

Opening - Sue Court (Top Hat dancers), Janet Brinkop (Welcome to Burlesque staging), & Michael Craig (MC)

Use part of the stage behind the curtain for Top Hat # - show the 4 out LIONS' skit flat (stairwell) and then close it for Welcome to Burlesque # and to get ready for the first skit.

Overture - Welcome to Burlesque (only a portion of it)
Then open with a circus drum roll & spotlight on MC on stage right

MC: "Welcome ladies and gentlemen! Tonight we revisit the Barbary Coast of San Francisco. I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to meeting the "Belles" of the Barbary Coast and finding out WHY they were famous ladies (or is that infamous) ladies on the Barbary Coast.

I ... have received an invitation from Madam Irene McCready, or should I say Countess McCready. She throws the best parties. Everyone who's anyone will be there tonight! Including a few Virtuous Vixens & probably more than a **few** Wicked Willies.

Let's see who else received an engraved invitation to Madam McCready's party..."

*Curtain opens halfway to reveal a "high society" party scene. **Steering** and opening townspeople will be an amalgamation of Virtuous Vixens, Villains, Wicked Willies, Clergy Members, Keystone Kops (apparently some cross dressing involved here). High society party goes on in the background silently while Top Hat is sung and danced.*

Top Hat (male song - Bob Bensi singing)
Where is Bob entering? When are dancers entering?

*Once Top Hat applause dies down, Clock **IMMEDIATELY** strikes midnight... bong, bong, bong... 12 times. Dancers can exit to the bar side.*

MC: *Starting as the clock begins bonging...*
"If you want to stay for Madam McCready's special party, you will need to put 6 ounces of gold into the hat. (*Val needs to put out an extra keystone kop hat and collect gold*). While they're paying for the "special" party, let's meet your 2012 Steering Committee and hear a few important announcements.

Entre Guys: line up to put gold into Keystone Kop's hat, then can hang out with Ted on stage left waiting for Madam McCready, exit when the music for Burlesque starts and Susie is spotted.

Ted Fancher:
Joe Keller:
Bob Reed:
Jimmy Ahern:

Signs need to be available behind the curtain so each steering member can grab a sign for this part. School side needs to be facing audience until that message is said then the sign can be turned around

*Norma - Heather/No Smoking
Deanne – Central/Intermission
Danika – White Oaks/No Cell Phones or Flash Photography
Fernando – Brittan Acres/Bathrooms
Mike – Arundel/Emergency Exits
Sandy A – At Large/Boos & Hisses
Nanette - Tierra Linda/Judges
Amy/Sue – Charter/Dedication*

Beginning the safety announcements:

*Kathy Reite – strolls across the stage using a cigarette holder;
Norma shows the “No Smoking” sign; both exit down the ramp Stage Left and come back stage for your second entry of Boos & Hisses.*

MC: Remember - there is NO smoking at this party or anywhere else here tonight!

*Deanne - after walking across stage, put your sign down (near the doorway or bar), fumble and drop a cell phone or something that can be mistaken for a cell phone...
Danika – turn your sign around to the no cellphone/no flash photography side*

Danika: Turn off your cell phones.

MC: *(In the background)* "How do you turn this thing off?" Is it like a radio? sort of, but it's two way...

Deanne: And No Flash Photography.

Both exit down the ramp with the signs and come back stage for the “Preview”

Fernando - turn your sign around to show Bathroom

Ruth: I have to go to the bathroom. I wonder where it is in this place...

Fernando: Follow me. Its out the hall to the left for the Lil' Ladies and to the right for the Wicked Willies.

Both exit down the ramp stage right (Ruth return backstage for the “Preview.”)

Mike - turn your sign around to show Emergency Exits.

Mike *Wicked Willie: “I can't be caught at this party! How do I get out of this place?”

MC: Emergency exits are here and here *(Mike quickly exits to the bar side)*

Sandy A – turn your sign to the Boos & Hisses side

Sandy & Norma: *(whatever you worked out is fine...)* Don't forget about the boos &

hisses. Don't be shy to cheer for your favorites – girls or “otherwise”... *as someone in drag walks by...*”Madam Moustache???” (Exit stage left and come back stage for the “Preview”)

Nanette – *you will need to come out with Tierra Linda sign and turn it to the Judges side and come out to show it.*

MC: Please welcome our judges who have to do the hard work tonight – they decide which variety and which melodrama skits will win the pokes of gold tonight.

Can we spot the judges? *Will probably need to have a specific page each night.*

Val – *hold up your hat filled with gold.*

Val and Nanette – *exit to stage right and Nanette enter backstage for “Preview.”*

Sue – *come out with Amy’s sign showing the Dedication side.*

MC: Oh, I see Madam McCready is honoring her friend **[inert dedicatee’s name here]** tonight.

Amy - *Hand dedicatee a memento.*

Once applause dies down, continue with dialogue... Once in and everyone's paid - the real show starts. As the MC finishes his speech, the Welcome to Burlesque music begins and the spotlight shows on Madame McCready at the top of the balcony.

MC: Now, On with the show! I’m not sure what Madam McCready has in store for us tonight... Let’s see what “girls” we have a chance to meet this evening ...” *and he exits/or moves to the bar side to watch the parade of girls.*

Welcome to Burlesque (female song) - *Madame Irene McCready, The Countess, sings welcome to Burlesque and the participants from each entre parades/dances by and around the stage girls/boy in pairs, if possible. These pairs are two performers from each entre, plus the Top Hat dancers, parading as “possible entertainment” for the evening, giving a taste of the shows yet to come.*

Stage Right:

Lils: Shannah, Linda A.

Good Girls: Marilyn & ? **(Bonnie was designated but she is now doing Shoes)**

Belly Dancing: Nicole & Nancy

Femininity: Beth & Ruth

Shoes: Becky & Bonnie

Stage Left:

Lils: Loretta, Kathy Reite

Can Can: Janet H & Danika

Shady Dame: Sandy A & **Deanne?**

Nagasaki: Nina & ?

Laura T (Be Italian) – up on Balcony after Madam McCready is out on horseshoe and sings part 3 below – Give it to the BAND.

Julie L (Can can), Mike are at Bar

Sandy R (Can Can): waiting on bar side for her entrance

Ted (Men) is hanging out on stage left for Madam McCready

As Susie sings #5 below “You many not be guilty, …” Stage right pair #1 starts, then alternates with stage left pair until everyone is out.

Welcome to Burlesque choreography:

1. Show a little more/less—Susie top of balcony in front of door
2. Everything you dream of—she walks the balcony toward the stairs
3. Oh, everyone is buying—she comes down stairs as **Ted** comes out and stands by pole. She poses by him on “give it to the band.” “Band” is cue for Top Hat and Be Italian girls top of balcony through doors.
4. Interlude, Susie flirts with Ted by pole, Top hat and Be Italian do poses and freeze.
5. You May not be guilty—Susie starts walk on horseshoe and stops Center end of phrase.
6. You can dream of Coco—Susie stays Center as pairs enter alternating from sides.
7. Yes, it keeps you guessing—Susie moves part way on horseshoe as pairs continue entering.
8. Interlude, Susie moves to main stage right as last group of pairs enter and all pairs move into cluster CS and freeze. Susie ad libs by Top Hat Girls.
9. Oh, everyone is buying—Susie walks CS and stops in front of cluster. All pose with head to right and hands at sides at end of "You know where I am."
10. Something very dark—all do knee bends down and up right and reverse left
11. Show a little more, show a little less—Susie moves SL to Ted, cluster slight lean left, center, right center stopping on “smoke.” Sandy R twirls across stage and Ted "pays" her a poke of gold at end.

*Everyone ends up on stage along with Madam McCready and the MC, **singing the last refrain together – need to figure out if this is everyone singing or still just Susie:***

Oh, everyone is buying,
Put your money in my hand,
If you want a little extra,
Well, you know where I am,

Something very dark
Is playing with your mind
It's not the end of days,
It's just a bump and grind

Show a little more
Show a little less
Add a little smoke
Welcome to... Burlesque (*just Susie belting it out here*)

Freeze and then go dark to exit...

Skit Intro #1

Spot back on MC

MC: "Wow – I can't wait to see what is in store for tonight's entertainment after that PREVIEW. Let's get started with this Barbary Coast tradition of competing skits. Who's first this evening? I may need a new party dress for this competition...? How do I get something made around here? Let's see what the Rebels With a Cause have to say about getting a new dress made in their Melodrama skit..." *List title of skit*