

Developing Young People
Through the Performing Arts!

Stage School Australia



Join Us in the Spotlight!



Join Us in the Spotlight!

Stage School Australia advances young people's personal skills through training in the performing arts.

With a friendly and supportive environment and a dedicated team of professionals, we develop natural abilities and foster a lifelong love of learning and creativity. Our extensively developed curriculum combines a mix of on-stage and off-stage rehearsals and performances. We aim to foster self-confidence and public speaking skills in a group environment, as well as boost abilities through live performances.

We truly believe that the skills developed in the performing arts provide a solid platform for young people to take on the world. While our programs offer continued learning outside of school, the core of our philosophy is a focus on ensuring our students enjoy their experience and have fun.

Research proves that active participation in the arts positively impacts on young people in the following areas:

- Social and personal development.
- Attitudes to learning.
- Literacy.
- Numeracy.
- Competencies such as writing, communicating, problem solving, planning, organising, perseverance and appreciation of teamwork.
- Appreciation of the arts and culture in general.

FULL SENSORY EXPERIENCE!

"Right from the very first rehearsal, our son was smitten with it. He comes home buoyed by the confidence given him by the wonderful teachers he's come into contact with and from the friendships he's developing. We appreciate how well run Stage School Australia is, as well as how thorough you are in taking care of all the details involved in putting together such massive performance seasons - you've achieved the full sensory experience!"

- Parent

Locations

We're all over Melbourne!

Stage School Australia operates our range of classes at locations across metro Melbourne for your convenience.*



Discover Performing - Song, Dance and Drama for 4-7 year olds.



Dynamic Musical Theatre classes for 8-18 year olds.

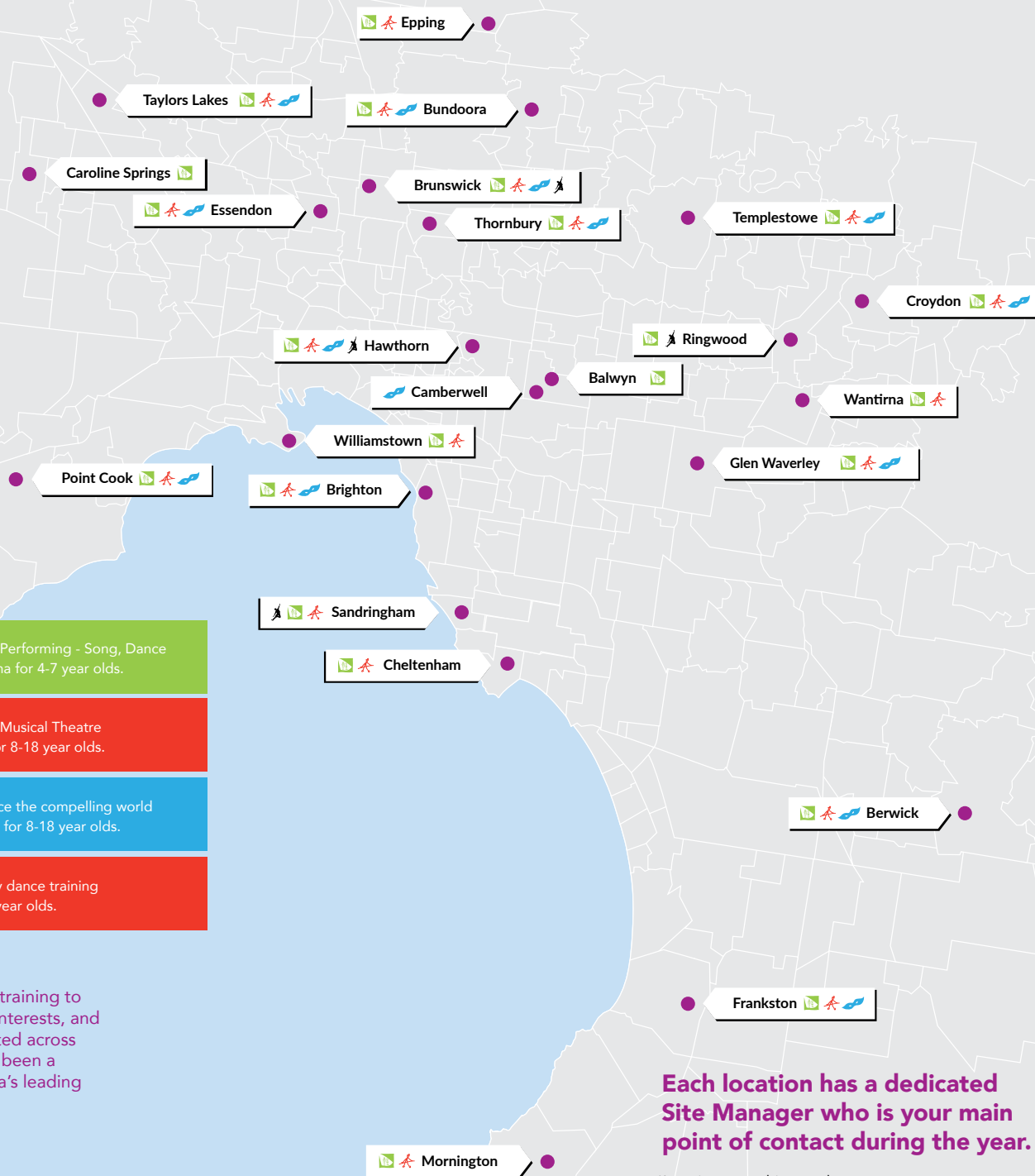


Experience the compelling world of Drama for 8-18 year olds.



Boys-only dance training for 6-18 year olds.

With different streams of training to suit your child's age and interests, and venues conveniently located across Melbourne, there's never been a better time to join Victoria's leading performing arts school.



Each location has a dedicated Site Manager who is your main point of contact during the year.

*Locations are subject to change.
Not all classes and class levels operate at all venues and may change from year to year.

How to join

Entry into Beginners OnStage (BOS), Young Australian Broadway Chorus (YABC) and Australian Youth Theatre (AYT) is by audition. Admission to the Australian Boys Dance Academy is through try-out sessions. Information for joining ABDA can be found on page 21.

Our auditions are fun, relaxed, free of charge and are designed to give prospective students and parents an insight into our classes.

Auditions are conducted in groups of approximately 15-20 participants. Parents are invited to the session as a supportive audience, giving them an insight into our courses.

The group, which at times will be split into smaller groups and pairs, is led through various performing activities specific to the stream of training (YABC, AYT or Beginners OnStage). These activities may include improvisation, voice and movement. Assessments are based on participation in these exercises.

After the audition, successful applicants will be offered a place at their preferred venue, pending availability in each class. We place each student in a class that matches their age and level of ability. We ask prospective students to bear in mind three key points:

1. Enjoy yourself!

2. Auditions are simple

So if you do have previous performing arts experience, make sure you participate in all activities to the best of your abilities to show the teaching Director what you can do.

3. Don't worry

Don't worry if you have never done anything like this before. Lots of young people audition for us without any previous performing experience.

Auditions are held in February, June-July and November-December.

To book call (03) 8199 8344



Discover the joy of performing!

Ages 4 - 7

Nothing can match the fun of singing, dancing and acting. And the best thing is - it's good for you.

Studies have shown that creative play helps foster confidence, creativity & social and personal development.

BEST THINGS!

"One of the best things we've done for our children."

- Parent

DELIGHTED!

"We are delighted with the level of confidence and the amount of fun our daughter has gained from Beginners OnStage."

- Parent

Photo: A&R Coates Event Photography

Beginners OnStage

Beginners OnStage supports children 4-7 years old as they discover a new world of performing and creativity.

- Fun weekly rehearsal classes.
- Perform in fully costumed performances.
- Develop language and articulation skills.
- Develop musicality and rhythm.
- Develop coordination and spatial awareness.
- Build confidence and social skills.

Beginners OnStage rehearsals are structured and fun, fostering creative play. They are broken down into sections, taken by professional rehearsal directors that cover singing, dancing and acting.

Outcome

The Beginners OnStage program introduces students to the basics of stagecraft, ensuring that rehearsals and performances are interesting, enjoyable and challenging. Equal focus is on their development offstage, aiming to increase students' self-confidence and develop their social skills. Several times each year performers will showcase their skills in costumed and themed performances.

Training Levels

Foundation (4-5 year olds)
1 hour sessions

Beginners OnStage (5-7 year olds)
1.5 hour sessions

Pre-school program
specially designed for
4-5 year olds!

Balwyn, Brighton, Brunswick,
Caroline Springs, Epping,
Hawthorn, Ringwood

Wellbeing & Education

"The arts provide a valuable avenue for experiencing our creativity and the wider benefits of arts engagement are well documented. At a personal level they include greater self confidence, an active imagination, a sense of belonging, empowerment, and improved wellbeing and educational performance. At a community level, they include active citizenship, improved social cohesion, reduced social isolation and increased employment rates... it has a positive impact on student learning in areas such as social and personal development, attitudes to learning, literacy and numeracy."

- Creative Connections Report





Dynamic Musical Theatre classes

Ages 8 - 18

Singing, dancing and acting -
all in one location!

EXPRESS YOURSELF!

"The program gave me the chance to improve my self-confidence in an atmosphere where I could express myself freely."

- Student

THANK YOU AGAIN!

"Thank you again for a wonderful experience. YABC is the highlight of [our son's] week, and we are thrilled that he has found himself in a peer group who look after each other, encourage each other and are able to laugh, and with mentors who are able to nurture his love of performing."

- Parent

Photo: David Collins

Young Australian Broadway Chorus

The Young Australian Broadway Chorus (YABC) is a vibrant musical theatre course for young people, providing an exciting mix of tuition and on stage performance.

We can help you unlock the confidence to share your natural performing skills with the world. Through weekly rehearsals with professional music directors, choreographers and directors, we encourage students to extend themselves, gain new skills and progress up through the YABC levels.

- Rehearse each week with a professional musical director, choreographer and drama director.
- Perform in fully staged theatrical productions twice a year.
- Learn exciting and varied musical theatre repertoire.
- Discover the fun of being part of a team of performers.

The YABC teaching methodology places an emphasis on creative drama as a means to developing performing skills. We believe it is important to turn our students into talented musical theatre performers in song, dance and drama. Our repertoire is chosen according to the age and level of each group, placing a focus on the skills students are developing.

YABC students are renowned for their well-rounded performance skills. Our teaching method has been proven time and time again with unforgettable performances each semester, reinforced by positive feedback from students and parents alike.

YABC Alumni grace the stages of musical theatre productions around the world.

Class Levels

YABC classes are dynamic and fun. The class levels outlined in the grid below have been designed to allow students to work with others their own age with similar skills, experience and interests.

The musical theatre repertoire is age appropriate in terms of both content and degree of difficulty to present the songs and dances. As professional musical theatre performers will attest, it is often beneficial for students to remain in a group level for several years to consolidate their skills. Each semester the repertoire changes to ensure classes remain

challenging and engaging.

We don't place any pressure on young people to feel they have to work up through the class levels. However, for those students who have demonstrated a high skill level and strong commitment, a place in a Performing Level group may be offered. Entry to the Performing Level Groups is by invitation only based on the directors' recommendations.

Fees include weekly rehearsals, workshops, materials and costumes for performances.

Levels of training

ADVANCED PERFORMING LEVELS TRIPLE THREAT			TRIPLE THREAT* 14+ YEARS
ADVANCED PERFORMING LEVELS SHOW CHORUS		INTERMEDIATE* 11-14 YEARS	SNR-INTERMEDIATE* 15-16 YEARS
PERFORMING LEVELS COMPANY		INTERMEDIATE 11-13 YEARS	SNR-INTERMEDIATE 14-15 YEARS
PERFORMING LEVELS TROUPE		JUNIOR 9-10 YEARS	INTERMEDIATE 11-13 YEARS
TRAINING LEVELS	JUNIOR PREMIERE 8 YEARS	JUNIOR 9 YEARS	INTERMEDIATE 10-12 YEARS
			SENIOR 12+ YEARS

*Age brackets are indicative only and are subject to change without notice.



CONGRATULATIONS!

"Congratulations to all the wonderful people who work behind the scenes to make the performances all appear effortless... and to the teachers who make it enjoyable for the kids to want to keep coming back each week. I am also impressed by the communication I receive about what is going on and how things work, it makes choosing to send my daughter to YABC an easy decision."

- Parent

Photo: David Collins

AMAZED & DELIGHTED!

"I would like to convey how amazed and delighted I was to attend this performance... I am thrilled to say that this recent performance has become my favourite! I was moved to tears... I found myself absolutely captivated."

- Parent



Experience the compelling world of Drama

Ages 8 - 18

Founded in 1984, the Australian Youth Theatre (AYT) is one of the most established performance-based drama programs in Melbourne.

With a proven track record of success and an exciting and stimulating curriculum, the AYT allows every young performer to shine.

ENRICHING

"It's well organised and very professional... It creates memorable, life enriching experiences for the children."

- Parent

Australian Youth Theatre

A lot of young people attend drama classes to develop social skills, self-confidence and public speaking. Others just want to act! At the Australian Youth Theatre (AYT) we combine the best of both worlds.

Our unique program combines elements of two key areas:

- 'Creative drama' uses a variety of activities to develop spontaneity, imagination, focus, confidence, verbal skills & physicality.
- 'Stagecraft drama' places an emphasis on vocal projection and clarity, acting techniques, text as the basis for characterisation, and physical staging.

Designed to harness your natural acting abilities, this integrated approach helps students develop these core skills.

The Australian Youth Theatre program:

- Rehearse each week with a professional drama director.

- Develop language and public speaking skills.
- Perform in fully staged theatrical productions each semester.
- Gain opportunities to progress as your skills develop.
- Extend your range as an actor.

Students are actively encouraged to contribute ideas to the group, as well as be receptive to those contributed by others. Within this framework, the rehearsal director will work with students using a structured curriculum to develop performing skills and rehearse their performing pieces.

AYT Alumni appear in theatre, film and TV productions around the world.

Class Levels

The motivation of students joining AYT classes ranges from simply seeking a fun activity to meet new friends, to building public speaking skills, through to an ambition to be on stage. The class levels outlined in the grid below have been designed to allow students to work with others their own age with similar skills, experience and interests.

The theatrical repertoire is age appropriate in terms of content, length and degree of difficulty to develop and present their character in the plays. As all professional actors know, it is beneficial for students to remain in a group

level for several years to consolidate their skills. Each semester the repertoire changes to ensure classes remain challenging and engaging.

We don't place any pressure on young people to feel they have to work up through the class levels. However, for those students who have demonstrated a high skill level and strong commitment, a place in a Performing Level group may be offered. Entry to the Performing Level Groups is by invitation only based on the directors' recommendations.

Fees include weekly rehearsals, workshops, materials and costumes for performances.

Levels of training

ADVANCED PERFORMING LEVELS
ACTOR'S STUDIO

SENIORS*
14+ YEARS

PERFORMING LEVELS
ACTOR'S ENSEMBLE

SNR-INTERMEDIATE
13-14 YEARS

SENIOR*
15 YEARS

PERFORMING LEVELS
PLAYERS

INTERMEDIATE
13+ YEARS

SENIOR
13+ YEARS

TRAINING LEVELS

JUNIOR
8-10 YEARS

INTERMEDIATE
11-12 YEARS

SNR-INTERMEDIATE
13-14 YEARS

SENIOR
15+ YEARS

*Age brackets are indicative only and are subject to change without notice.

SPECTACULAR

"Thursday's performance was spectacular and a credit to all the teachers and students."

- Parent



Photo: Jamie Cilia Photography



Start your professional career

The Talent Company of Australia (TCA) is a boutique agency that offers representation to secure work in the entertainment industry (Film, TV, Stage) and provides members with exciting opportunities to work with professional casting directors and working actors.

AMAZING!

"The TCA has been amazing to work with. They helped me discover my passion for acting and the TV industry."

- Darcy Tadich, Neighbours

Talent Company of Australia

The TCA offers high quality industry representation at an affordable price.

One low annual fee covers professional headshots, a full day workshop with leading casting directors, an online profile on Casting Networks (the leading online portal for Casting Directors) and 12 months agency representation.

Agency representation allows members to be submitted and considered for a diverse range of professional acting work.

- Feature and Short Films.
- TV Series and Commercials.
- Stage and Theatre.
- Corporate Video.
- Still Photography Work.

Workshops & Short Courses

The TCA offers Casting Workshops and Screen Acting Short Courses which are open to current Stage School students and members of the general public.

The workshops and short courses are a great opportunity to work with senior members of the entertainment industry including Casting Agents, Casting Directors, Comedians, Professional Directors, and TV/Film Actors to develop audition techniques and camera performance skills. These take place throughout the year.

Our talent has been seen in (to name only a few...)

Shantaram, Summer Love, inBESTigators, Toyota, Mustangs FC, Neighbours, Barracuda, Kmart, Nowhere Boys, Family Law, House Husbands, McDonalds, Ja'mie: Private School Girl, Dr. Blake, Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries, Officeworks, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, School of Rock, Evita, Kinky Boots, Matilda, The Sound of Music, The Lion King



Photo: James Gillot Photography



Because Boys Dance, Too!

Ages 6 - 18

The Australian Boys Dance Academy provides a positive and supportive environment for young men to progress at their own pace through our specially tailored dance lessons.

FEEL RIGHT AT HOME!

"Boys and young men will feel right at home amongst like-minded peers who love dancing. Our boys dance lessons build fitness, healthy body awareness, strength, posture and confidence."

- Robert Coates, Artistic Director

Australian Boys Dance Academy

We have been teaching boys to dance for the past 15+ years as part of our musical theatre program. We recognise that boys develop movement skills at varying rates and are motivated to dance for different reasons from girls.

Our classes are great for:

- Boys with imagination, creativity and who like a challenge.
- Sporty kids who want to boost their coordination, agility, flexibility and spatial awareness.
- Actors who want that extra skill base.
- And boys who just want to dance!

Each weekly lesson commences with a warmup. After the warmup, classes are divided into half hour sessions which focus on different dance styles including jazz, tap and hip hop to build fitness and technique. Each class is taught by a specialist in that style. From time to time a different style of dance may be incorporated in the weekly lesson. Boys will also present what they have learned at a demonstration show in Term 4 to celebrate their achievements.

How to Join

Boys attend a Try-Out Session or Trial Class before they are placed in a regular weekly group:

- Try-Outs generally take place in February and parents/guardians are encouraged to attend to see what our classes are all about and be a supportive audience.
- Trial Classes are available throughout the year up until July by joining into one of our regular classes.

While some boys may have performed previously, many of the boys attending the Try-Outs or Trial Classes will be novices with no previous dance training.

After the Try-Out/Trial Class successful applicants will be offered a placement at their preferred venue. We place each student in a class that matches their age and level of ability.

LOCATIONS

Hawthorn* - Monday evenings
(All levels + Advanced)

Ringwood* - Tuesday evenings
(All levels)

Brunswick* - Wednesday evenings
(All levels)

Brighton* - Thursday evenings
(All levels)

All classes are conducted in groups of boys of a similar age except for the Advanced level which is skill-based and open-age.

Classes range from 75 minutes to 2.5 hours depending on boys' ages and cost \$18.50/hour (20% discount, \$15.50, for boys concurrently doing other Stage School courses).

Term dates follow the government school terms, but finish early to allow students to concurrently participate in other Stage School Australia programs, including performance seasons. A full rehearsal schedule will be provided at enrolment.

Students will need to purchase uniform items including a rehearsal singlet (\$30), knee pads (\$15) and hoodie (\$50, optional) which can be purchased from our online store and delivered to your venue. Students will also have to supply their own tap shoes, jazz shoes and hip hop sneakers.

*Locations are subject to change.
Levels running at all venues are subject to enrolments.

Photo: James Gillot Photography





Major Tours & Events

Stage School presents limitless opportunities to grow and develop through the performing arts. In addition to our training programs, students also receive the opportunity to audition and take part in School Holiday Productions and Performance Tours.

- 2023 YABC 2023 Brisbane Tour, South East QLD
- 2023 *Seussical*, Cripps Centre
- 2023 *Spring Awakening*, *Oliver! Jr.*, Meat Market
- 2022 YABC 2022 Brisbane Tour, South East QLD
- 2020 *CATS*, National Theatre
- 2019 *Les Misérables*, National Theatre
- 2019 *The Wizard of Oz*, Union Theatre
- 2019 *Seussical* tour of regional Victoria
- 2018 YABC, *This Is Australia Tour*, USA
- 2018 *Madagascar Jr.*, Union Theatre
- 2018 *Wicked*, National Theatre
- 2017 *Honk! Jr*, *Babe the Sheep-Pig* and *Chicken Licken*, The Lawler, Southbank Theatre (home of MTC)
- 2017 *Honk! JR* and *Chicken Licken*, Adelaide Fringe Festival
- 2017 *Shrek the Musical Jr.*, Union Theatre
- 2016 YABC, five city tour to the USA
- 2016 Australian Youth Theatre, *Alice in Wonderland*, regional tour
- 2016 *Disney Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, Union Theatre
- 2016 *The Secret Garden ~ Spring Version*, and *Disney Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, The Lawler, Southbank Theatre
- 2015 *Disney Aladdin Jr.*, Union Theatre
- 2015 *Disney The Little Mermaid Jr.*, Union Theatre
- 2015 *Babe the Sheep-Pig*, the Guild Theatre
- 2015 YABC, *This Is Australia Tour*, USA
- 2014 *Alice In Wonderland Jr.* and *Conference of the Birds*, Melbourne Fringe Festival
- 2014 *The Wizard of Oz Jr.*, Union Theatre
- 2014 *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Adelaide Fringe Festival
- 2013 *Seussical* and *Conference of the Birds*, Malthouse Theatre
- 2013 *Guys & Dolls Jr.*, Union Theatre
- 2012 *The BFG*, Regional Tour
- 2011 *Spring Awakening* Melbourne Premiere, *A Very Gleeeful Tribute*
- 2010 *Once On This Island* and *The BFG*, Melbourne Fringe Festival
- 2010 *Once On This Island* and *The BFG*, Adelaide Fringe Festival
- 2008 *The Silver Donkey*, USA
- 2006 *The Silver Donkey*, USA
- 2004 *Back to Bacchus*, Singapore and Europe
- 2002 *Back to Bacchus*, Singapore and Europe
- 2000 *Down-Under Land*, Adelaide Fringe
- 2000 *Down-Under Land*, Red Centre Alice
- 1999 *Back to Bacchus*, USA
- 1998 *Bozology*, Adelaide Fringe
- 1997 *Back to Bacchus*, Europe
- 1996 *A Well Spun Yarn*, Adelaide Fringe
- 1996 *A Well Spun Yarn*, USA Tour



Photo: Kiti Heselden Photography

Alumni

Whether the love of theatre turns out to be a career or a life long passion and hobby, Stage School Australia is the first step to a new world of experiences and skills.

Alumni

Many Stage School students have progressed to further study at institutions such as NIDA, WAAPA, the Victorian College of the Arts and the Queensland Conservatorium, as well as internationally.

Graduates have been seen professionally in:

On stage in *A Chorus Line*, *A Little Night Music*, *Aladdin*, *Annie*, *Avenue Q*, *Bluey On Tour*, *Chicago*, *Come From Away*, *Cruel Intentions*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Drowsy Chaperone*, *Evita*, *Grease*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Hairspray*, *Hamilton*, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, *Jersey Boys*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *King Kong*, *Legally Blonde*, *Love Never Dies*, *Madam Butterfly*, *Mary Poppins*, *Midnight: the Musical*, *Miss Saigon*, *Moulin Rouge*, *Muriel's Wedding*, *My Fair Lady*, *Once*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Rent*, *Six: The Musical*, *South Pacific*, *Spamalot*, *Sweet Charity*, *The King & I*, *The Lion King*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Tina: The Musical*, *West Side Story*, *Wicked*, *Wizard of Oz*.

On TV in ongoing roles in *As the Bell Rings*, *Gallipoli*, *Glitch*, *Heartbreak High*, *Home & Away*, *House Husbands*, *Neighbours*, *New Girl*, *Nowhere Boys*, *Once Upon A Time*, *Peaky Blinders*, *Please Like Me*, *Reign*, *Rescue: Special Ops*, *Sea Patrol*, *Shantaram*, *The 100*, *The OA*, *The Pacific*, *The Pacific*, *Underbelly*, *Year Of*, *Your Family or Mine*, along with countless guest, cameo appearances and commercials.

In feature films including *Adore*, *Animal Kingdom*, *Charlotte's Web*, *I Frankenstein*, *Irresistible*, *My Life is Murder*, *The Drop*, *The Water Diviner*, *Tidelands*, *Tomorrow When The War Began*



Costumes, Sets, Props and Theatrical Equipment at Great Rental Prices

"I would recommend using Stage School Australia for all your costuming needs. Their range is HUGE and they have options and sizes to suit all ages. The staff understand what goes in to organising a performance - whether it's a concert for 200 students or a solo dance routine which is really helpful. I've used Stage School Australia for over 5 concerts this year, and always receive great feedback on the quality of the costumes!"

- Primary Performing Arts Co-ordinator,
Aitken College

**Contact the Wardrobe Manager on
admin@costumedept.com.au
for your next theatre production.**

Photo: Kit Haselden Photography

Frequently Asked Questions

About Beginners OnStage, Australian Youth Theatre and the Young Australian Broadway Chorus. For the Australian Boys Dance Academy see page 21.

At what age can a student start?

Beginners OnStage (BOS) caters for children aged 4-7 years of age. The Australian Youth Theatre (AYT) and the Young Australian Broadway Chorus (YABC) accepts students between 8 and 18 years of age.

Do students require previous experience?

Previous experience is not required to join our programs. Many of our students join Stage School classes exclusively to increase their self-confidence.

Do you cater for students with previous experience?

Yes, we cater for students with all levels of experience in the performing arts. During the initial audition, we encourage students who have had previous experience to participate to the best of their ability, allowing us to place them in the most suitable group.

What are the age ranges and how many students are in each class?

Our programs cater for 4-18 year olds and individual class age ranges vary depending on the class type and performing level. We aim to keep the age span between youngest and oldest to a minimum. On average, the YABC class size is between 18-20 students, but can increase at an advanced level.

How often do your students perform?

Students perform twice each year in a fully staged production at the end of each semester. Additionally, students in performing level groups are given further opportunities where available.

How long do the classes go for?

Class times vary depending on the student's program and level, starting at 1 hour for Beginners OnStage ~ Foundation, up to 3+ hours for the highest level classes.

How much are fees?

Tuition fees vary depending on the program your child is enrolled in. Fees include weekly rehearsals, workshops, materials and costumes for performances. For more information on fees, please speak to our friendly Head Office team.

Are there any additional costs?

Uniform: All students require a t-shirt to wear to rehearsals and performances - \$30.00. YABC and Beginners OnStage require black dance pants and jazz dance shoes (soft shoe style, not the jazz sneaker) which can be purchased at dance stores. As students progress up the levels, they will require additional items (e.g. tap shoes) which will be outlined in your Offer.


Performances: tickets range between \$23-\$45 depending on the stream of training (subject to change).

Can I spread payments out, or do I have to pay the full fee up front?

We have two payment options: you can pay fees on a deferred monthly plan, or everything up front. There is a small, one-off administration fee if you pay monthly. If your child needs to withdraw for any reason throughout the year, a percentage of fees may be refunded provided enough notice is given. All important dates and enrolment payment terms will be fully outlined in the Offer sent out following your audition.

How do students move up the levels?

Offers to move up the levels are based on Rehearsal Director recommendations at the end of each semester. Students will always be placed in an appropriate class for their age and level of ability. It is not unusual, and is beneficial, for students to remain in a group level for several years to consolidate their skills. As the saying goes, "practice makes perfect".



Head Office
23 Allen St, Coburg, VIC 3058

(03) 8199 8344

stageschool.com.au



**Stage
School
Australia**

