

BACK TO THE 80’S

OFFICIAL AUDITION CALLBACKS PACKET & DIRECTORIAL GUIDE

Welcome to our callback auditions! To find the exact chemistry and balance needed for our production, we will be focusing on two key segments from the show: **Act 1, Scene 6** (The classroom introduction and locker dynamics) and **Act 1, Scene 8** (The locker scene where the boys draft the ultimate 80s medley love letter).

1. Overview of Callback Scenes

Scene 6: The Classroom & First Impressions

Context: Introduces Eileen to William Ocean High School, highlights the social hierarchy between the popular clique and the outcasts, and features the girls dreaming up their imaginary Miami boyfriends during *"Let's Hear It for the Boy."*

What we look for: High-energy comedic timing, distinct social postures, and clear contrasts between confidence and awkwardness.

Scene 8: The Lockers & The Secret Admirer Letter

Context: Michael and his crew stitch together an absurd 80s pop-lyric love letter ("Walking on Sunshine," "Dancing on the Ceiling") to trick Eileen, running parallel to Mr Cocker discovering Miss Brannigan’s vintage swimsuit catalog in the staffroom.

What we look for: Sharp comedic delivery, swift tonal shifts from bullying arrogance to bubbly jubilation, and high stakes farce.

2. Group Pairing Configurations

During the session, actors will be grouped to test chemistry across specific dynamics:

Group Configuration	Target Characters	Key Director Focus
Girls & Girls	Tiffany, Cyndi, Mel, Kim, Eileen, Laura, Debbie	Clique dynamics, sharp banter, synchronized enthusiasm vs. outcast awkwardness.

Group Configuration	Target Characters	Key Director Focus
Boys & Boys	Corey Jnr, Kirk, Alf, Michael, Billy, Lionel, Huey	Jock arrogance vs. nerdy earnestness, sidekick banter, and physical comedy.
Boys & Girls	Corey Jnr & Tiffany, Michael & Eileen	Unrequited romantic tension, heartbreak, and comedic status clashes.

3. Character Breakdown & Performance Notes

Corey Palmer Junior

The earnest, relatable hero of the show. He is deeply in love with his neighbor Tiffany but constantly tripped up by his own teenage awkwardness. *Play with vulnerable honesty and comic frustration.*

Tiffany Houston

Bubbly, popular, and aspiring to be Madonna and Cyndi Lauper rolled into one. Entirely wrapped up in the cool crowd. *Maintain high energy and effortless charm without losing her core sweetness.*

Michael Feldman ("Mickey")

The school's golden boy—suave and adored in public, but a manipulative bully behind closed doors. *Command the room with effortless 80s swagger and sharp status control.*

Eileen Reagan

The hopeful, romantic new girl who desperately wants to fit in. *Tap into genuine optimism and high emotional stakes when her world is upended.*

Laura Wilde & Debbie Fox

The ultimate outsider best friends who cope with being uncool by inventing gorgeous celebrity boyfriends in Miami. *Lean into fast-paced synchronized dialogue and theatrical delusion.*

Kirk Keaton & Alf Bueller

Corey's loyal, pop-culture obsessed best friends. *Bring deadpan sidekick chemistry and high-energy 80s geek culture enthusiasm.*

Mr Stevie Cocker & Miss Sheena Brannigan

The faculty. Cocker is uptight and math-obsessed; Brannigan is the glamorous Senior Co-ordinator hiding a past modeling career. *Balance professional authority with absolute comedic panic.*

"Remember: In 80s musical theater, heightening the emotional stakes makes the comedy land twice as hard. Have fun, play bold, and trust your scene partners!"