

Join Us

If you enjoy theatre, why not join us and benefit from membership:

- ✓ Half price personal tickets for Questors productions*
- ✓ Discounted Guest tickets when you bring friends to Questors productions*
- ✓ Children's FREE tickets†
- ✓ Opportunities to be actively involved in our productions
- ✓ Opportunity to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ Access to **iQ** – the members-only website: members.questors.org.uk
- ✓ Access to exclusive news on **iQ** and email newsletter
- ✓ Receive the regular programme leaflet
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club
- ✓ Special invitations, events and offers not available to the public
- ✓ Ticket reservation facility (conditions apply)
- ✓ Voting rights in the company

**Reduced prices exclude certain events. †Under 18, excludes certain events, maximum four per event. Must be collected at the performance and accompanied by the member.*

Getting the most from your membership

We have a wide range of opportunities for you to become actively involved front-of-house or backstage. Volunteer help is always needed for selling programmes or stewarding, and training is provided if you'd like to work in Box Office with our computerised system. To meet members in a social setting, volunteer to help behind the Grapevine bar. Backstage staff including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, sound and lighting designers and operators, painters, wardrobe and costume and set designers are always welcomed; whatever your skills, we'll find a place for you. We also have courses for those wishing to direct.

The Questors has a high standard of acting and, to maintain this, everyone wanting to act must first take an audition. These are held every month – call the Theatre Office for details of forthcoming auditions.

The Questors Youth Theatre – QYT

Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 18. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages at weekday teatime. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! Details are online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

The Questors Theatre
12 Mattock Lane, Ealing, W5 5BQ
Registered Charity No. 207516

Programme: Nigel Bamford
Theatre Office: 020 8567 0011
Box Office: 020 8567 5184
Email: enquiries@questors.org.uk

The Questors
THEATRE

90TH
ANNIVERSARY
SEASON

hairspray
JR.

book by Mark O'Donnell & Thomas Meehan
music by Marc Shaiman
lyrics by Scott Wittman & Marc Shaiman

The Judi Dench Playhouse
28 February – 7 March 2020

Fields at The Questors

Fields at The Questors serves Italian coffee, fine teas, hearty meals and handmade cakes, and is the perfect spot for a pre-theatre meal or intermission ice-cream.

Order interval drinks before the show to beat the crowds.

Regular opening hours:
Monday to Saturday,
9:00 am to 7:30 pm

Also open before and during the interval of all Judi Dench Playhouse evening and matinee performances.

Find **Fields** on **Facebook**.



The Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to Members and Friends of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as audience members on show nights.

The club is open seven nights a week and Sunday lunchtimes, and is managed and staffed entirely by volunteers.

We are the proud holders of a Cask Marque award for the quality of our real ales, we appear in the 2020 edition of The Good Beer Guide and we are **CAMRA West Middlesex Club of the Year**. A choice of at least three real ales is usually available, including Fuller's London Pride. We also provide a range of draught lagers and ciders, as well as wines and spirits – all at very reasonable prices.

Opening Hours:

7:00 pm – 10:30 pm (Sunday – Wednesday)

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm (Thursday – Saturday)

Sunday lunchtime: midday – 2:30 pm

See questors.org.uk/grapevine for more details.

Fields and the Grapevine accept payments by card.



Images: Gavin Jones

HAIRSPRAY JR.

book by Mark O'Donnell & Thomas Meehan

music by Marc Shaiman

lyrics by Scott Wittman & Marc Shaiman

The Judi Dench Playhouse

28 February – 7 March 2020

HAIRSPRAY JR.

The 1950s are out, and change is in the air! *Hairspray JR.* is a family-friendly musical, piled bouffant-high with laughter, romance and deliriously tuneful songs.

It's 1962 in Baltimore, Maryland, and spunky, plus-size teen, Tracy Turnblad has one big dream – to dance on the popular *Corny Collins Show*. When she finally gets her shot, she's transformed from social outcast to sudden star. In balancing her newfound power with her desire for justice, Tracy fights to dethrone the reigning Miss Teen Hairspray, Amber von Tussle, and integrate a TV network in the process. With the help of her outsized mom, Edna, and guest DJ, Motormouth Maybelle, the rhythm of Tracy's new beat just might prove unstoppable.

During the 1960s, America was going through a momentous cultural and legislative shift, with the Civil Rights Movement bringing about social justice and opportunities to African Americans up and down the country. After a decades-long struggle by African Americans to end legalised racial discrimination, disenfranchisement and racial segregation, the world was opening its eyes and history was being made.

Hairspray is full of fun and upbeat songs, with big and colourful characters, but it is also about the power of the young to bring about change and justice.

This group of young actors have been a delight to work with and have blown me away with their talent and enthusiasm. They've worked very hard to bring these larger than life characters to life and have made some lifelong friends in the process. We hope you enjoy the show as much as we've enjoyed making it!

Hannah Webster, Director

A Note from the Creators

Dear Audience Members,

When we, the creators of HAIRSPRAY, first started licensing the show to high-schools and community theatres, we were asked by some about using make-up in order for non-African Americans to portray the black characters in the show.

Although we comprehend that not every community around the globe has the perfectly balanced make-up (pardon the pun) of ethnicity to cast HAIRSPRAY as written, we had to, of course, forbid any use of the colouring of anyone's face (even if done respectfully and subtly) for it is still, at the end of the day, a form of blackface, which is a chapter in the story of race in America that our show is obviously against.

Yet, we also realized, to deny an actor the chance to play a role due to the colour of his or her skin would be its own form of racism, albeit a "politically correct" one.

And so, if the production of HAIRSPRAY you are about to see tonight features folks whose skin colour doesn't match the characters (not unlike how Edna has been traditionally played by a man), we ask that you use the timeless theatrical concept of "suspension of disbelief" and allow yourself to witness the story and not the racial background (or gender) of the actors. Our show is, after all, about not judging books by their covers! If the direction and the actors are good (and they had better be!) you will still get the message loud and clear. And hopefully have a great time receiving it!

Thank You,

Marc, Scott, Mark, Tom & John

QUESTORS YOUTH THEATRE (QYT) PRESENTS

HAIRSPRAY JR.

book by Mark O'Donnell & Thomas Meehan, music by Marc Shaiman, lyrics by Scott Wittman & Marc Shaiman

based on the New Line Cinema film written and directed by John Waters

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 28 February 2020

CAST

in order of appearance

Tracy Turnblad	Emily Turner	Gilbert	Logan Surman
Corny Collins	Isaac Beck	Stooie	Kais Andany
Amber Von Tussle	Bionda Bolganschi	Thad	Elina Ghai
Link Larkin	Sam Thompson Roche	Duane	Oscar Devendra
Brad	Christian Ganev	Mr Pinky	Wilfie Goodliffe
Tammy	Rose Trowell	Judine (Dynamite)	Cara Stanislaus
Fender	Daniel Hayes	Kamiah (Dynamite)	Jian Andany
Sketch	Daniel Duffy	Shayna (Dynamite)	Rose Perry
Shelley	Helena Von Roon	Gym Teacher	Edward Gamazeliuc
IQ	Ollie Barnes-Holt	Cindy Watkins	Annabelle Tan
Brenda	Olivia Carmichael	Motormouth Maybelle	Destiny West
Lou Ann	Sylvie Memess	Matron	Isobel Spurling
Penny Pingleton	Bianca Hurley	Beatnik Chick	Naina Mathur
Edna Turnblad	Alice Barker	Male Guard	Finn McCabe
Prudy Pingleton	Dess Coleman	Newscaster	Zoe Kemp
Velma Von Tussle	Stella Robinson	Ensemble	Alexandra Kern
Wilbur Turnblad	Joshua Carr	Ensemble	Jael Ainon
Little Inez Stubbs	Alicia Chang	Ensemble	Isla Markham
Principal	Fran Marszalek	Ensemble	Marija Velkova
Seaweed J. Stubbs	William Connor	Ensemble	Ciara Fulker
Lorraine	Romy Kumar	Ensemble	Nikhil Ghai

The performance lasts approximately 1 hour with no interval

Please turn off all mobile phones and similar electronic devices.
The use of cameras, video cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thank you.

PRODUCTION

Director	Hannah Webster
Assistant Director	Rory Hobson
Musical Director	Dave Roberts
Choreographer	Sara Page
Set Designer	Alex Marker
Costume Designer	Shaan Latif-Shaikh
Lighting Designer	John Green
Sound Designer	Dan Tigg
Stage Manager	Bernie Brady
Deputy Stage Manager	Dani Beckett
Assistant Stage Manager	Joe Booth, Adam Carvell, Luke Dunkley
Properties	Peter Salvietto
Wardrobe Mistress	Sue Peckitt
Wardrobe Team	Jane Arnold-Forster, Dess Coleman, Helen Cooper, Jean Derby, Adina Elmasry, Helen Karasiewicz, Carla Marker, Maddie Tavare, Sylvia Wall
Lighting Assistants	Carole Swan, Andrew Whadcoat
Lighting Operator	Carole Swan
Lighting Riggers	Tim Pemberton, Robert Walker
Sound Operator	Ben Greenwood
Monitor Technician	Andrew Lumsden
Design Assistant	Alex Schneider
Set Construction	Kingston College BTEC Production Arts Course: Joshua Bell, Amelia Carter, Jack Gunesh, Merlin Lazare, Joseph Martin, Ricardo Pinheiro, James Rogers, Jessica Speller, Lily Warnes, Jessica York
Set Painter	Ian Black
Get In Assistants	Maria Cieslak, Penny Duffy, Adina Elmasry, Bernd Gauweiler, Nick Kemp, Karl Kern, Doug King, Carla Marker, Rob Willin
Hair and Make-Up	Megan Douglas and the Delamar Academy
Photographer	Jane Arnold-Forster
Videographers	Peter Gould, Gavin Jones
Thanks to	Jan Auvache, Toby Burbidge, Claudia Carroll, Mary Davies, Jennifer Kerr, Jenny Richardson, Valerie Rudd, Nichola Thomas, Kate Townsend

THE BAND

Keyboards	Dave Roberts
Bass	Dan Tigg
Guitar	Chris Brooker
Drums	Chris Edwards
Saxophone/Keyboards	Eloise Sinclair

Biographies

John Green – Lighting Designer

John has had a lifelong interest in the use of light to sculpt a space, set a mood and direct the eye, but only got involved in stage lighting comparatively recently. In his nine years as a member of The Questors he has been involved with the lighting of numerous shows. His most recent shows as Lighting Designer include *Daisy Pulls It Off*, *Bugsy Malone*, *Blue/Orange*, *Charley's Aunt* and *Days of Significance*.

Rory Hobson – Assistant Director

A former member of Questors Youth Theatre, Rory is a graduate of Student Group 71 and a member of the National Youth Theatre. He has previously been seen on stage as Fleance in *Macbeth*, John Tate in *DNA* (QYT), Angel Clare in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, Albert in *Albert Make Us Laugh* and Billy in *Sleeping Beauty*. Rory has immensely enjoyed working with this fabulous bunch of actors being everyone's unofficial understudy.

Shaan Latif-Shaikh – Costume Designer

Shaan has worked on costumes for many Questors shows including *The 39 Steps*, *Animal Farm* and several pantomimes. Outside of The Questors, he works for Rainbow Productions, a costume company specialising in mascots and children's characters.

Alex Marker – Set Designer

Alex joined The Questors in 1988 and currently serves as Artistic Director and the Director of Questors Youth Theatre. He has designed over 150 productions for many venues ranging from West End, regional, touring, site specific, fringe and, of course, The Questors, where he has designed most of the QYT productions over the last 23 years. www.alexmarker.com.

Sara Page – Choreographer

Sara is a performer, choreographer, pianist and teacher. She has been performing and collaborating with a variety of theatre companies and vocal groups both nationally and internationally over the last five years. Sara has an MA in Advanced Theatre Practice from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.



Dave Roberts – Musical Director

Dave founded Starlight Theatre Company in 1996 and went on to direct, musically direct and choreograph over 100 productions. He has also produced and directed two huge productions for Starlight at Theatre Royal Drury Lane and The Adelphi Theatre. After his work on *Rent*, *Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp* and *Bugsy Malone*, Dave is delighted to return here and would like to thank the fantastic crew, cast and band for such an enjoyable experience.

Dan Tigg – Sound Designer

Dan is a sound engineer and bass player who has been working in theatre for the past 15 years. He has designed sound for shows in the West End, on UK tours and in local theatres. He is very excited to be able both to design *Hairspray JR.* and play bass in the band.

Hannah Webster – Director

Hannah joined Questors Youth Theatre in 2002 and later returned as an adult and graduated from Student Group 65. Hannah has previously directed *Bugsy Malone*, *The Effect* and *The Beauty Manifesto*. As an actor her theatre credits include *Pygmalion*, *Bird on the Wire*, *The Master Builder*, *Macbeth*, *Absurd Person Singular* and many others outside of The Questors. Hannah has greatly enjoyed working on *Hairspray*.



Next at The Questors

FIRST LOVE IS THE REVOLUTION

by Rita Kalnejais

6 – 14 March 2020

The Studio

Awkward and lonely Basti is struggling with adolescent angst when an impossible bond develops between him and Rdeca. Coupled with the darkness of a depressed mother and a murdered father between them, the emotional rawness of this coming-of-age tale soon spirals dangerously out of control. A truly unique teenage love story, both deeply intimate yet wonderfully surreal, artfully juxtaposing the horror of death with the bewitching nature of first love.

STRANGE ORCHESTRA

by Rodney Ackland

27 March – 4 April 2020

The Studio

The Student Group presents a 1932 play set in an unkempt Chelsea flat belonging to slovenly bohemian Vera Lyndon. This ramshackle household is full of lodgers, all struggling artists. In a politically volatile era, the coming conflict in Europe casts a shadow, especially over Esther, Vera's impassioned left-wing daughter; while her other daughter Jenny longs to write a book, despite her lack of experience. Then in strolls Peter, a homeless artist with suspicious intentions.