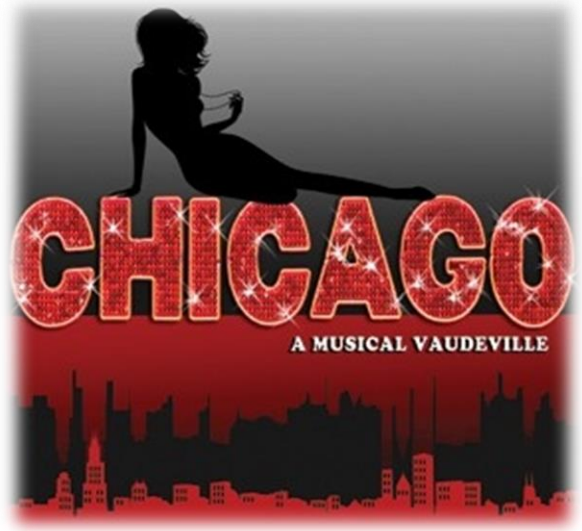




## Presents: Chicago

The Gisborne War Memorial Theatre.  
19 to 27 May 2023

Director/Choreographer: Dean McKerras  
Musical Director: Sean Scanlen



### The Show – Synopsis

Broadway's longest-running American musical, Chicago is a dazzling and satirical look at fame, justice, and the media machine. Set in 1920s Chicago and based on real-life murders and trials, Chicago follows Roxie Hart, a wannabe vaudevillian star who murders her lover and is arrested, despite her attempts to convince her pushover husband, Amos, to lie for her. In the Cook County Jail, Roxie meets her hero, the famed double-murderess and nightclub performer Velma Kelly. When both acquire the same lawyer, the greedy and lustful superstar, Billy Flynn, tensions come to a head as they vie for the spotlight-- though instead of onstage, they're mugging for the flashbulb of the newspaper reporters. With catchy, sexy music and timeless lyrics by John Kander and Fred Ebb, and a funny, intelligent, and utterly engaging book by Kander and Bob Fosse, Chicago is a musical spectacular that is as addictive as gossip rags and as unforgettable as any trial of the century.

### Production Dates

Chicago will be on stage at the Gisborne War Memorial Theatre on Bright Street;  
Friday 19 May through to Saturday 27 May 2023.  
Sunday 21 May will be a Matinee performance  
There is no show on the evening of Monday 22 May.  
All cast members must be available for all shows.

### Character/Role Descriptions

Note the ages listed are the stage age of the character and not necessarily your actual age.

- **Roxie Hart: Female, 20-30 (Range: Mezzo-Soprano, F3-B4)**

Reads and keeps up with murder trials in Chicago, and follows suit by murdering her lover, Fred Casely. She stops at nothing to render a media storm with one goal: to get away with it. **Audition song: Roxie (The Name on Everybody's lips)**

- **Velma Kelly: Female, 25-40 (Range: Alto, E3-D5)**

Vaudeville performer who is accused of murdering her sister and husband. Hardened by fame, she cares for no one but herself and her attempt to get away with murder. **Audition Song: All that Jazz**

- **Billy Flynn: Male, 35-50 (Range: Baritone, Bb2-G4)**

Established lawyer who hasn't lost a woman's case yet. Master of media manipulation who will get a girl off the hook as long as she can fork up the hefty \$5,000 fee. **Audition song: Razzle Dazzle:**

- **Matron "Mama" Morton: Female, 30-50 (Range: Alto, F#3-Bb4)**

Leader of the prisoners of Cook County Jail. The total essence of corruption. Accepts bribes for favours from laundry service to making calls to lawyers. "When you're good to Mama, Mama's good to you."

**Audition Song: When You're Good to Mama**

- **Amos Hart: Male, 30-50 (Range: Baritone, C3-F#4)**

Roxie's faithful husband. Lies for her and tries to take the blame until he realizes that he has been two-timed by Roxie. Still in love with her, or misguided, he believes anything she says in her pursuit to get out of jail.

**Audition song: Mr Cellophane**

- **Mary Sunshine: Female or x dressing Male, 25-55 (Range: Soprano, Bb3-Bb5)**

Sob sister reporter from the Evening Star. Believes there is a little bit of good in everyone and will believe anything she is fed that matches her beliefs. **Audition song: A Little Bit of Good**

- **Fred Casely: Male, 30-50 (Range: Ensemble/Part Flexible)**

Roxie's short-lived lover. Murdered for trying to leave Roxie. **Audition song: Any of the songs listed**

- **Martin Harrison: Male, 35-55 (Range: Ensemble/Part Flexible)**

Ensemble member who doubles as the Master of Ceremonies at times. **Audition Song: Any of the songs listed**

- **Sergeant Fogarty: Male, 35-55 (Range: Ensemble/Part Flexible)**

Assigned to Roxie's case. After asking the right questions, he manages to get Roxie to confess.

**Audition song: Any of the songs listed**

- **Liz: Female, 18-45 (Range: Ensemble, A3-C#5)**

Prisoner at Cook County Jail. She is imprisoned after shooting two warning shots into her husband's head.

**Audition song: All that Jazz or Roxie. Be familiar with Cell Block Tango**

- **Annie: Female, 18-45 (Range: Ensemble, A3-C#5)**

Prisoner at the Cook County Jail. Murders her lover after finding out he already has six wives. "One of those Mormons, ya' know."

**Audition song: All that Jazz or Roxie. Be familiar with Cell Block Tango**

- **June: Female, 18-45 (Range: Ensemble, A3-C#5)**

Prisoner at Cook County Jail. After her husband accuses her of screwing the milk man, he mysteriously runs into her knife ten times. **Audition song: All that Jazz or Roxie. Be familiar with Cell Block Tango.**

- **Hunyak: Female, 25-45 (Range: Ensemble, A3-C#5)**

Hungarian Prisoner at Cook County Jail. The only English she speaks is the phrase, "Not Guilty." Which follows her to her grave. **Audition song: All that Jazz or Roxie. Be familiar with Cell Block Tango.**

- **Mona: Female, 18-45 (Range: Ensemble, A3-C#5)**

Prisoner at Cook County Jail. Murders her lover after he has a round of affairs with other woman, and an occasional man. I guess you could say it was "artistic differences." **Audition Song: All that Jazz or Roxie. Be familiar with Cell Block Tango.**

- **Female Ensemble - Audition Song: All that Jazz or Roxie (The Name on Everybody's lips)**
- **Male Ensemble – Audition song: either Mr Cellophane or Razzle Dazzle**

## Pre – Audition Information Evening

Sunday 13 November 2022, 5.00 pm.

Musical Theatre Gisborne Clubrooms.

101 Innes Street, Awapuni, Gisborne.

We encourage everyone who wants to be part of this production to attend this session. It will allow you to ask questions, learn about the show, meet the Musical Director and the production team, and meet the Director by video link. It will give you a good indication of the commitment necessary for this spectacular show.

## Audition and Rehearsal Information

**Please read all information carefully.**

It is intended that the show will be cast from those people presenting themselves at the auditions. No role is pre-cast. All those 16 years and over are welcome to audition.

## Audition Dates

### Friday 9 December 2022

Check in @ Hot Rod Club directly in front of MTG

From 4.45 pm.	All - For ID cards and individual photos.
5.30 pm - 7.15 pm.	All - Individual vocal auditions. Book a time slot.
7.30 pm - 8.30 pm	Dance workshop – <b>All auditionees.</b>
9.00pm - 10.00 pm	All - Individual vocal auditions continue. Book a time slot.

### Saturday 10 December 2022

10.00 am -11.00 am	Individual vocal auditions as required. Book a time slot.
11.00 am -12.00 pm	<b>All auditionees</b> for dance audition
1.00 pm - 2.30 pm	Female Principal roles
2.30 pm - 3.30 pm	Male Principal roles
4.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Call backs

All those auditioning **MUST** be available for call backs if needed.

### Sunday 11 December 2022

10.00 am – 2.00 pm	Call backs as required.
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## Preparation for Auditions

For all those auditioning it is important that you prepare by being familiar with the songs from the show. If you wish to audition to be part of the ensemble rather than a main role, then you sing a song from the ensemble song list for your vocal audition. You do not need to learn any dialogue to audition for the ensemble.

Everyone must fill out the on-line audition application form and you will then be allocated a time slot for your individual audition.

All those auditioning for Principal roles will be required to sing the allocated song for the role you are auditioning for. Principal roles will need to access the online dialogue folder and learn the dialogue for that part.

You can audition for more than one part if you wish, however the audition panel will consider everyone for different parts regardless of which part you audition for.

You should expect to sing only the first three minutes of your song. If you are called back, you should expect to sing the whole song. Singing will be evaluated on control of pitch, rhythm, and style (Broadway/Jazz). You may be asked to sing a scale with the piano to demonstrate your range. You will read the dialogue allocated to your chosen character and if called back your interpretation and character work will be assessed.

You may bring sheet music for the piano accompanist or if you prefer, you may bring a non-vocal backing track (on USB or on your phone) for your allocated song.

## Rehearsals

Rehearsals will commence in early February 2023.

Initial rehearsals will be: Each Tuesday and Thursday 7.00 pm – 9.30 pm and Sunday afternoons from 1.00 pm – 5.00 pm

Please note - there will be rehearsals scheduled over the April school holiday period.

When our director Dean McKerras comes to town there will be an intensive rehearsal period, usually rehearsing Friday evening (full company) and scheduled time slots on Saturdays and Sundays. This may include all the cast, or it may be for certain principal roles or scenes. We will share this schedule with you as soon as the show is cast.

Our rehearsal time frame is a 13 - 14 week period which will require a significant commitment from all. Please consider your availability carefully prior to committing to the 2023 season of Chicago. If you are unable to attend any of the usual rehearsals, you must detail this on your audition form, this may be taken into consideration in the audition process. Non-attendance at rehearsals other than at times approved prior to the rehearsals commencing will not be accepted. Your participation in this production requires a huge commitment in both time and professionalism to ensure a production of the highest possible quality, therefore please do not audition if you are not able to fully commit to the rehearsal schedule and the show as a whole. You will not be able to be involved in any other production during the rehearsal period.

We look forward to seeing you at the pre-audition information evening on 13 November at 5.00 pm at the MTG clubrooms at 101 Innes Street and good luck for your audition on December 9 & 10.

It's going to be a fantastic show!!

Enquiries to:

Production Manager

Ben Chisholm

[ben@musicaltheatregisborne.nz](mailto:ben@musicaltheatregisborne.nz)

Ph 021 499745