It’s going to be one spectacular night

LOCAL song and dance gal Megan Salpietro is having a great year. She is one of 33 principal cast members in the 2010 schools spectacular and was recently shortlisted for the role of Tracy Turnblad in the upcoming musical Hairspray. Megan will be among the 2500-plus students who will take to the stage at Hisense Arena at Melbourne Park on September 18 and 19 for three shows in Shine on 2010: Victorian State Schools Spectacular.

Megan, who attends Mt Erin Secondary College, dolled up at a recent sneak preview of the magnificent costumes, dazzling make-up and larger-than-life wigs that will be in the show. The spectacular will also feature a 1100-voice choir, 1100 dancers, 33 vocalists (including Megan), 20 back-up singers, 100-piece orchestra, 60 cheerleaders, 15 circus performers, 15 puppeteers and specialty acts from 188 state schools across Victoria.

More than 6000m of disco sequin, chiffon and velvet; 4200m of gathered tulle; 10,000 gemstones; and thousands of feathers has gone to make the 4300 costumes. The Spectacular will be directed by acclaimed comedian and director Neill Gladwin, best known for his Lawnmower Man segment at the Sydney Olympics in 2000 and as one half of the comedy duo Los Trios Ringbarkus. He recently directed the Australian Dance Awards at Hamer Hall.

Tickets for Schools Spectacular are $14-$27.50 through Ticketek on 132 849.

Link: education.vic.gov.au/spectacular

Mt Erin Secondary College’s Megan Salpietro with two members of the Victorian State Schools Spectacular orchestra.