

Media Release: Wednesday October 7, 2009

IS YOUR HIGH SCHOOL READY FOR FAME?

Ruby Rose to host FOX8's Ultimate School Musical – Fame

FOXTEL and **FremantleMedia Australia** today announced the search was underway Australia-wide to find an everyday high school whose students would be given an extraordinary opportunity to be cast in **Ultimate School Musical – Fame**, a 10-part series to premiere exclusively on FOX8 in 2010.

The students at the chosen school will have the once in a life time chance to be directed and guided by some of Australia's mostly highly respected theatre professionals.

The series will feature the stars of the 2010 national touring production of *Fame: The Musical*, as well as producer John Frost and Kelley Abbey, Australia's most successful Australian choreographer and director of the hot new production.

The lucky kids will become the talk of every school in the country as they undergo weeks of intense rehearsals culminating in the series' finale -a performance of *Fame* in front of their friends, family and a national television audience.

The Ultimate School Musical – Fame will be hosted by MTV's Ruby Rose.

"I am so excited to be a part of this amazing series which will allow me to work with high school students in a positive way and help create an opportunity for them to build their confidence and achieve the goals they never thought possible," Ruby said.

"My time at school was pretty turbulent and challenging. I welcome this opportunity to give students from all walks of life the chance to be a part of something really special and I will be there to help and mentor them all the way through."

The Ultimate School Musical format is fast becoming one of the hottest series around the globe. Originating in the UK, the show is now in production in 12 countries including Denmark, France, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands, Spain and New Zealand.

FOXTEL Executive Director of Television and Marketing Brian Walsh said: "The series is a unique blend of music, performance, creativity and the celebration of youth which provides an opportunity to discover the next generation of Australian talent.

"Australia has produced some of the world's most popular and acclaimed stage and screen performers and *Ultimate School Musical* is the ideal platform to encourage the development of the next generation of star performers."

Interested schools at any talent level should log onto <u>www.FOX8.tv</u> now and send a promo tape that demonstrates the singing and dancing abilities of their students – and most importantly – their enthusiasm.

Ultimate School Musical – Fame is a FremantleMedia Australia production for FOX8.

ENDS

For all media enquiries please contact:

Matthew Fraser Senior Publicist FOX8 02 9813 7334 matthew.fraser@foxtel.com.au

About FOX8

For non-stop entertainment, pleasure seekers across Australia look no further than FOX8. With exclusive series, event television, the hottest international shows and local productions, FOX8 delivers it all, 24 hours a day. FOX8 has your entertainment needs covered. AUSTRALIA'S & AMERICA'S NEXT TOP MODEL, AMERICAN IDOL, THE CONTENDER, WWE RAW, WWE SMACKDOWN!, GOSSIP GIRL and, of course, THE SIMPSONS. We've got 100% high velocity TV.

About FOXTEL

FOXTEL is Australia's leading subscription television provider and is connected to 1.63 million homes on cable and satellite through retail and wholesale distribution. FOXTEL strives to ensure subscribers find TV they want to watch every time they switch on through delivery of more than 150 channels covering news, sport, general entertainment, movies, documentaries, music and children's programming. FOXTEL is owned by Telstra Corporation Ltd (50%), The News Corporation Ltd (25%), and Consolidated Media Holdings Ltd (25%).