



Programme

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Oasis Academy Mayfield's

production of Grease the Musical - School Edition

29th/30th/31st March 2023

GREASE

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

Hopelessly Devoted to You, You're The One That I Want, Sandy and Grease used by arrangement with Robert Stigwood

The recording or streaming of this performance is strictly prohibited.

Welcome one and all!

Thank you so much for coming to our show! We are very excited to take you on a trip to 1950's America and the wonderful world of bubble-gum, teenage love and rock 'n' roll. Our students and the Production Team have been working round the clock to bring some of the most iconic, all-time favourite characters to life in a night of singing, dancing and trouble-making!



CAST

Sandy

Betty Rizzo

Marty Frenchie

Jan

Danny Zuko Kenickie Doody Roger

Sonny Latierri Eugene Florczyk

Miss Lynch

Patty Simcox Honeywell

Cha-Cha Digregorio

Vince Fontaine Johnny Casino

Lead Dancer

Lead Dancer Lead Dancer

Lead Dancer

Lead Dancer Lead Dancer

Chorus Chorus

Chorus

Chorus Chorus

Chorus

Chorus Chorus

Lilly Godding

Lily Masters (Student of Barton Peveril)

Grace Alford-Clifford Sophie/River Parker

Gemma Cox Tyler Godden Thomas Wilson Jamie Hobson Colen Voller Ruby-Star Ball Noah Chapman

Jess Jarvis Rubie Machin

Lili Lovell

Ashleigh Milligan Oliver Richards

Lily Sutton

Holly Bowers

Scarlett Marie Burwood

Freya-Rose Buckfield

Lexie Coleman Amy Harrison

Kara Houston Emma Stacey Isabelle Spurrier

Eloise Viles Lalena Fisher

Sophie/Correy Mortlock

Eva-Lily Allan Ruby Lawrence











The Boom of the 50's.

After the difficulties of the 30's and 40's with the Great Depression and World War Two, there was a boom of economic growth in the 50's. This led to an influx of immigration, the creation of many popular American candies, and a significant shift in popular culture of the decade.

Culture

Greasers - Greasers are a subculture that emerged from American working-class youths in the 50's and 60's. The subculture was especially popular in Urban areas among Italian and Latino Americans. The term 'Greaser' took on a quasi-racial status, implying urban, ethnic masculinity and delinquency, and is speculated that it originated as a derogatory term for Italian, Greek, and Mexican migrant workers.

Greasers often came from lower class backgrounds and were disillusioned with American popular culture, often due to a lack of economic opportunity or because they were marginalised by the cultural shift towards conformity in the mid 1950's. However, the term 'Greaser' was not actually applied to the subculture until the mid-60's and was partially due to the notable style of slicked back hair.

Immigration and communities

Millions of Italians emigrated to the USA over the country's history, including a large influx after World War 2. After World War 2, the economy and population in the USA boomed – whereas in Italy it was the opposite with a poor living standard and lack of opportunities. There was a huge number of industrial jobs readily available, and many Italians ended up moving to the USA to fill this demand.

The North-East part of the USA such as New York has a thriving Italian community to this day, as that's where the boats from Italy landed. Many immigrants got jobs in the docks in that part of the USA, though some did travel and settle in many other parts of America.

Attitude towards smoking

The attitude towards smoking in the 50's was drastically different to today; scientists only began to make the link between smoking and lung cancer in the early to mid-50's, and rather than being condemned by doctors, banned in workplaces, and heavily restricted; they were often promoted as being good for you. They were also heavily advertised and romanticised by American idols of the day such as Audrey Hepburn as the epitome of glamour and sophistication.

We see references to cigarettes being trendy and cool all throughout 'Grease', including many positive advertisements for cigarettes; something that you do not see in the modern day.

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Born to hand jive, baby Born to hand jive, baby

Food and Drink

The Diner/The Soda Shop - In 'Grease', one of the most popular hangouts outside of high school is the 'Frosty Palace', a Soda Shop. Soda Shops are classic American staples, and boomed in popularity between the 30's and the 60's. Often open 24/7, with cheap food and tasty snacks such as burgers and milkshakes, they were extremely popular hangouts for people no matter their age or social class – despite being racially segregated until mid-60's.



Root Beer Float/Soda Float

A sofa float is a drink consisting of a base soda – such as coke or lemonade – and a couple of scoops of ice cream. A 'root beer float' for example classically made with Root Beer and vanilla ice cream.

Candy

'Hot Tamales' are a hard candy invented in the 50's that are shaped like little red pills. Perhaps more unusually, they're not sweet like traditional candies are, but instead cinnamon flavoured. In fact, a lot of popular candies in the USA were cinnamon flavoured – including Red Hots, and Atomic Fireballs.

'Pixy Stix' are a powdered candy, much like sherbet, sealed in what looks like the paper wrapping of drinking straws. They are a sweet-and-sour candy that comes in lots of different flavours such Blue Raspberry and Cucumber Watermelon.

'Twinkies' are a staple American snack; they are a golden sponge-type cake with a vanilla cream/custard filling.

Pop Culture

Music - Rock n Roll was a genre of music that developed in the early 50's, and is theorized that it developed from R&B, Gospel, and Jazz; genres of music that predominantly came from African American roots. As such, the genre became very popular among youths of multiple racial groups, and it is even argued that Rock and Roll was instrumental in breaking down segregation in the 60's.

Rock and Roll had a polarising effect on lifestyles, fashions, attitude, and language. It was a genre that expressed topics such as young love, freedom from middle class oppression, and rebellion against conformism and social uniformity. The older generation was worried about this, concerned that it would encourage delinquency – Frank Sinatra once described the genre as 'brutal, ugly, degenerate, vicious. ... It fosters almost totally negative and destructive reactions in young people'. It was a genre that perfectly aligned with the attitude and ideals of the Greaser subculture.

Celebrities

Some names that you may recognise as being iconic celebrities of the day include Fabian Forte and Pat Boone – who were particularly famous pop singers – and the Rock and Roll icon Elvis Presley.

There are also aplenty of actors in film and television whose names remain famous to this day, over 50 years since the 1960's came to an end; including James Dean, Audrey Hepburn, and Marilyn Monroe.





PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Directors Adele Gribbon & Abi Barker

Musical Director Kay Langford Lighting Designer / Technician Kieran Staniford

Senior Production Lead Neil Barrett

Backstage Crew Rachel Grant, Amy Green,

Lisa Hall, Charlotte Berry,

Maria Roberts, Hope Bradley, Lewis Cole & all other Mayfield Staff

Hair and Makeup Claire Mew & Southampton

City College

Art Department Terry Curtis & Art Students

IT Support James Murray

SPECIAL THANKS

Costumes Fredrica Goodridge, Rachel Grant

& Amy Green

Chris Webb

Rhiannon Hescott

Community Hub Joe Bolwell & Karen Dawkins Facilities Team Full time legend; Andy Dawkins,

Pete French & Rich Holmes

Sara Sullivan & Tom Dawkins

Programme / Photography

Admin

Cantell School

Barton Peveril College

Stage & Studio Projects LTD

Girl Guiding UK: The Showtime Costume Department

RAMA LAMA KA DINGA DA DINGA DONG **WOP BA-BA LU-MOP AND WOP BAM BOOM!**

