



George Houvardas makes the Quarter Finals this Sunday on DWTS

George Houvardas (ASG 2000) has made it to the Quarter finals of Dancing with the Stars! We wish him all the best and I know everyone within the All Saints Grammar and wider community is cheering for him.

After a lot of hard work and great improvement, George has made it to Week 7 of the competition. He's doing a phenomenal job and putting in his all to

master the dances, but he also needs our support.

A couple of days ago, George was kind enough to offer me tickets to attend and see him perform at next Sunday's session in Melbourne, so my wife and I will be there cheering him on in person and hopefully I will have the opportunity to pass on to him all your good wishes. Needless to say, our George hasn't

changed one bit, he's still the down to earth, happy, carefree soul we knew while he was here!!! We're all so proud of him.

If you are a follower of DWTS, please consider supporting him by voting for him, easily achieved by sms'ing 'George' on 191 777.

Anthony Tsoutsas
Principal K - 12

A few words about George Houvardas

Partner: Luda Kroitor

Charity: Australian Children's Music Foundation

George Houvardas can light up the small screen but will he dazzle the dancing judges?

A born-extrovert, George is best known for his role as 'Carbo' on the hit drama *Packed to the Rafters*.

It was his first big break after graduating from Screenwise, one of Australia's leading film and TV schools for actors.

"Acting has always been something I wanted to do, ever since I was a kid," says the 28-year-old.

But it was a dream he didn't chase until his early 20s. "After I finished school, I began a building diploma at TAFE. I thought if the acting bug is still there when I turn 21, I'll pursue it."

He then enrolled in a one-year course at The Actors College of Theatre and Television before beginning a 12-month intensive course at Screenwise.

Soon after graduation, he won the role on *Rafters*.



Packed to the Rafters is the first television role for George Houvardas, who describes himself as a "late bloomer" in the acting department.

"Acting has always been something I wanted to do, ever since I was a kid," says the 27-year-old.

But it was a dream he didn't pursue until his early 20s. "After I finished school, I began a building diploma at TAFE," he recalls. "I thought if the acting bug is still there when I turn 21, I'll pursue it."

It was then he enrolled in a one-year course at The Actors College of

Theatre and Television. This was followed by another 12-month intensive course at Screenwise, one of Australia's leading film and TV schools for actors.

George auditioned for Rafters straight of college. "It was my very first audition and I got the part," he says gratefully. "I'm the least experienced of the cast, so I feel extremely privileged and lucky to be working with such an amazing and talented group of people."

While thrilled to be working, George is even happier to be part of such a quality Australian production. "This show deals with every day life in a realistic way," he says. "It paints a very real picture of family life and will appeal to a wide demographic."

Like his on-screen character, George is also of Greek heritage. The middle son of three boys, he grew up idolising screen legends like Marlon Brando and Anthony Quinn. Like Carbo, he's yet to move out of home. In his spare time he helps out his parents, who run two restaurants and a function centre in Sydney. "We're all natural entertainers," George says of his family. "There are no actors in the family but Dad often plays MC at weddings and the rest of us are all pretty outgoing. We're not a shy family that's for sure!"

George is also a mad soccer fan and enjoys swimming, running and hanging out with his mates.

George's work on the show was recognised at the 2009 Logie Awards, where he was nominated for Most Popular New Talent, losing out to co-star and good friend Hugh Sheridan.

In 2009 he also filmed a guest role in the acclaimed SBS series *East West 101* and this year was finalist in Cleo's Bachelor of the Year.

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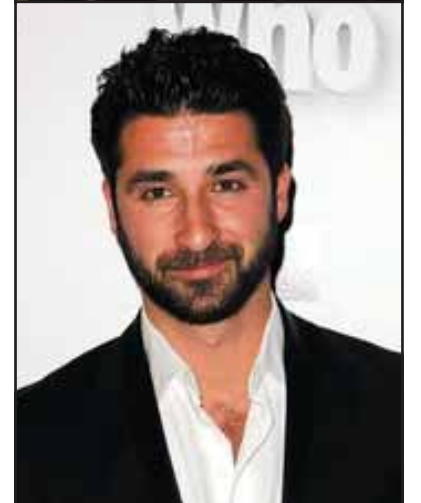
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He also loves burning up the dance floor. His ability hasn't escaped the attention of *Rafters*' producers, who wrote a dancing sequence for his character Carbo after seeing his fancy footwork. "I was pulling out some Travolta-like moves at the Sydney launch party for *Rafters* and they were quite impressed so they wrote a scene that became part of the first episode of the second series."

George's chosen charity is the Australian Children's Music Foundation. Founded by Don Spencer, the Foundation uses the power of music to inspire and enrich the lives of Australian children and youth, particularly the disadvantaged and indigenous. "It doesn't matter where they are, music can bring them out of the dumps and transport them to a different, happier place," George says.

Article from Yahoo!7 TV



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