Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man
- March of the Winkies - Winkies
- Jitterbug - Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, and Jitterbugs
- March of the Winkies (Reprise) - Winkies
- Somewhere Over the Rainbow (Reprise) – Dorothy
- Ding Dong! The Witch is Dead (Reprise) – Winkies

AUDITION SONGS

Choose from the following:

- Over the Rainbow
- Jitterbug (for Dorothy)
- If I Only Had a Brain
- If I Only Had a Heart
- King of the Forest
- Poppies
- Wicked Witch is Dead: 2:22-2:56 min of the Munchkin Musical Sequence
- Jitterbug (for ensemble): 2:50-3:41 min
- Merry Old Land of Oz: 1:53-2:40 min

All tracks can be found here: <https://bit.ly/wizardtracks>

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS and VOCAL RANGES*Please refer to this as a guide only!*

Principal Cast	Voice Type/Range	Brief Character Description	Dialogue	Dance
Dorothy Gale Youthful female.	Mezzo/mix Low G – E Very strong singer with full sound.	Must have the look of appropriate age. A young and sprightly girl. Dorothy must be likeable –a bit of a dreamer, very caring but also very strong willed. Base her character as portrayed in the film.	Dorothy very rarely leaves the stage – so there is a lot of dialogue!	Not too much dance for Dorothy – but dance experience preferable. Must be comfortable and natural on stage (with dog – Toto).
The Scarecrow- Potential to double as Farmhand, Hank.	Strong Baritone up to F# (Opt Ab) with excellent musical timing.	Despite his perceived lack of brains, the Scarecrow is exceedingly intelligent and resourceful. This is important and must come across in characterisation. He is also very funny, loveable, and friendly. In movement, the Scarecrow must be very energetic and flexible, depicting a man without bones. If playing 'Hank' in the first scene –the audience must see some of the character he will become in Oz.	Also plays farmhand 'Hank', so apart from 'Munchkinland' & 'Over the Rainbow', is onstage throughout the show.	Major dance part. Needs to be a very natural mover, agile and light on feet.
Farmhand Hank		'Hank' must show the audience a glimpse of the character he will become in Oz. (Scarecrow)	If the role is not doubled this will become an Ensemble Role	

Tinman -Potential to double as farmhand, Hickory.	Strong Baritone/Tenor to G	Despite his belief that he lacks emotion, the Tinman proves himself a most tender, loveable, and caring travel companion. This is important, as the moral of the story reveals in the end that the three friends had what they were seeking all along. The Tinman's movement is very rigid and requires the actor to embrace this body language and movement. If he also plays 'Hickory' in the first scene we should see hints of the character he will become in Oz.	As 'Hickory' and Tinman, is onstage throughout the show except for: 'Munchkinland', 'Over the Rainbow', & Dorothy's meeting of the Scarecrow.	Light choreography required – the costume and characterisation will restrict dance movement.
Farmhand Hickory		'Hickory' must show the audience a glimpse of the character he will become in Oz. (Tinman)	If the role is not doubled this will become an Ensemble Role	
Cowardly Lion -Potential to double as farmhand, Zeke.	Strong Baritone to F. Excellent musical comic timing required.	The cowardly Lion is the main comedy character in the show and must be a strong comedy performer with excellent comic timing. Characterisation and body language is very important to portray his larger than life, loveable personality. Movement – agile and animal like – model from the movie. When playing 'Zeke' in the opening scene – the audience must see	As 'Zeke' and Lion is onstage throughout the show except for: 'Munchkinland', 'Over the Rainbow', & Dorothy's meeting of the Scarecrow and The Tinman.	Light Choreography.

		some of the character he will become in Oz.		
Farmhand Zeke		'Zeke' must show the audience a glimpse of the character he will become in Oz. (Cowardly Lion)	If the role is not doubled this will become an Ensemble Role	
Glinda – Good Witch of the North -Potential to double as Aunt Em/Emily Gale Adult Female	Experienced Mezzo/Soprano (G to Middle C) Strong singer.	Glinda is a pretty and 'over-smiley' good witch. She is exceptionally friendly and a mother or queen figure to the Munchkins. She speaks well and portrays a stance and presence of Royalty.	Glinda appears in 'Munchkinland', end of Act 1 and again at the end of the show.	Non-dancing role.
Aunt Em/Emily Gale Adult Female		Dorothy's Aunt is sturdy and hard-working. An older woman under pressure – caring for her farm and young niece. Aunty Em is a mother hen type character who cares greatly but is quite stern in her style of communication.	Aunty Em appears in open of the show. Will be added into Ensemble if not doubled as Glinda	Non-dancing role.

Wicked Witch of the West- Potential to double as Almira Gultch Adult female	Sings comically but doesn't require a 'trained' voice.	This is a super and challenging part. One of the greatest female baddies of all time! A serious villain, she has no nice qualities – evil through and through! She must be strong with a good speaking voice. Characterisation and body language are huge here. If doubled, we must see the clear link between Mrs. Almira Gultch and the Wicked Witch.	Appears throughout most of the show – once we land in OZ	Non-dancing role.
Almira Gulch Adult female		Cameo part needs to work closely with the Witch to show an obvious link	Appears at the start of the show and will become an Ensemble Part if not doubled	
The Wizard of OZ / Professor Marvel Adult Male	Non-singing role	Strong cameo role. An older man would be preferable here. He is likeable but a bit of a rogue. A strong, commanding presence is needed in both roles.	Appears in Act 1 as the professor and Act 2 as the Wizard of Oz.	Non-dancing role.
Emerald City Guard / Uncle Henry Gale Adult Male	Baritone Strong comic vocalist with big presence.	Guard – A quirky, comic type character, a great cameo role. Strong comic acting required. Uncle Henry – A kind and caring old man, wise to the ways of the world. A very likeable character.		

From the Chorus

Three Cows Male trio

Three Trees Teen / adult female trio,

Teen roles

Munchkin Mayor - must be able to speak rhythmically.

Munchkin Coroner - must be able to speak rhythmically.

Munchkin Fiddler

Three Munchkin Tots

Three Tough Munchkin Kids

(Munchkins double as flying monkeys Act II)

SATB Chorus

Ozians - male & female citizens of Oz

Jitterbugs – must have strong dance skills

Munchkins – must be able to move well as a group

Nikko (Commander of the monkeys) - good pantomime and has a unique squeal / vocalization gibberish of the spoken word.

Popikins, Beauticians, Manicurists - girls

Snowmen, Polishers and Winkles - boys

AUDITION EXERPTS

Each auditioner must choose only ONE of the following excerpts to perform solo at audition and it is recommended you prepare an excerpt that correspond with the role you're auditioning for. Memorization of your choice is preferred but not required. Ability to best demonstrate your chosen character with appropriate voice & expression and proper posture & body movements determines casting. Director may request you perform another excerpt in addition to your selection, but only expects you to memorize your choice. All casting comes from these excerpts.

Dorothy

Auntie Em! Auntie Em! Just listen to what Miss Gulch did to Toto! She hit him right over the back with a rake just because she says he gets in her garden and chases her nasty, old cat. But he doesn't do it every day—just once or twice a week. And he can't catch her old cat, anyway. And now she says she's gonna get the sherriff, and—what am I going to do?

Hank and Scarecrow

(As Hank) Now lookit, Dorothy, you ain't using your head about Miss Gulch. Think you didn't have any brains at all.

(As Scarecrow) It's very tedious being stuck up here with a pole up your back. But if you'll bend the nail down, maybe I'll slip off and ... (falls down). Whhhooops! Haha! There goes some of me again! I just keep picking it up and putting it back in again.

Hickory and Tinman

(As Hickory) Hurry 'fore my arms are pulled clear out of their sockets. I ain't a statue, you know. I ain't made of iron.

(As Tinman) About a year ago I was chopping that tree, minding my own business, when suddenly it started to rain and right in the middle of a chop. I rusted solid. And I've been that way ever since.

Zeke and Cowardly Lion

(As Zeke) Listen, kid, that old Gulch ain't nothing to be afraid of. Have a little courage, that's all.

(As Lion) Put 'em up! Put 'em up! I'll fight you with one paw tied behind my back. I'll fight you standing on one foot. I'll fight you with my eyes closed. (Dorothy smacks nose). Whadcha do that for? I didn't bite him! You didn't have to go and hit me, did you? Is my nose bleeding?

Glinda

Well, I'm a little muddled. The Munchkins called me because a new witch has dropped a house on the Wicked Witch of the East. And there's the house, and here you are, and that's all that's left of the Wicked Witch of the East. And so what Munchkins want to know is ... are you a good witch, or a bad witch?

Aunt Em

Almira Gulch, just because you own half the county doesn't mean you have the power to run the rest of us! For 23 years, I've been dying to tell you what I thought of you! And now ... being a Christian woman, I can't say it!

Miss Gulch and Wicked Witch

(As Gulch) That dog's a menace to the community. I'm taking him to the sheriff and make sure he's destroyed! There's a law protecting folks against dogs that bite! Unless you want to go against the law.

(As Witch) As for you, my fine lady, just try to stay out of my way! Just try! I'll get you, my pretty, and your little dog, too! (Cackle)

Professor Marvel and Wizard of Oz

(As Marvel) Leaving so soon? Wait, wait! Don't tell me! You are ... running away! Haha! Professor Marvel never guesses, he knows! Now gaze into the crystal ball with me ...

(As Wizard) Universities are where men go to become great thinkers. And they have no more brains than you. Therefore, I hereby confer upon you, the honorary degree of Th.D. ... Doctor of Thinkology!

Uncle Henry

(to Miss Gulch) Well if you don't want to hear what I have to say about you, you better pedal your carcass offa my land! You have friends in high places? Why don't you climb on broomstick and go visit 'em.

(to Dorothy) I'm sorry, we can't be against the law, Dorothy.

All other roles (All Munchkins & Ensemble)

As Mayor of the Munchkin City,
In the County of the Land of Oz,
I welcome you most regally!
Let the joyous news be spread.
The Wicked Old Witch at last is dead!

REHEARSAL INFORMATION

Location: Unless otherwise notified, rehearsals are held at the Olive Street Theatre, 234 Olive St, Albury.

Performance Theatre Location: Albury Entertainment Centre, Swift St, Albury.

Meet & Greet: Date to be confirmed.

Rehearsals will start February 2022:

Rehearsals are held at the following times. A detailed schedule will be provided and in the early stages of rehearsal you may not be required for all rehearsals.

Tuesday nights - 6.00pm to 9.00pm

Wednesday nights – 6.00pm to 9.00pm

Sunday afternoons - 1.00pm to 5.00pm

Bump In: Sunday, 8th May 2022 (All volunteers welcome) / **Bump Out** Sunday, May 22 after final performance

Production Week Rehearsals: (Cast required for all rehearsals)

- Monday 9 May – Full rehearsal
- Tuesday 10 May – Dress rehearsal
- Wednesday 11 May – Dress and tech rehearsal
- Thursday 12 May - TBA

Performances: Up to 7 performances (maximum) with 2 matinees

- Opening Night Friday 13 May
- Closing Night Saturday 21 May

The number of performances will depend on COVID restriction at the time

Call times in the theatre will be 2 hours prior to start times unless otherwise notified.

Cast members are expected to attend for any photo calls, costume fittings, publicity and promotional events as required. These dates will be notified asap.

Show Fees: Fees for cast are set at \$40 comprising AWTCo show membership, insurance, tea & coffee during rehearsals, and a show t-shirt.

Fees are payable at the 'Meet & Greet'.

Audition Form 2021



Song _____

Name

Address:

Phone: Mobile: E-Mail

Role you are auditioning for:

Will you accept another role: Y N

Will you accept a place in the ensemble: Y N

Do you read music: Y N Play an instrument: Y N Dance: Y N

List your experience & training here or attach CV.

List your dance training and experience.

Are you auditioning for another production: Y N Are you in another production: Y N

Are you available to Rehearse on Tuesday & Wednesday evenings & Sunday PM: Y N

List any dates you are unavailable:

T-Shirt size: Female _____ or Male _____

Please be sure that you are prepared to give this production your **FULL commitment!** To present a professional standard of production, **we expect the cast to approach it professionally, in every way!**

We require you to **attend all rehearsals** as called and devote time to develop your acting, singing & movement skills to convincingly portray your character. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be issued regularly giving adequate notice of your required rehearsal calls attendance.

All scheduled rehearsals MUST be attended! Absences disrupt the rehearsal process.

NOTE: Absences may necessitate replacing you in the production!

To meet the above criteria the following must be agreed to:

- Attend rehearsals as called.
- Contribute to the production enthusiastically.
- Take direction.
- Wear costumes, wigs & makeup as directed.
- Attend publicity/photo calls.
- Attend working bees as rostered.
- Supply footwear as directed by wardrobe coordinator.
- Always give your full co-operation to the production team.
- Attend costume calls.
- Arrive on time (10 minutes before start time) to start promptly.
- Follow any COVID-19 directions from AWTCo, or it's representatives.
- Maintain a positive and supportive attitude towards the company and the production team!

I have read the above and, if accepted into the production, I agree to abide by these criteria.

I agree to have my name listed on the cast list to be published on the AWTCo web sites & used for other publicity. YES NO

Signed Date