



HART  
THEATRE  
COMPANY  
SEASON 8, 2019

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In 2019, the Hart Theatre Company is set to bring five diverse productions to life. Populated with characters that cover both the living and the dead, the mythical and the practical, the fantastic and the common, each show has been chosen to stretch players and audiences alike to look beyond the ordinary to find the extraordinary.

At the core of good theatre sits the kernel of a great yarn. Over the past seven years, it has been the aim of St Leonard's Hart Theatre Company to bring exceptional stories to life in a way that empowers the young performers who take on the various roles within each production. The company strives to enlighten as well as entertain the

audiences that share the space with those who painstakingly craft our productions. In this way we are all asked to examine the world through the eyes of another, to experience for a couple of short hours what it would be like to live in a different time period, an altered dimension, a surrealistic dream or to capture a moment in history through the eyes of a child.

So mark your calendars and prepare to spend some quality time in a darkened theatre with the ghoulish Addams clan. Take up the challenge of brushing up your knowledge of WWII history with a cat on the run, dance your way through the Old Testament, demand an audience with the Queen, and take a tumble with Alice down the rabbit hole. Get ready to be dazzled by another season of inventive storytelling and spectacle that is offered to you by the

trouper of the Hart Theatre Company.

Rest assured the time you share with us will be worth it.

**Kim Anderson**  
**Head of Theatre Production**  
**Executive Producer**  
**Hart Theatre Company**

## **SENIOR SCHOOL PLAY**

**VENUE: TC Woolhouse Theatre | DIRECTOR: Mr Barry Tudor**

Based on Michael Morpurgo's *The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips*, 946 explodes everything we thought we knew about the D-Day landings. It is 1943, Lily Tregenza lives on a farm in the idyllic seaside village of Slapton. Apart from her father being away, and the "townie" evacuees at school, her life is barely touched by the Second World War. Then one day, Lily and her family, along with 3,000 other villagers, are told to

move out of their homes – lock, stock, and barrel. Soon the whole area is out of bounds, as the allied forces practise their landings for D-Day, preparing to invade France. But Tips, Lily's cat, has other ideas – barbed wire and "keep out" signs mean nothing to her. Desperately, Lily searches for her cat – even to the point of endangering herself...

946 uses music, puppetry and foolishness to tell this tale of war, prejudice and love. Tender, political and surprisingly romantic, this story speaks to us all and will finally reveal the secrets the US and British governments tried to keep quiet.



946

Amazing Story  
of Adolphus Tips

3-6 April 2019

## SENIOR SCHOOL MUSICAL

**VENUE: Kevin Wood Centre | DIRECTOR: Ms Kim Anderson | MUSICAL DIRECTOR: Mrs Elizabeth Furman**

Get ready to embrace the macabre, indulge your darkest impulses and confront the demons that lurk in the recesses of your mind; you're off to spend the night with the Addams family! Based on the famous series of cartoons that first appeared in the New Yorker in 1938, *The Addams Family* reacquaints us with the last living members of the Addams clan. Gomez and Morticia are doting parents with a passion for the tango, a collection of 'instruments

of persuasion' and an enviable marriage. Their daughter, Wednesday, is formidable with the crossbow, and their son Pugsley, a cigar smoking boy with a penchant for torture, make up the nuclear family. Rounding out the clan is Gomez's lunatic brother, Uncle Fester, Grandma with her potions cart, and their towering and silent butler, the zombie-like Lurch.

Wednesday, the ultimate 'Princess of Darkness', has done the unthinkable,

fallen in love with Lucas, a 'normal' boy. Her plan to have a dinner party to introduce the two families is turned on its head when a truth potion is mistakenly ingested by Lucas's straight laced and sunny mother, Alice, leading to dire consequences.

They're creepy and they're kooky....  
*The Addams Family*

# THE ADDAMS FAMILY

15, 16, 17 & 18 MAY 2019

## MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY

**VENUE:** Kevin Wood Centre | **DIRECTOR:** Mr Nathan Armstrong

*Two Weeks with the Queen* captures perfectly the sense of unease felt in Australia during the 1980s regarding our knowledge of cancer and fear of AIDS.

Through 12-year-old Colin's trip to London, his attempts to get the Queen to save his brother from cancer, and his friendship with a gay couple, the play examines the role of compassion and understanding through the innocent and heartfelt perspective of a child. Set in a pre-internet era, where Sony Walkmans

were the latest 'must have' gadget, a TWEET was a sound a bird made, lamb cutlets were cheap enough to feed the whole family, Uluru was known as Ayers' Rock and Ray Martin dominated evening TV ratings, *Two Weeks with the Queen* explores the power of hope, the role of empathy, and how we are defined by the way we view, and treat, others.



**TWO** *with* **WEEKS** **THE** **QUEEN**

**WEDNESDAY 19 June – Saturday 22 June 2019**

## **YEARS 5/6 MUSICAL**

**VENUE: TC Woolhouse Theatre | DIRECTOR: Ms Kim Anderson**

Travel down the rabbit hole and join Alice as she explores the mad world of Wonderland.

The ever-curious Alice's journey begins innocently enough as she chases the White Rabbit. However, her adventures become increasingly strange as she races the Dodo Bird, gets tied up with Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum, raps with a bubble-blowing Caterpillar and beats the Queen of Hearts at her own game!

Considered one of the most famous children's books written in English, Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* has engaged the imaginations of children years and years over. This fast-paced stage adaptation features an updated script and modern musical arrangements of classic Disney songs including I'm Late, The Un-Birthday Song and Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah. Join us for this surreal dream, filled with song, dance and laughter.



Disney  
**Alice in  
Wonderland**  
**JR.**

©Disney

WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST - SATURDAY 31 AUGUST 2019

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL

**VENUE: TC Woolhouse Theatre | DIRECTOR: Mr Tom Ellis**

**MUSICAL DIRECTORS: Miss Sian Parry & Mr Peter Foley**

One of the world's most beloved family musicals, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* marks the beginning of the collaboration between Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. First released as a concept album, the show has been performed in over 80 countries with multiple runs on Broadway and in the West End.

Following the Old Testament story of Jacob's favourite son, Joseph, and his

eleven brothers, this family oriented production sees our hero sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. After an encounter with the Egyptian noble, Potiphar, Joseph ends up imprisoned. While languishing in jail he discovers an ability to interpret dreams, and finds himself called before the Pharaoh. As Joseph strives to resolve Egypt's famine, he becomes the Pharaoh's right-hand man and eventually reunites with his family.

With the help of the Narrator, the audience is led through the story entirely through song. With its bouncing score, the show weaves together an incredibly eclectic mix of musical genres as it takes the audience on a journey of betrayal and redemption.



# JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT

*Wednesday 16 October - Saturday 19 October 2019*



The Hart Theatre Company (HTC) was launched in 2012 with the opening of the Big Top production *Barnum*. Over the past

seven years, the company has gone from strength to strength and grown in stature within the community. It has offered theatrical opportunities to hundreds of students and drawn in professional theatre practitioners to our production teams who embrace innovative production concepts. With two award-winning musicals to its credit and a dizzying number of nominations and commendations for its musicals at both the

Middle and Senior School levels, the St Leonard's College Hart Theatre Company has proven it is a force to be reckoned with.

The company is named after Mrs Roma Hart, the first Speech and Drama teacher to stage a production at the College. Mrs Hart gave us our foundation; all those who come to 'play' with us give us our ability to soar.

It is the aim of the St Leonard's College Hart Theatre Company (HTC) to provide all those in the College community who participate in the program with a platform to build confidence as young performers, theatre practitioners, musicians, dancers and scenic artists. HTC looks to foster growth through

involvement while creating an environment where unique and creative vision is applied to productions with passion, dedication, fearlessness and inclusion.

St Leonard's College HTC's vision sees a future in which the expression of dramatic

art is embraced and encouraged in the spirit of professional theatre. The Hart Theatre Company is a place where performance skills are tools for communication and lateral thinking brings applause.

Book your seats closer to the show dates via [stleonards.vic.edu.au](http://stleonards.vic.edu.au)

## Bridget Armitage



The Hart Theatre Company and all it had to offer was something that stuck up on me. When I arrived at the school in year 7, I became friends with many students who were devoted to drama classes and theatre productions.

In my eyes, their world was so very distant from mine. Having started playing the flute at 9 years old, I always thought, and was content with the fact, that I was going to be a "music person". For the first three years at St Leonard's all of my electives were music orientated, doing anything from music performance to recording studio.

That abruptly changed at the end of year 8. A group of friends signed up to audition for the Middle School Play for 2015, *Our Town*. On a whim, I accompanied them to

audition for a play I knew nothing about. After what was one of the most foreign and bizarre experiences I had ever taken part in, I was called back for and given the role of 'Stage Manager' which to this day, is still the character I have enjoyed portraying the most.

After speaking the first line on opening night, I was hooked. In the years that followed, performing with the Hart Theatre Company completely took over my life. Attempting to fill the voids between each play, I took part in two musical theatre productions, despite the fact that I had barely sung a note in my life. The dynamic contrast between the plays and musicals was an eye opener and became one of the most interesting aspects of participating in productions with the Hart Theatre Company. This exposure to both theatrical performance genres provided me with lessons and memories I will treasure along with the lasting friendships that came with each production. I am grateful for the

array of talented directors and teachers who helped me along the way - Nathan Armstrong, Georgina Hearnden, Kim Anderson and Barry Tudor - I thank you all.

The Hart Theatre Company has given me not only a newfound passion, but a possible career trajectory as well. To the students of 2019 and beyond, take a chance on theatre whilst the opportunity is there for you – maybe even if you never even imagined yourself on a stage. Devout thespians, try a musical. Musical theatre enthusiasts, audition for a play. The families you become a part of in these productions will be unmatched, and you will cherish them, as I have, far beyond closing night.

**Bridget Armitage  
2018 Roma Hart Award**

# THE YEAR THAT WAS - 2018



**Clockwise from left** – *A Matter of Life and Death*, *Big*, *Aladdin Jr*, *A Matter of Life and Death*, *Animal Farm*, *The Pajama Game*, *Aladdin Jr*, *Big*, *The Pajama Game*, *Animal Farm*



# MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD OF VICTORIA RECOGNITION

2012

Awarded – Junior Production of the Year – *Barnum*

Awarded – Direction of a Junior Production – *Barnum*

2013

Awarded – Junior Production of the Year – *Sweet Charity*

Awarded – Junior Female Performer in a Leading Role – *Lucy Travis, Charity* – *Sweet Charity*

Awarded – Junior Male in a Supporting Role – *Josh Gordon, Lumiere* – *Beauty and the Beast*

Awarded – Technical Achievement in Scenic Design – *Sweet Charity*

2014

Awarded – Achievement in Costume Design – *The Wizard of Oz and Seussical the Musical*

2015

Awarded – Junior Male Performer in a Leading Role – *Josh Gordon, Leading Player* – *Pippin*

2016

Awarded – Choreography of a Junior Production – *Hairspray*

2017

Nominated – Junior female in a supporting role – *Annika Soderstrom, The Cat, Honk!*

2018

Nominated – Choreography of a Junior Production – *Pajama Game*



# Inspiration for life.

**Anything is possible within the world of inspired imagination.**

The historical power of storytelling through the performing arts reminds us of the limitless potential of creativity. Kate Amos (OC2007) is an outstanding testament to this creative potential realised. Kate's early experiences on the St Leonard's College stage fuelled her love of the theatre and inspired the pursuit and accomplishment of her dreams.

In 2014 Kate was selected to join the Young Artist Program with the Victorian Opera, performing leading and supporting roles. In 2018, Kate made her Principal Artist debut with Opera Australia and is now recognised as one of Australia's most artistically versatile and highly sought-after young sopranos.

Kate is the ultimate example of the benefits that the Inspiring Innovations development will bring to our students. Our world-class Leonardian Centre will set the stage for our students to experience the power of the performing arts; a special place that will inspire a world of imagination and storytelling through the magic of creative expression.

**We invite you to play a leading role in supporting our future generations of Leonardians, expanding minds, creating community, and inspiring for life.**

To enquire about how you can support the Inspiring Innovations development, please contact the Foundation Office on 9909 9457 or [foundation@stleonards.vic.edu.au](mailto:foundation@stleonards.vic.edu.au)



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An education for life.





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