

Media Release

11 March 2021

The verdict is in with *Legally Blonde The Musical* hailed as a great success

The judge's gavel has fallen on *Legally Blonde The Musical* and the verdict was very positive with the Gladstone Regional Council production, presented by CQ Today, found guilty for being one of the best community musicals to date.

Performed across five nights (25-27 February and 5-6 March) in front of a combined audience of 2945 people at the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre (GECC), *Legally Blonde The Musical* left a lasting impression on attendees who did not object and left the venue with a glowing smile on their face.

The evidence of that was clear with audience testimonials proving nothing but positive:

"Best show I've been to for as long as I can remember. Really good choice for audience engagement and something to take away from it all at the end."

"What an amazing show! Such a great night out, it's hard to believe that this is a Community Musical and not a Broadway production!"

"A great job of helping people forget about their trials and tribulations for a few hours and carry them off to an energetic and electric tale."

"I don't know anyone who didn't come out of there smiling."

Piecing together a community musical is no easy feat, requiring a combined effort from the cast, crew, production team, orchestra, staff and ushers – in excess of 100 people – to make each night run as smoothly as possible.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said rehearsals took up to 10 hours per week, with most of the cast and crew giving up every Wednesday night and Sunday for nearly six months.

"This was a huge commitment for the cast and crew, who had to balance their day-to-day lives and work commitments in order to chase their passion for stage performance," Councillor Burnett said.

"That commitment proved to be well and truly worth it as the audience witnessed an absolutely fantastic performance.

"Director Jeannine Butler has a knack of bringing the best out of her cast with the support of her Creative Crew, led by Hannah McMillan (Elle Woods), but it's also important to acknowledge the other 40 cast members and the team behind the curtain who help make productions such as *Legally Blonde The Musical* run like clockwork."

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Cr Burnett said the GECC team is currently in the process of planning for the 2022 Combined Schools Musical, with clues to be dropped closer to Easter as to what the production will be.

“All I can say is that it is every exciting and a golden oldie that families will love,” he said.

“The 2020 Combined Schools Musical took us on a journey down the yellow brick road with the production of *The Wizard of Oz* and I’m expecting next year’s musical to be just as magical.”

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