Terms 1 & 2 2027 audition brief
October 2026

Melbourne based performers for In-School Theatre tours

Project brief

A position has come available for people who are passionate about theatre for young people to join our existing team of performers. 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 in the **Production dates** section below.

Apply by Friday 6th November

https://forms.gle/WCqRAE5EahWRAGKSA

What we're looking for

We are looking for two Melbourne based performers. Full details of the skills and experience we're looking for are in the **Performer requirements** section of this brief.

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 (15th 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, or equivalent. 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. We strongly encourage submissions from actors from First Nations, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, neurodiverse actors, with disability and/or who identify as LGBTQIA+.

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

Audition / Rehearsal / Production dates

Auditions:

Deadline for initial application: Friday 6th November

Auditions will be held in person on **Monday 9th November**

Please send an application with your Headshot & Resume by completing this form: https://forms.gle/WCqRAE5EahWRAGKSA

Suitable candidates 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 online interview.

Production dates:

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

Term 1 tour (2.5 weeks rehearsal, plus 5 weeks touring):

- Rehearsals: **Wednesday 27th Jan to Friday 12th February**
- The tour will commence on **Monday 15th February**
- The tour is currently due to conclude **Friday 19th March** but may be extended through to Thursday 25th March if we get additional bookings
- Please note you will be required to be away from home for three weeks of the tour

Term 2 tour (2 days rehearsal, plus 5.5 weeks touring):

- Rehearsals: **Wednesday 5th & Thursday 6th May**
- The tour will commence on **Friday 7th May**
- The tour will conclude on **Tuesday 15th June** but may be extended through to Friday 25th June if we get additional bookings
- Please note you will be required to be away from home for up to four weeks of the tour

Job payment

Paid - The tour and rehearsals are paid at Live Performance Award rates plus overtime, relevant travel allowances & penalties, annual leave and Super at the standard rate. This equates to approx. $1,850 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.

The work

Rehearsals are full time during the day Mon to Fri, 9am to 6pm.

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

You will learn three shows, all of 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.) More details about the shows are in the **Project Details** section of this brief.
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.

Project details:

Our focus is on wellbeing and literacy programs, some of which are adaptations of children's books or stories:

- **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
- **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 three shows are plays with songs lasting 40-45 minutes plus a structured and scripted Q&A with the students. Scripts and songs will be supplied before the end of the year (as soon as contracts are signed).

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 bump in and out of schools, therefore you need to be physically capable.

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