

## *Nunsense*

Scarborough Music Theatre  
Audition Information

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Director: Elizabeth Van Wyck  
Musical Director: Michael Jones  
Choreographer: Diane Klich  
Producer: Mike Scott  
Stage Manager: Amanda Sinclair

*NUNSENSE* (Book, Music & Lyrics by Dan Goggin)

*Nunsense* began as a cabaret show featuring nun characters originated on greeting cards. Booked for a four-day run, *The Nunsense Story* ran for 38 weeks in 1983. It was then developed into an off-Broadway musical in 1985 and ran for 10 years, making it the second longest running off-Broadway production (after *The Fantasticks*). It has been translated into 26 languages and, to date has generated nine sequels/spin-offs.

SMT's *Nunsense* will be an opportunity for 5 talented, hard-working women to have a great deal of fun putting on a show about 5 nuns putting on a show. Drawing on the show's cabaret roots, there will be opportunities for interaction with the audience, star turns and improvisation with the "band." (Father Michael on the piano!)

### SYNOPSIS

*Nunsense* begins by giving a little background - five of the surviving nuns at the Little Sisters of Hoboken discover that their cook, Sister Julia, Child of God, has accidentally - and fatally - poisoned 52 of the sisters. When funds run out for the last four burials, and with the deceased nuns on ice in the deep freeze, the five women decide to stage a variety show to raise the money to bury the last four sisters. Time is running out as they learn part way through the show that the Jersey Board of Health is on their way to check the freezer.

Their tour-de-force performance takes place in a school auditorium currently set up for a grade eight production of *Grease*, and includes solo star turns, tap and ballet routines and an audience quiz.

AUDITIONS:            Sunday, November 13, 2011            7:00 pm to 11:00 pm  
                              Monday, November 14, 2011            7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

CALL-BACKS:           Sunday, November 20, 2011            1:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
                              \* see note below

LOCATION:                SMT's Unit, "The Estate" — 51 Estate Drive

REHEARSAL DATES:

Mondays	7:30 pm to 10:30 pm
Wednesdays	7:30 pm to 10:30 pm
Sundays	1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, November 23, 2011. No rehearsals will be scheduled on Sunday December 25, Monday Dec. 26, or Wed. Dec. 28, 2011 or Wed Jan 1st, 2012, although people who are in town over the Christmas holidays may have the option of additional rehearsals. Additional rehearsals will be scheduled after moving into the theatre on January 23, 2012.

#### PERFORMANCE DATES:

February 9-12, 16-19, 23-25, 2012

The two Sunday performances (February 12 and 19) and the final Saturday performance (February 25) are matinees at 2:00 pm; all other performances are at 8:00 pm. Additional performances may be scheduled on the Wednesdays of weeks 2 and 3 if there is sufficient demand. Cast must be available for all performances.

#### AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

1. All people auditioning should prepare a short (one-minute) contemporary comic monologue; be prepared to do some improvisation work using the text of your monologue.
2. All people auditioning should prepare one song from a Broadway musical (not from *Nunsense*). Please bring sheet music in the correct key for the accompanist; facilities for pre-recorded accompaniments are not available. All people auditioning may be asked to do some basic range and/or musicianship tests.
3. There will be a group movement/dance audition. Please bring comfortable clothing and appropriate footwear.

#### CALLBACK AUDITIONS:

Sunday, November 20, 2011                      1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Although call-back auditions are scheduled for the full day on November 20, individuals called back will be given a schedule specific to the characters for whom they are being considered; this schedule will be communicated to each performer by e-mail on or prior to November 16. People auditioning should inform the producers, at the time of their first audition, if there is any time on Sunday Nov. 21 when they are unavailable.

If you are called back for a role (or roles), you will be asked to prepare specific musical and/or reading selections from the show. Those called back for Sister Leo who have indicated that they can dance en pointe, may be asked for a short demonstration.

#### ROLES AVAILABLE:

Please note that age ranges given indicate appearance onstage as opposed to the actor's actual age. Vocal range also indicated.

#### **5 women**

**Sister Mary Regina (Mother Superior):** 30's to 60's; a feisty Sophie Tucker type, she's a former circus performer who can't resist the spotlight; **alto**

**Sister Mary Hubert (Mistress of Novices):** 30's to 60's; the second in command, she is always in friendly competition with the Mother Superior; **gospel belt**

**Sister Robert Anne:** late 20's to 40's; a streetwise tough character from Brooklyn who finds humour in just about anything; constant source of aggravation for the Mother Superior – she would probably be

thrown out of the convent but for the fact that the Mother Superior knows she's a very dedicated nun underneath it all; **mezzo belt with good control throughout range; looking for a Brooklyn accent (stereotypical New York drawl is fine)**

**Sister Mary Amnesia:** 20's to 40's; this nun lost her memory after a crucifix fell on her head; very sweet but wacky with a childlike enthusiasm; **versatile voice – legit soprano to high B, harsh belt, and country twang to low G**

**Sister Mary Leo:** 18 – to mid 20's; the novice - she has entered the convent with the desire to become the first nun ballerina - her attempt at which is frustrated by the Mother Superior; easily led astray by her "buddy" Sister Robert Anne; **soprano to sustained G; ideally looking for the ability to dance en pointe**

To book an audition, contact producer, Mike Scott at [smt\\_auditions@theatrescarborough.com](mailto:smt_auditions@theatrescarborough.com) or call 416-909-6701.

**Libretto and Original Cast recording are each available at the Toronto Reference Library.**

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