

# Halswell Drama Group 2023 Production



Thanks for considering joining our fun theatre group.

## Show Dates

Thurs 6th July  
Fri 7th July  
Sat 8th July Matinee  
Sat 8th July

Wed 12th July  
Thurs 13th July  
Fri 14th July  
Sat 15th July

## Synopsis

Goodbye Grey Skies, Hello Blue! Happy days are here again with Richie, Potsie, Ralph Malph and the unforgettable "king of cool" Arthur "The Fonz" Fonzarelli.

Based on the hit Paramount Pictures television series, *Happy Days*, *A New Musical* reintroduces one of America's best loved families, the Cunninghams.

The famed drive-in malt shop and number one hangout, Arnold's, is in danger of demolition. So, the gang teams up to save it with a dance contest and a TV-worthy wrestling match.

Even Pinky Tuscadero, Fonzie's childhood sweetheart, returns to help and -- lo and behold! -- they rekindle their old flame.

# The Story

## **Act One**

It is 1959 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Richie Cunningham, on the precipice of a new decade, is about to graduate high school and go off to college. His friends and family meet at Arnold's malt shop, and, together, bid the audience 'Welcome'. Arnold breaks the bad news that a construction company has plans to turn his eponymous restaurant into a parking lot and something called a "mall". Arthur Fonzerelli AKA "Fonzie" vows to save the day, and that it will be a 'Snap'.

The next morning, Laurie Beth comes over to Richie's house and tells how all the other girls are getting engaged before going to college, and she wants to know why she isn't. Richie brushes it off as he has Girl Talk #213 with Fonzie. This is interrupted when Ralph, Potsie, and Chachi come over. 'The Thing About Girls' Chachi then informs everyone about Pinky Tuscadero coming into town to host the dance contest proposed to save Arnold's. After Fonzie leaves, the boys start their "Dial Tones" rehearsal. 'Romeo Midnight' They talk about how much they don't know about girls but rehearse anyway. Fonzie informs them that girls like "regular guys singing, not screaming like girls". 'Ooooooh Bop'

Across town at the Leopard Lodge meeting 'Leopards Are We', Howard suggests a wrestling match between the tough Malachi brothers, Fonzie's nemesis, and Fonzie. The Leopards promise Howard a Plaque 'The Plaque' if he can talk Fonzie into the scheme, expecting it to bring a great deal of media coverage.

Back at Arnold's the Dial Tones welcome Miss Tuscadero and she makes her grand entrance 'The Pink's in Town'. As Arnold takes Pinky and her Pinkettes into the kitchen to go over their schedule, the Malachis make their entrance 'Malachis' only to have their bike crashed into by Fonzie. Arnold closes before trouble ensues. At this moment, Fonzie and Pinky see each other for the first time in years, rekindling some old feelings. As Chachi and Fonzie talk about girls, we hear about Fonzie's and Pinky's history, and Chachi asked Fonzie how to know when something is over and how to get to know a girl. Fonzie says "you've just gotta learn to listen with your heart". 'Heartbeat'

At the Cunningham home, Marion, after being rebuffed by Howard, 'The Plaque Reprise', ponders the plight of the 50s housewife. She is joined by Joanie who

laments the curse of being a lovelorn 50s teen, for Joanie is in love with Chachi. **'What I Dreamed Last Night'**

We then go back to Arnold's for the dance contest. Fonzie enters and is greeted by Richie. Richie tries to talk Fonzie out of wrestling at the match due to his "weak" knee, but Fonzie will have none of it. He goes back in to Arnold's, where Pinky is giving Joanie boy advice and tells her that all she has to do, to dance with Chachi, is **'Listen To The Music'**. Pinky then asks Fonzie to slow it down on the jukebox and asks him to compete in the wrestling match. Everyone rejoices when he says yes.

After Richie finds out that Fonzie promised Pinky he would wrestle anyway, he promises the Fonz that he will tell everyone about his weakness. Fonzie laments about how he is torn between being embarrassed or risking serious injury. **'Maybe It's Time To Move On'**

## **Act Two**

A week later, Fonzie is still missing, and everyone realizes how much he means to them. With Fonzie gone, there can be no media frenzy surrounding a non-existent wrestling match, and Arnold's is doomed. Richie tells the gang that he will wrestle the Malachis in Fonzie's place, with Ralph in his corner. Ralph doesn't want to do it, but the guys insist they can't run, **'Run'** but must face the challenge and get the job done.

At Arnold's, Pinky tells everyone of Fonzie's nomadic nature and that he may never return, which makes Joanie wonder if Chachi could do the same. Pinky, missing her guy advises Joanie to remain strong. **'Legend in Leather'**

Fonzie is on the outskirts of town, his efforts to leave unsuccessful. Joined by some car hop girls, Fonzie admits that his reign of cool could be over and that he is feeling lost. **'Aaay'mless'**

Back at Arnold's the Malachi brothers **'Malachis (reprise)'** discover that they won't be wrestling Fonzie, so they humiliate Richie and Ralph by giving them huge wedgies just in time for pictures for the local paper. After this they believe with Fonzie gone the "fun" will begin and they will be tearing Richie and Ralph, who have opted to wrestle in Fonzie's place,

In the Cunningham kitchen, Marion and Joanie are preparing for the picnic when Pinky stops in to give Marion a shot glass from Cincinnati. Pinky is in awe of the domestic lifestyle of Marion, **'What I Dreamed Last Night (reprise)'** while Marion is envious of the adventurous lifestyle of Pinky, while Joanie sits at home wondering how Chachi is going to feel at prom.

Later, Marion finds Fonzie hiding under the stairs. She reminds him that true cool, like James Dean and Elvis Presley, means not caring what others think. She leaves him in thought, and, miraculously, Fonzie's two heroes appear, convincing Fonzie that guys like them change direction for a worthy cause and the higher road is the only road. **'Guys Like Us'**

At Phister Park, the wrestling match is getting underway. Everyone gets in the ring, and Ralph runs away, yet again, when suddenly, Fonzie rolls in on his motorcycle. He offers to fight for Arnold's if the brothers promise not to touch his bad knee. The Malachis cheat, of course, but with Richie's help, the good guys prevail. **'Hot Love'**

Everyone celebrates while Fonzie and Pinky resolve to forget old issues and go Dancing. **'Dancing on the Moon'** The Leopards present their plaque to Fonzie, but he focuses everyone's attention to the truly cool businessman, Howard Cunningham. **'Ordinary Hero'** Everyone goes into a Plunger Dance, where they all dance with their plungers they are buying from the hardware store, decorated with bright colours and fantastic designs. This is all thanks to Marion and a few jars of Mayonnaise and food colouring. Fonzie announces to a joyous crowd that enough money has been raised to save Arnold's.

The Class of 1959 Graduation Dance begins. Ralph is accompanied by two of the Pinkettes, Potsie by his mother, and Joanie and Chachi sneak in together. Marion and Howard are called in as chaperones, and Pinky and Fonzie come together. Everyone celebrates the happy days they've spent together as an iconic decade draws to a close and the gang gets ready for the 60s **'Finale'**.

## **Musical numbers**

### **Act 1**

1. Welcome to Wisconsin - *Company*
2. Snap - *Fonzie and Car Hops*
3. The Thing About Girls - *Richie, Ralph, Potsie, and Chachi*
4. Romeo Midnight - *The Dial Tones*
5. Ooooooh Bop - *Fonzie and The Dial Tones*
6. Leopards Are We - *The Leopards*
7. The Plaque - *The Leopards*
8. The Pink's in Town - *Pinky and The Pinkettes*
9. Malachis - *The Malachi Brothers*
10. Heartbeat - *Fonzie, Chachi, and Calendar Girls*
11. The Plaque Reprise - *Howard*
12. What I Dreamed Last Night - *Marion and Joanie*
13. Message in the Music - *Pinky Company*
14. Maybe It's Time to Move On - *Fonzie, Dial-Tones, and Company*

### **Act 2**

15. Run - *Ralph, Richie, Potsie, and Chachi*
16. Legend in Leather - *Pinky and Pinkettes*
17. Aaay'mless - *Fonzie, Car Hops*
18. Malachis (Reprise) - *The Malachi Brothers*
19. What I Dreamed Last Night (Reprise) - *Pinky, Marion, and Joanie*
20. Guys Like Us - *Fonzie, Elvis, James Dean, and guys*
21. Hot Love - *The Dial-Tones*
22. Dancing on the Moon - *Fonzie & Pinky*
23. Ordinary Hero - *Company*
24. Finale – *Company*

## Cast List

**Arthur "The Fonz" Fonzarelli** – *the King of Cool. Sexy, funny and loaded with charisma. Older than the other kids.*

**Richie Cunningham** – *High School student, Fonzie's best friend, All-American, honest and reliable.*

**Howard Cunningham** – *Richie's dad, the quintessential Midwestern head of household. A man in his 40's who is also in the local order of Leopards.*

**Charles "Chachi" Arcola** – *Fonzie's cousin who tries to be just like him. Probably 15-16 and he likes Joanie. Plays with a yo-yo.*

**Pinky Tuscadero** – *Fonzie's love interest, sexy, confident, tough and a body to die for. Motorcycle daredevil. (no motorcycle riding in the show, though)*

**Marion Cunningham** – *Richie's mom, warm, naïve and wise. She is in her 40's.*

**Joanie Cunningham** – *Richie's younger sister, 15-16 years old, lovable, precocious and has a big crush on Chachi. Twirls a baton.*

**Lori Beth Allen** - *Sweet, lovely, "girl next door" type. Richie's girlfriend, high school student.*

**Ralph Malph** – *High school buddy of Richie's. He is the class clown.*

**Warren "Potsie" Webber** – *Richie's high school buddy, not very cool but tries hard to be. He is a little bit of a nerd.*

**Pinkette Lola** – *backup singer/dancer for Pinky Tuscadero.*

**Pinkette Tina** - *backup singer/dancer for Pinky Tuscadero.*

**Bully/Ensemble** - *big tough guy*

**Leopard Manny Moon/Ensemble** - *Howard's Leopard Lodge brother and principal of the high school*

**Myron "Count" Malachi/Ensemble** - *one-half of The Malachi Brothers, Fonzie's nemesis, greaser type, overly dramatic, in his 20's. As Count, he does show fancy wrestling moves.*

**Elvis/Ensemble** – *Elvis Presley circa late 50's.*

**James Dean/Ensemble** - *the 1950's movie icon*

**Leopard Mac Gates/Ensemble** - *Howard's Leopard Lodge brother*

**Jumpy Malachi/Ensemble** - *other one-half of The Malachi Brothers, filled with nervous energy, greaser type, in his 20's. As Jumpy, he does show fancy wrestling moves.*

**Arnold Delvecchio/Ensemble** – *A man in his 50's, owner of Arnold's Malt Shop, member of the Leopard Lodge.*

**Ensemble Boys** – *dancers/singers to play teenagers, rebels, etc.*

**Ensemble Men** – *Dancers/signers to play adult men and parents*

**Nerd Girl** – *nerd daughter of Principal Moon.*

**Ensemble girls/ladies** – *dancers/singers to play teenagers as well as Car Hop & Calendar Girls*

**Car Hop Girls** – *young ladies who can dance on roller skates. Proficiency on roller skates a must.*

**Calendar Girls** – *Teenage girls to adolescent ladies who can act sexy. May do the splits.*

**Ensemble Women** – *Dancers/singers to play adult women and parents*



# **Audition Information**

Auditions will be held at:  
Halswell Community Hall.  
450 Halswell Rd, Halswell

## **DATES & TIMES**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 7:20pm- 9:20pm

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 5:20pm-9:20pm

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February- Mandatory Dance Audition 2-3pm

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February- 3:20pm-6:40pm

Auditions are 20 mins – Please arrive at least 20 minutes prior to your audition.

## **WHAT TO EXPECT**

One of our members will be there to welcome you.

You will be required to fill in an audition form- see attached. You can print this and bring it with you if that is easier or fill it in on the day.

You will be asked to have a headshot taken and get measurements taken for wardrobe (*this will be used for reference purposes for the Creative Team only*).

If you wish to try out for a speaking role, there will be script excerpts available for you to look through prior to your audition – Please take the time to read through any roles that you are interested in.

## **CHARACTER AUDITION**

Your character audition will consist of reading an excerpt from the script. You may be asked to read additional parts at the discretion of the Director.

## **VOCAL AUDITION**

Please prepare a short excerpt from a song of your choice, two minutes or less.

We are looking for strong voices so pick something that will show off your voice/vocal range.

Bring your backing track on iPod or phone (with lightning jack or headphone jack 3.5mm connector) or Bluetooth connectivity to our speaker.

If preferred, you are more than welcome to sing unaccompanied.

You will also be taken through a series of tasks to determine range, voice quality etc.

## **CHOREOGRAPHY/DANCE AUDITIONS**

This mandatory session will be held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February from 2-3pm.

Please don't panic! These sessions will cater to ALL levels of dance abilities – from the non-movers to the experienced dancers - It will be very relaxed and fun. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a drink bottle.

## **Booking An Audition Time**

To book your audition time....

Please contact us via the following:

**EMAIL:** [auditions.hdg@gmail.com](mailto:auditions.hdg@gmail.com) or

**TXT/PHONE:** Lauren on 0274800503

Please list 3 date/time slots, in order of preference, that would suit you to audition. Time slots will be at 20,40 and 00.

Audition times are:

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 7:20pm- 9:20pm

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 5:20pm-9:20pm

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February- 3:20pm-6:40pm

Include your email address and your mobile number.

You will then receive an email confirming the date/time slot for which your audition has been booked.

Put it in your diary, start preparing your song and please read through all the additional information.

We look forward to meeting you on the day!

## **Notification Of Audition Outcome**

Applicants will be notified by phone after the selection process is complete. You should expect to hear back from someone within the week following auditions. Callbacks will be on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March if required at the Halswell Hall at 7:15pm.

# The Rehearsals

## REHEARSAL INFORMATION/COMMITMENT

Over the rehearsal period you could be required at rehearsals during any of the following regular timeslots:

### 7<sup>th</sup> March- Readthrough

Tuesday 7.15pm – 9.30pm

### 9<sup>th</sup> March- Rehearsals start

Thursday 7.15pm – 9.00pm

Tuesday 7.15pm – 9.00pm

### From 7<sup>th</sup> May

Tuesday 7.15pm – 9.00pm

Thursday 7.15pm – 9.00pm

Sunday 3pm – 7pm

### From 1st June

Tuesday 7.15pm – 9:30pm

Thursday 7.15pm – 9:30pm

Sunday 3pm – 7pm

### From 18th June

Tuesday 7.15pm – 10:30pm

Thursday 7.15pm – 10:30pm

Sunday start– 10:30pm, start times to be advised

## Missed Rehearsals

In auditioning for this show, you are making a commitment to your fellow cast mates, production members and the wider community. Halswell Drama Group operates and strike '3-strikes' policy, that is, miss 3 rehearsals without a valid explanation and you will be excused from the show.

## Membership

We require all Cast and Crew to become financial members of Halswell Drama Group for the 2023 financial year. (Payable no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023)

This assists with the general running cost of the group and shows your committee to this performance.

Becoming a Financial member entitles you to the following...

- Preferential booking and discount on show tickets
- Access to MTNZ events/workshops, conferences & Newsletters
- Invitations to HDG social events

Membership Prices are...

**Single.....\$20**

**Double.....\$30**

**Family.....\$40** (this consists of 3 or more people from the same household)

## **The Production Team**

**Director:** Gretchen Nijse

**Music Director:** Roger Cleave

**Choreographer:** Ella Curtis-Smith

**Production Manager:** Byron Hill

## And Lastly....

If you still need some convincing – Don't be shy! We would love you to audition!

We are super friendly and are keen to see what talent is out there and are looking forward to having new and familiar faces on stage this year.

Whether you sing in the shower or your car OR maybe you dance in the lounge with your cat OR you just like the idea of doing something different, then come on down and see us – be brave, book that audition!

That is what Community Theatre is all about – getting out there, having fun and giving it a go.

We look forward to meeting you at the auditions.

*Gretchen, Roger, Ella & Byron*

