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HELLO

How exciting to be a part of Options Theatre Company's 2020 artistic program!

The atmosphere as the lamps floating from the roof illuminate the rehearsal room, the passion of the ensemble practising and helping each other learn lines and movements, the excitement behind the curtain before a show, the magic of the performance reflected in the faces of our audiences.

This is what we at Options Theatre Company live for.

This year we continue to strive for excellence in the creative and performing arts, but we go further. Much further.

Whilst quality theatrical training from industry professionals remains one of our highest priorities, this year, members of Options Theatre Company become more than performers and creatives. This year we become ambassadors for our unique and emerging art form.

To say I'm proud of this ensemble and our creative staff is an understatement. Seeing OTC and its ensemble members featured in award winning television productions, such as Northern Pictures *Love on the Spectrum* and Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation's National TV, Radio and Print Campaign has been a testament to all of OTC's hard work toward visibility in the wider community.

This continues on into 2020 with OTC building professional relationships with national and international casting agents. I can't wait to see ensemble member Ben Peel in ABC's murder mystery *Harrow*.

We're featured in Central Coast Tourism Magazines and were chosen to represent Disability Arts for the Central Coast Council and Central Coast Local Area Health Services Disability Inclusion Program.

Our support workers are a creative and caring team of professional carers and our tutors are creatives of the highest standard, all with accolades in the professional arts industry.

We are a team of creatives all working toward a much more accessible future. A future of diversity in the arts, theatre, television and film.

We are Options Theatre Company and this year, everyone will know!



Stuart Smith
Artistic Director



LOVE ON THE SPECTRUM

tv+iview



**NOW I'M
THE STAR OF
THE SHOW**

NEWCASTLE PERMANENT
**CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION**

OTC LIVE

OTC LIVE performances are one of the Central Coast's most anticipated theatrical events of the year.

Our ensemble members are tutored by industry professionals, refining their theatrical skills in acting, singing and dancing while increasing confidence and creativity. We are a unique voice in our community and our increasing visibility is creating awareness and changing dated perceptions of disability.

OTC LIVE productions consistently play to SOLD OUT audiences across the Coast. Our performances are created with the highest theatrical, musical, technical and professional standards and are tailored to showcase the unique abilities of our ensemble.

This year's **OTC LIVE** Workshops and rehearsals will culminate in a spectacular performance at Laycock Street Community Theatre on International Day of Disability 2020 - offering roles for the entire ensemble on stage and behind the scenes.







OTC

DEBUT

OTC DEBUT is an introduction to the many aspects of creating theatre.

Get an introduction to stagecraft by joining our workshops in Musical Theatre, Dance, Costume Design and Set Construction.

OTC DEBUT is your gateway into everything creative. If you aspire to join **OTC TROUPE**, then **OTC DEBUT** is where you want to be.

By joining **OTC DEBUT**, you'll learn to work as an ensemble, while making friends and gaining confidence.

Join this dynamic program and you'll get an overview of everything in the Creative Arts world.

Discover your hidden talents and become part of the exciting theatrical world of **Options Theatre Company**.



OTC STUDIO

A person wearing headphones and sunglasses is operating a Canon camera on a tripod. The scene is lit with a bright light source, creating a dramatic effect. The background is dark, and the overall atmosphere is professional and focused.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION.

OTC STUDIO is a practical 'on set' experience.

Learn the 'Behind the Screens' secrets of making Short Films. Capture footage live on location and in studio productions, news presentations and YouTube videos.

Get hands-on experience as a technician, while working as a valued member of our Film, Editing and Sound Crews.

This year, combined with the new **OTC XTRA**, **OTC STUDIO** will be on hand to travel to various locations to get the latest stories and interviews from the '*Who's Who in the News*'.

Learn production techniques, create YouTube videos, and be part of a working studio crew, behind or in front of the camera.

Create and edit professional short films and work to meet production deadlines.





OTC DANCE



OTC DANCE brings you highly skilled industry professionals running diverse and energetic workshops in the many styles of dance.

We explore Hip Hop, Contemporary, Modern Expressive, Cabaret, Musical Theatre, Jazz and Classical.

OTC DANCE provides self-expression in a safe and fun environment. Our workshops are fast paced and enhance core strengths and flexibility, while improving mobility, posture, and confidence.

OTC DANCE is inclusive, providing opportunities for everybody – regardless of their ability. Our pieces are created to showcase the diversity of our dance ensemble.

This year **OTC DANCE** will present their work as a part of the **OTC LIVE** performance, which will be held on the third of December – the *International Day of People with Disabilities* at Laycock Street Community Theatre.

OTC TROUPE



Members are chosen from our entire ensemble to join **OTC TROUPE**.

These highly skilled performers are our Theatrical Ambassadors promoting inclusion, visibility, awareness and diversity in the community.

Members of the **OTC TROUPE** ensemble have been featured in National Advertising Campaigns, the critically acclaimed ABC series *Love on the Spectrum* and most recently the BBC series, *Harrow*.

The **OTC TROUPE** will be heading up exciting new initiatives this year. Rehearsals are underway for a mid-year performance as well as our other new projects - **OTC TYPECAST** and **OTC XTRA**.

These new projects have been created in collaboration with our trained industry professionals and our ensemble members to strengthen the presence of diversity in journalism and visibility in Film, TV, Social Media and Theatre.





OTC DESIGN

The **OTC DESIGN** workshops develop creative skills in design. Members of our Design Department are trained to create sets, backdrops, costumes, wigs, props and puppets for our **OTC LIVE** performances and photoshoots.

When you join **OTC DESIGN**, you will learn how to cut fabric, paint, sew buttons, take costume measurements and work with a team of design professionals to create the costumes worn by our **OTC LIVE** cast members in our performances.

By joining **OTC DESIGN**, you learn to work as a team, while making friends and gaining valuable skills in solving creative problems. You will learn to set goals and accomplish them in a collaborative environment, while being able to express yourself creatively.

Use your imagination and make your ideas come to life building sets, creating costumes and being involved in all the design aspects of theatre production.



OTC XTRA



OTC XTRA is a new and exciting way for our ensemble members to create and amplify their unique public voice in print journalism, social media and internet broadcasting.

OTC XTRA will be out in the community, gathering stories from our politicians, local heroes and celebrities.

In collaboration with **OTC STUDIO**, regular newsprint publications, as well as videos and interactive stories will feature on our social networks – playing an important role in empowering our participants.

OTC XTRA will actively engage with the community allowing their voices to be heard from a different perspective, while boosting confidence, improving social skills and building a passion for journalism and communication.

Don't just watch the news - BE the news!



OTC TYPECAST

Options Theatre Company has developed an excellent reputation with renowned Production Companies, Casting Agents and Directors all over Australia.

Demand for more visibility and inclusion in TV, Film and Advertising has led Australia's top casting agents to **Options Theatre Company** - and we have answered the call.

OTC TYPECAST is being developed by members of our ensemble, who are working alongside casting agents, to create a safe and accessible way for actors and models with disability to be seen and cast in major productions.

When the opportunity arises, **Options Theatre Company** is first to be invited to put forward members from its ensemble, providing screen tests, showreels and portfolios at an industry level standard.

All members of **Options Theatre Company** will have an opportunity to be part of this exciting new initiative, developed and run by members of the ensemble.



Options Theatre Company can now offer you access to Voice and Speech Training with Professional Vocal Coach, and Opera and Musical Theatre Performer, Todd Keys.

Working with *Access All Areas Speech Pathology*, Todd's expertise and vocal knowledge is available to the ensemble of **Options Theatre Company**.

Vocal training reduces feelings of loneliness, leaving people feeling relaxed, happy, and connected. It can also boost confidence, improve mental function, help with immune response, and be a form of cardiovascular exercise.

Todd runs Voice, Speech and Singing Training onsite at **Options Theatre Company**.

“ Everyone deserves the right to communicate freely and confidently – singing is the pathway to finding your true voice.

Todd Keys | Vocal Coach



OTC SING

Our **Options Theatre Company** team consists of industry professionals and qualified support workers to create theatrical and professional, learning and social programs with a difference.

*“ We love everything that **Options Theatre Company** stands for and achieves. You are helping to rewrite the future not only for the members of your organisation but also for us, as your work compels us all to re-frame our expectations for people in our community living with a disability.*

Graham Batten | Executive Officer
Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation

OTC TEAM





WE OFFER HIGH QUALITY, UNIQUE SERVICES TO YOUNG ADULTS WITH A DISABILITY

At **Options Disability Support**, we listen to what you want and support you to create individual solutions for what you want to achieve. We will provide practical support so that you can develop independence, personal and social skills that will allow you to live, work, have fun and participate in your community.

BE INDEPENDENT

Grow more independent in ways that work for you and learn to be in control of your life.

You can learn skills that could lead to you living on your own one day.

Skills include shopping, meal planning and preparation, transport, technology, budgeting, and decision making.

BE CREATIVE

Feed your creativity and explore a variety of ways that you can express yourself.

You can work on either individual or group projects in an area that suits your interests.

Choices include photography, sewing, art, music, motorworx, film, woodwork.

BE INVOLVED

Gain skills and an understanding about what it takes to be part of a team.

You can discover ways to be involved at the Edible Gardens through our social enterprise based activities.

Choices include the print room, café, volunteering, gardening or lawn mowing.

BE SOCIAL

Try new things and spend time with others that share your interests.

You can enjoy outings with your friends or meet some new ones.

Choices include movies, concerts, bushwalking, camping, cruises, picnics, sports and local community events.



A woman with blue eyes and red lipstick, wearing a black hat and jacket, holds a large, colorful umbrella (red, blue, green, yellow) at night. The background is dark with warm, bokeh lights.

OPTIONS

DISABILITY SUPPORT

THE CHOICE IS YOURS... YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS

If you'd like to join any of our programs, call us on (02) 4340 5155

optionsdisabilitysupport.org.au

Artistic Director Stuart Smith

Musical & Technical Director Andrew Sampford

Assistant Artistic Director Carolyn McNamara

Head of Design Lauren Pinsak

Digital Support Simon Boal

Communications Michelle Willmott

Design, Photography & Performance Joseph Issa

Acting & Performance Matthew Johnston

Acting Anthony Howes

Choreographer Nicole Seggie

Choreographer Emily Marshall

Stage Management & Grant Officer Sandra Simmonds

Design Lynette Field

Support Staff Lorraine Pearson, David Russell,
Mitchell Cooper, Joanne de Meyer, Joanna Tomlinson,
Jodie-Lea Holburn, Oliver Craw & Joanne Gregory

Options Disability Support

CEO Denise Stingmore

Operations Manager Nicole Thorne

Finance Officer Amanda Daniel

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