

Terms 1 & 2 2025 audition brief

November 2024



Melbourne based Music Theatre performer for In-School Theatre tours

Project brief

We are looking for a Melbourne based performer to play female identifying roles.

A position has come available for someone who is passionate about theatre for young people to join our team of performers. (The current performer is leaving after three years.) This is a full-time role on a Run of Play contract.

We are casting for our February/March and May/June tours into Primary Schools, Kindergartens and libraries in VIC, QLD, NSW, SA & ACT (see our website for further info about our work).

Key dates are on page 2 of this brief.

Job payment

Paid - The tour and rehearsals are paid at Live Performance Award rates plus overtime, relevant travel allowances and Super. This equates to approx. \$1,600 per week before tax, plus Super.

We provide a company vehicle and, when you are away from home, accommodation is arranged and paid for by us.

What we're looking for

We are looking for a Melbourne based performer - see full details on page 3.

We welcome applications from anywhere in Australia, however you must be based in Melbourne for the duration of rehearsals and the tour.

By the start of the tour (17th February), you must:

- be over 21 and
- hold a full driver's license (no L or P plates) otherwise we can't insure you on the vehicle and therefore can't cast you.
- hold a current employment Working With Children Check. Without this you can't work in schools and therefore we can't cast you.

A note on casting:

The creative team is committed to diversity and inclusion across race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation. We strongly encourage submissions from actors from First Nations, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, neurodiverse actors, with disability and/or who identify as LGBTQIA+.

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If you have any questions about the production or audition process, or have access requirements you'd like to discuss, please don't hesitate to contact us at admin@meerkatproductions.com.au

The work

Rehearsals are full time during the day for two and a half weeks, Mon to Fri, 9am to 6pm.

Most of the tour will be away from home so you must be comfortable with 4 weeks travelling.

You will learn three shows, which are plays with songs lasting 40-45 minutes plus a structured and scripted Question & Answer session with the students. (We will teach you how to lead the Q&A.) Our focus is on wellbeing and literacy programs.

More details about the shows are at the bottom of this brief.

Audition / Rehearsal / Production dates

Auditions:

Deadline for initial application: Thursday 28th November

Auditions will be held in person in Melbourne on Thursday 5th December

Please send an application with your Headshot & Resume by completing this form:

<https://forms.gle/WU45fovHvESSTDTF6>

Suitable performers will then be invited to an audition. We will send you a link to a short monologue and two short tracks for you to prepare. You may also be invited to a one-hour group audition on the same day where we will explore characters and your creativity.

From those auditions we will create a shortlist. Those shortlisted will be invited to an interview via Zoom.

Key Dates:

(Note: both sets of dates will vary slightly dependent upon bookings.)

Term 1 tour (2.5 weeks rehearsal, plus 6 weeks touring):

- Rehearsals: **Wednesday 29th Jan to Friday 14th February**
- The tour will commence on **Monday 17th February**
- The tour is currently due to conclude **Friday 28th March** but may be extended through to Friday 4th April if we get additional bookings
- Please note: you will be required to be away from home for four weeks of the tour

Term 2 tour (2 days rehearsal, plus 7.5 weeks touring):

- Rehearsals: **Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th May**

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- The tour will commence on **Wednesday 7th May**
- The tour will conclude on **Friday 28th June**
- Please note you will be required to be away from home for the first four weeks of the tour

Performer requirements:

You must be 21 or over at the start of the tour.

The role requires a performer with the ability to play with voice and physicality to portray numerous characters in the same show and who has a good instinct for comedy. All characters are varied so capability for clearly drawn differences in physicality and voice or accent is critical.

We require a confident singer; the role would suit either a trained musical theatre performer or an actor who can sing. Also, ability to follow basic choreography / movement.

We use puppetry in our shows so experience in puppetry or dance would be an advantage; but don't worry, we have an amazing puppetry teacher!

It is also advantageous if you have a genuine interest in working with children, e.g. performing, teaching, etc. and experience of working in school environments.

You will be required to drive a large car (e.g. Kia Carnival) and also bump in and out of schools, therefore you need to be physically capable.

By the start of the tour (17th February), you must:

- be over 21 and
- hold a full driver's license (no L or P plates) otherwise we can't insure you on the vehicle and therefore can't cast you.
- hold a current employment Working With Children Check. Without this you can't work in schools and therefore we can't cast you.

Please note, if you are successful there is the opportunity for work in future years. We have many actors who stay with us for multiple tours.

Project details:

You will learn three shows, some of which are adaptations of children's books or stories. Our focus is on wellbeing and literacy programs:

- **Bully Bull Ring:** <https://meerkatproductions.com.au/shows/anti-bullying-bully-bull-ring/>
Bully Bull Ring is designed to impart onto the students the same wisdom the animals give to Bellamy. Each of the animals teaches Bellamy how to use her emotional intelligence. Key topics include building respect, resilience & confidence

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- **Mr Huff:** <https://meerkatproductions.com.au/shows/mr-huff/>
Nurture resilience and dispel 'the huffs'! Your students will develop positive coping tools and practical wellbeing strategies through our highly engaging and entertaining adaptation of Anna Walker's award-winning book.
- **Fairy Tales & Puppetry:** <https://meerkatproductions.com.au/shows/fairytales-puppetry/>
Students will watch and learn as our two high energy performers take them on a guided tour through some of the world's most famous fairy tales, each told through the lens of a different style of puppetry.

All of our shows are plays with songs lasting 40-45 minutes plus a structured and scripted Q&A with the students. (We will teach you how to lead the Q&A.) Scripts and songs will be supplied before the end of the year (as soon as contracts are signed).

The role requires a performer with the ability to play with voice and physicality to portray numerous characters in the same show and who has a good instinct for comedy. We require a confident singer; the role would suit either a trained musical theatre performer or an actor who can sing. Also, ability to follow basic choreography / movement.

We use puppetry in our shows so experience in puppetry or dance would be an advantage; but don't worry, we have an amazing puppetry teacher!

It is also advantageous if you have a genuine interest in working with children, e.g. performing, teaching, etc. and experience of working in school environments.

Please note, if you are successful there is the opportunity for work on future tours. We have many actors who stay with us for multiple tours.

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Questions to answer:

1. What date did you get your full driver's license?
2. Do you have (or are you willing to obtain) an Employment Working With Children Check or equivalent?
3. Are you available for all rehearsal & tour dates?
4. Which Suburb will you be based in for rehearsals?
5. What has interested you in this opportunity?

Performer requirements (500 characters):

You must be 21 or over at the start of the tour

You are:

- Able to portray numerous characters in the same show and have a good instinct for comedy. Capability for different voices / accents is critical
- A confident singer. The role would suit either a trained musical theatre performer or an actor who can sing
- Able to follow basic choreography / movement
- Able to drive a large car
- Physically capable to bump in & out of schools
- Ideally you have experience of working in school environments