



STAGERAGE

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May this new year bring you much joy and fun.
May you find peace, love and success.
Sending our heartiest new year wishes to you and yours!



Save THE date

17 April – 2 May 2026
CHICAGO

Tuesday, 28 April 2026
Annual General Meeting





Your ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS membership is due for renewal. The renewal fees for **current** financial members (i.e. your membership card expires on 31 January **2026**) are as follows;

- **Adult Membership – \$30.00**
- **Child Membership (under 16) – \$15.00**
- **Family Membership (2A & any children under 16) – \$60.00**

Membership renewal rates, if paid after the AGM on 28 April 2026, will be;

Adults – \$40.00 **Child (under 16) – \$20.00** **Family (2A & any) – \$80.00**

Pro-forma invoices for membership will be sent to current members within the next couple of weeks. Membership fees can be paid to **PN Operatic Society: 06-0729-0024947-00**



CHICAGO
APR 17 - MAY 2
"They had it coming..."

CR Law
Cooper Rapley Lawyers

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW AT **TICKETEK**



The **CR** Law Season Cast of
Cooper Rapley Lawyers

CHICAGO

ROXIE HART *Tamzin Price*

VELMA KELLY *Alexandra Hughes*

BILLY FLYNN *Lindsay Yeo*

AMOS *Ben Pryor*

MAMA MORTON *Clare Lees-Galloway*

MARY SUNSHINE *Laura Signal*

FRED CASELY *Andrew Jamieson*

MERRY MURDERESSES

Anna Krakosky, Jessie Feyen, Ruby Porter, Paula Fredericks, Cara Hesselin

ENSEMBLE

*Milana Maru-Reade, Amy Hunt, Caitlyn Mohr, Charlotte Hemmingsen
Emily Sutherland, Juliette Little, Cal Eagle, Bradley Forsyth, Caleb Thomas
Elyah Hobbs, Finn Davidson, Matthew Lyne, Louis Barnes*

BVS

*David Chisholm, Erin Torrington, Ethan Maxwell, Greg Dow, Terry Stewart
Vanessa Stephens, Emilia Vbart, Lw Robinson, Phiannon Galpin
Andrea Maxwell*

ACT THREE
PRODUCTIONS



ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS
PROUDLY INVITE YOU TO SPONSOR

CHICAGO

17 APRIL - 2 MAY 2026
REGENT ON BROADWAY

\$450 SPONSORSHIP

- ★ 2x premium tickets to opening night
- ★ 1x complimentary programme
- ★ 2x drinks on arrival
- ★ After show cast meet and greet with cash bar
- ★ Your logo in our show programme
- ★ Promotion on our social media platforms
- ★ The satisfaction of supporting your local arts community

We also have larger sponsorship deals available. Please get in touch to see what we can offer your business!

Contact Jen Lambert at admin@actthree.co.nz for further details.

To secure your sponsorship, please email admin@actthree.co.nz

06 355 0499

actthree.co.nz

ACT THREE
PRODUCTIONS

The Arts Group Foundation



Registrations open for MTNZ 2026 Training Weekend



Announcing MTNZ Connecting Communities Creatively – Ka hui tahi

We're thrilled to launch our National Training & Networking Weekend – Connecting Communities Creatively –

Ka hui tahi, happening 13–15 March 2026 in Ōamaru.

Hosted by Musical Theatre Ōamaru, this inspiring weekend brings together theatre-makers from across Aotearoa to share ideas, develop skills, and celebrate the magic of musical theatre. Across three dynamic streams – Performance, Behind the Scenes, and Technical – you'll learn from some of the country's best theatre minds, while making new connections and strengthening our creative community.

We're also excited to introduce MTNZ Juniors, a dedicated programme for performers 18 and under, running alongside the main weekend. Juniors will learn singing, dance and acting, guided by professional tutors, and perform on stage at the Saturday evening showcase.

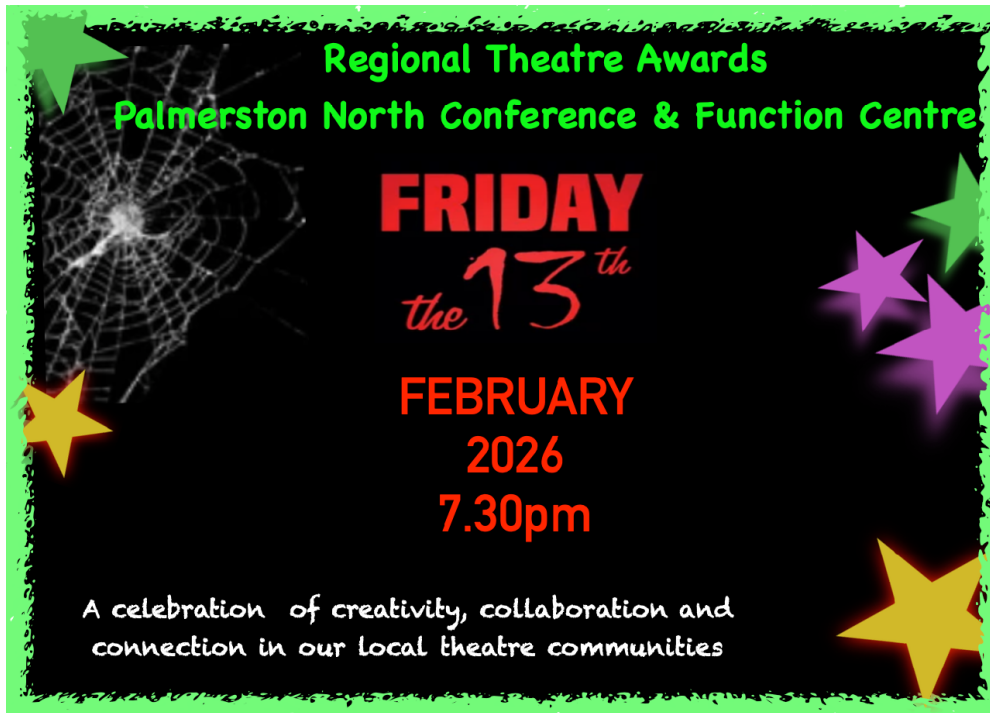
The weekend also features the MTNZ AGM, a themed Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, and a Networking Night on Friday – the perfect chance to celebrate, connect and be inspired. Ōamaru is the perfect backdrop for this special weekend of learning, networking, and creativity.

Registrations now open – secure your spot today! <https://www.mtnz.org.nz/training/connecting>



Musical Theatre New Zealand
02102797798 | office@mtnz.co.nz





Congratulations to all the theatre companies who provided a platform for all the fine actors, technicians, artists, designers, production teams and all supporters who created another stellar year of theatre. The time has come to applaud the amazing shows and people that have created a phenomenal year of theatre in the Central Region during 2025. Join us in celebration of the 23 productions and toast their success at the **2026 Regional Theatre Awards Ceremony, Palmerston North Conference & Function Centre, Friday – 13 February 2026.**

Join us as we celebrate in style;

- Dress to impress (or wear appropriately themed Friday the 13th attire)
- Walk the red carpet
- Experience live theatrical snippets and musical interludes
- Discover some of the shows that will be hitting our stages in the coming year

Doors open from 7.00 p.m. for a 7.30 p.m. show start. **Tickets** for General Admission and Tables (of 8) can be booked online at; <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2026/regional-theatre-awards/palmerston-north#:> Each table comes with a complimentary platter and one complimentary drink per person.

ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS NOMINEES

CREATIVES

Concept and Design (Musical)

School of Rock (ATP)

Elf Jr (MYTH)

Tick, Tick ... BOOM! (DTC)

The Wizard of Oz Junior Edition (HYPE)

Come From Away (ATP)

Sugar Baby Love (MTS)

ATP	Act Three Productions
DTC	Dannevirke Theatre Company
HYPE	Horowhenua Young Persons Entertainment
LLTC	Levin Little Theatre Centrestage
MSS	Manawatu Summer Shakespeare
MTS	Manawatu Theatre Society
MYTH	Manawatu Youth Theatre
TCTG	The Collection Theatre Group

Technical Design & Operation

The Tempest (MSS)

Three One Act Plays (MTS)

Elf Jr (MYTH)

Tick, Tick ... BOOM! (DTC)

Come From Away (ATP)

Waiting For God (LLTC)

Choreography

Ihaia Kinaiti – *The Tempest* (MSS)

Kate Martin – School of Rock (ATP)

Emma Carey, Harmony Eugenio, Mikaela Christensen – *Elf Jr* (MYTH)

Amy Macdonald-Te Huki – *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (DTC)

Matthew Lyne – Come From Away (ATP)

Val Bolter – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

Musical Direction

Barry Jones & Lottie Perry – School of Rock (ATP)

Jenna Baxter – *Elf Jr* (MYTH)

Elijah Graham & Davina Graham – *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (DTC)

Ann-Marie Stapp – *The Wizard of Oz Junior Edition* (HYPE)

Lottie Perry – Come From Away (ATP)

Graham Johnston – *Disenchanted* (TCTG)

Direction (Debut)

Belinda Chainey – *Wyrld Sisters* (LLTC)

Charlotte White – *Falling* (MTS)

Jacob McDonald & Jon Samia – School of Rock (ATP)

William Gilbert – *Stiff* (LLTC)

Myah Snow – *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition* (HYPE)

Anna Krakosky – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

Direction

Jacob McDonald & Jon Samia – School of Rock (ATP)

Kane Parsons – *Elf Jr* (MYTH)

Davina Graham – *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (DTC)

Phil Anstis – Come From Away (ATP)

Katte Johnston – *Disenchanted* (TCTG)

Anna Krakosky – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

PERFORMANCES

Ensemble (Musical)

Rocky Roadiez – School of Rock (ATP)

Horace Howlers – School of Rock (ATP)

Elves – *Elf Jr* (MYTH)

Come From Away (ATP)

Disenchanted (TCTG)

Sugar Baby Love (MTS)

Connection Between Characters (Youth)

Rocky Roadies – School of Rock (ATP)

Horace Howlers – School of Rock (ATP)

The Hobbs Family – *Elf Jr* (MYTH)

Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman & Cowardly Lion – *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition* (HYPE)

Connection Between Characters (Musical)

Clio Exconde (Ned) & Phil Anstis (Dewey Finn) – School of Rock (ATP)

Jenna Baxter (Rosemary Mullins) & Phil Anstis (Dewey Finn) – School of Rock (ATP)

Elijah Graham (Jon), Tania Mackay (Susan) & Horowai Puhata-Makarini (Michael) – *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (DTC)

Lindsay Yeo (Kevin T) & Frazer Lynn (Kevin J) – Come From Away (ATP)

Val Andrew (Snow White), Katina Hughes (Cinderella), Kat Nixon (Sleeping Beauty) – *Disenchanted* (TCTG)

Shar Carson (Rene Twin) & Katte Johnston (Glad Twin) – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

Magic Moment

Matthew McEwen (Theo), Lead Singer, No Vacancy – *School of Rock* (ATP)

The Band – Come From Away (ATP)

Elijah Hobbs (Guitar Solo) – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

The Can Can – 'Allo, 'Allo 2 *The Camembert Caper* (DTC)

Gary Clark (Henry Tuck with *Henry the 8th*) – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

Emerging Actor

Honey Sinclair (Miranda) – *The Tempest* (MSS)

Donovan Smith (Ferdinand) – *The Tempest* (MSS)

Charlette Taylor (Magret) – *Wyrd Sisters* (LLTC)

Darcy Warren (Katie) – School of Rock (ATP)

Charlie Withy (Charlie/Manager) – *Elf Jr* (MYTH)

Elijah Hobbs – School of Rock (ATP) / Elf Jr (MYTH) / Sugar Baby Love (MTS)

Supporting Actor in a Female Role (Musical)

Milana Mariu-Read (Patty) – School of Rock (ATP)

Tania MacKay (Susan) – *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (DTC)

Milana Mariu-Read (Janice Marshall) – Come From Away (ATP)

Erica Ward (Hannah) – Come From Away (ATP)

Demelza Darby (Mavis Grindlewood) – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

Supporting Actor in a Male Role (Musical)

Clio Exconde (Ned) – School of Rock (ATP)

Horowai Puhata-Makarini (Michael) – *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (DTC)

Lindsay Yeo (Kevin T) – Come From Away (ATP)

Frazer Lynn (Kevin J) – Come From Away (ATP)

Reihana Haronga (Bob) – Come From Away (ATP)

Phil White (Gordon Grindlewood) – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

Actor in a Female Role (Musical)

Jenna Baxter (Rosemary Mullins) – School of Rock (ATP)

Val Andrew (Snow White) – *Disenchanted* (TCTG)

Amy Hunt (Marion Wentwhistle) – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)

Actor in a Male Role (Musical)

Phil Anstis (Dewey Finn) – School of Rock (ATP)

Elijah Graham (Jon) – *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (DTC)

Caleb Thomas (Robby Hood) – *Sugar Baby Love* (MTS)





They've Always Belonged Together! Ariana Grande and Jonathan Bailey to Lead London Revival of Sunday in the Park with George

by Jonah de Forest – 14 January 2026

Bit by bit, the much-anticipated London stage revival of *Sunday in the Park with George* is being put together. Last month, Deadline reported that WICKED film stars Ariana Grande and Jonathan Bailey were in talks to lead a new staging of the Pulitzer Prize winning musical, with producers setting their sights on London's Barbican Centre for a summer 2027 opening. The news was confirmed on 14 January 2026, when an official Instagram account for the production was launched with an accompanying announcement. Tony winner Marianne Elliot, who previously worked with Bailey on the 2018 West End revival of *Company*, is attached to direct. Tom Scutt will design the production. Shortly before the official announcement, Grande and Bailey shared a joint Instagram post of them gazing upon Georges Seurat's painting "A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" with the caption: "All it has to be is good" – a lyric from the show's opening number. Grande and Bailey starred together in the film adaptation of WICKED (for which Grande received an Oscar nomination) and its sequel WICKED: FOR GOOD. Bailey won an Olivier Award for his comic turn in the aforementioned *Company* revival. Last year, he played the title role in a London production of Shakespeare's *Richard III* and has been working on the West End since he was a child. Grande also has early ties to theatre, having made her Broadway debut at 15 years old in the Jason Robert Brown musical *13* before ascending to pop superstardom. Originally staged on Broadway in 1984, *Sunday in the Park with George* offers a fictionalised take on the inception of the famous "Sunday Afternoon" painting. Bailey will play the surly but passionate Seurat and Grande will portray his lover Dot. With music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a book by James Lapine, *Sunday in the Park with George* was most recently revived on Broadway in 2017 with Jake Gyllenhaal and Annaleigh Ashford. The original production, which starred Mandy Patinkin and Bernadette Peters, was immortalised through PBS' Great Performances series.

LES MISÉRABLES NORTH AMERICAN TOUR WELCOMES BACK HAYDEN TEE

by Jamie Kravitz – 2 January 2026

The *Les Misérables* North American Tour will welcome back Broadway star Hayden Tee as Inspector Javert beginning 7 January. Tee returns to the role having played it on Broadway, London's West End and the North American Tour. He was most recently seen on Broadway in the role of Lance in *& Juliet*. Other roles include Miss Trunchbull in *Matilda* and Marius in *Les Misérables* in the West End. *Les Misérables: The Arena Concert Spectacular* will play at Radio City Music Hall in New York City from 23 July through 9 August 2026, serving as the only North American engagement in 2026. Following a record-breaking two-year run since its opening in Belfast in September 2024, these dates mark the end of the official 40th anniversary celebrations for the world's longest-running musical. *Les Misérables* last played on Broadway in 2016 and the West End production has just entered its 41st year at London's Sondheim Theatre. Cameron Mackintosh's production is written by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg and is based on the novel by Victor Hugo.

***Starlight Express* to close in London**

Andrew Lloyd Webber's much-loved musical *Starlight Express* has announced its closing date in London. *Starlight Express* has extended for the final time at the Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre, and will run until 3 May 2026. This new version of *Starlight Express*, which opened in June 2024, will have played in London for nearly two years. In 2027, *Starlight Express* is set to embark on a world tour, with details to be announced. Producer of the show, Michael Harrison for Lloyd Webber Harrison Musicals, said in a statement; "I'm thrilled that *Starlight Express* will extend for the 7th time, in the unique environment of Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre. We are also thrilled that the success of this new production means we will embark on a world tour commencing in Spring 2027, details of which we will announce shortly. However, for now, this is your final call for boarding to see the spectacular London revival in Wembley."



YOUR NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is compiled bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November each year. If you would like to request that a notice be included in the next **STAGE RAGE**, please e-mail admin@actthree.co.nz and your request will be passed on to the newsletter team.

