

music FOR **everyone** **4** **act UP sing OUT 2010**

Youth Workshop: *Into the Woods Junior*

This show is an abridged version of the original musical *Into the Woods* by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine. The junior version specifically caters for a young cast with the darker, scarier parts taken out and replaced with a happy ending. It's also much shorter (just over an hour) which is great for a younger audience. There are still a couple of dark moments though so be prepared for a little stage blood! The music is fantastically clever & the whole piece is very witty.

The story intertwines four fairy tales: Rapunzel, Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk and Little Red Riding Hood, along with the story of a baker and his wife who cannot have a child because of a witch's curse. Of course, as evil witches do, she offers to help them, but only if they will complete several tasks.....

With unforgettable roles, *Into The Woods Junior* showcases a medium-sized ensemble of talented singers and actors, where each performer shoulders an equal weight. Characters include the Narrator, Jack (of the beanstalk), Jack's mother, Lucinda, Little Red Ridinghood, the Wolf, Cinderella, Cinderella's stepmother, mother and father; Rapunzel, the Prince, Milky White, the Baker's wife, Florinda, the Witch, Granny, the Mysterious Man, and various other storybook characters. The sophisticated score has been adapted to make it easier - though still challenging - for young performers.

This is a really exciting opportunity for young people to perform in a wonderful musical by one of the greats of music theatre. Fans of Stephen Sondheim won't need any introduction to this work. You may know Sondheim's work through the recent film version of *Sweeney Todd* which starred Johnny Depp. And of course one of the world's most famous songs is by Sondheim: *Send in the Clowns*. The Australian cast of *Wicked* are performing *Into The Woods* (the complete version) in concert for one night only - Monday May 17 at the Capitol Theatre, Haymarket, Sydney. It's also Sondheim's 80th birthday this year - so what a great way to celebrate.

For our production, we'll be looking for young performers 11 to 18 years who are prepared to work very hard together to create a great show. Here's what you should prepare as audition material: a short piece of memorised text, plus a short memorised song or part of a song from music theatre (please provide piano sheet music in correct key). Please - nothing from *Into the Woods*! If you are interested in a principal role, we will ask you to do a 'cold read' of some text, so be prepared to do that.

I look forward to seeing you at the auditions!

Dianna Nixon
Director
Act Up Sing Out Youth Music Theatre Program



For more information and to make an audition appointment, contact
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