

STAGE SCHOOL AUSTRALIA – MUSICAL THEATRE

Students in Stage School Australia’s musical theatre programme the Young Australian Broadway Chorus are working towards the following competencies.

Auditions are held before students are offered a place in classes to determine that students have a willingness and aptitude to develop these skills. Various short activities will be conducted by the teacher during which performance and participation levels will be assessed. Successful applicants will be offered a place after the audition.

SINGING

Voice sessions are repertoire focused, targeting development in the following areas:

- The ability to carry a tune, pitch notes, articulate clearly and project
- Participate in group singing activities
- Learn and retain song lyrics aurally (call and repeat, practice and repetition)
- Use your voice safely (warmup exercises, scales, vocal exercises)

DANCE

Focusing on repertoire and technical skills, dance classes target development in the following areas:

- Fitness, flexibility, body awareness and strength (warmups, stamina circle, routines)
- Musicality (difference between strong accented music and mellow smooth movement)
- Understanding of tempo, beat and rhythm
- Memorising routines and steps (call and repeat, practice and repetition)
- Coordination, dance language and steps (gallops, box step, scissor steps)
- Spatial awareness (staging, positions, routines)
- Performing routines and combinations while singing and dancing simultaneously

DRAMA

Creative drama games and activities and rehearsals for performance/demonstrations are used to develop the following skills:

- Respond quickly to verbal and visual stimuli (activities such as *Bang/Zap, Giants Witches Goblins, Bunny Bunny, Wah!*)
- Respond quickly to directions from Director (*Groups of, I’m walking in..., Post Cards, Space Jump*)
- Focus energy for sustained periods of time (*Pass the Pulse/Clap, Bang/Zap, Wah!, You/Me, Bunny Bunny*)

- Improvise characters, dialogue and situations (*Space Jump, Post Cards*)
- Collaborate effectively with class colleagues and director (*Yes, And?, I'm A Tree, Space Jump*)
- Memorise dialogue (tongue twisters, chants/poetry, and dialogue)
- Use spatial awareness to learn and replicate the staging for scenes and plays
- Rehearse and perform scripts and other performance items to a level appropriate for their age
- Respond to direction in regard to character, line delivery and staging
- Use skills in speech and drama to maintain focus and energy, and to articulate and project spoken dialogue

A students' progression through the Young Australian Broadway Chorus levels is based on their ongoing willingness and aptitude to continue to improve and develop these skills which are assessed throughout the year in rehearsals and at performances. Progression from one level to the next, or from year to year, is not automatic and is at the Directors' discretion.