

# CASTING BRIEF

AGTHEATRE presents

# Avenue



**PARENTAL ADVISORY**  
**WARNING**  
**NOT FOR CHILDREN**

**OPENS FEBRUARY 2025**

National Theatre

## ABOUT AVENUE Q

The laugh-out-loud musical tells the timeless story of a recent college grad named Princeton, who moves into a shabby New York apartment all the way out on Avenue Q. He soon discovers that, although the residents seem nice, it's clear that this is not your ordinary neighborhood. Together, Princeton and his new-found friends struggle to find jobs, dates and their ever-elusive purpose in life.

Winner of the Tony "Triple Crown" for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book, *Avenue Q* is part flesh, part felt and packed with heart.

## ABOUT AG THEATRE

AG Theatre is an independent theatre production company dedicated to nurturing and promoting new Melbourne talent, both on and off stage. We believe that live theatre is a powerful way to bring people together and tell stories that inspire, challenge and entertain, working with artists from a range of cultural backgrounds.

Established by Andrew Gyopar, AG Theatre leverages the success of Andrew not-for-profit theatre company Theatrical, which has received widespread acclaim and sell-out shows for productions of crowd pleasing musicals including *The Sound of Music*, *Freaky Friday* and *The Boy From Oz*.

## INCLUSIVE CASTING

AG Theatre is dedicated to fostering inclusivity and diversity in every aspect of our productions. We are committed to casting all roles thoughtfully and representatively. We encourage performers from all backgrounds, cultural groups, ethnicities, gender identities, physical abilities, and sexual orientations to audition for roles in our shows.

Our audition process is designed to be open and accessible, welcoming a diverse range of performers to participate. This ensures our work reflects the rich diversity of communities across Australia. AG Theatre is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, supportive, and welcoming environment for all talent and crew throughout auditions, rehearsals, pre-production, and performances.

## PUPPETS

Although *Avenue Q* features puppets, it is M Rated due to its adult themes, strong language, and an onstage portrayal of puppet sex. As a result, the content is not suitable for actors under the age of 18.

The show features both puppet roles and non-puppet roles. For the puppet roles, during the audition actors may have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the puppetry styles and perform a short segment using a puppet. This will allow actors to gain experience with puppetry and provide the audition panel with an understanding of how comfortable they are with the skill. While previous experience with puppetry is not required, it is recommended that actors do some research beforehand. Workshops and training will be provided throughout the rehearsal process.

Like *The Muppets*, the characters in *Avenue Q* are American, with specific accents that reflect this. The production team will be looking for actors who can authentically create the appropriate accents and vocal qualities for each character, without simply imitating prior *Avenue Q* performances

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Executive Producer: **Andrew Gyopar**

Director: **Pip Mushin**

Musical Director: **Alex Byrne**

Assistant Director/Choreographer: **Adriana Pannuzzo**

Production Manager: **Marie Landy**

Casting Administrator: **Laura Irish**

Casting Consultant: **Conscious Casting**

## PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

**Saturday, February 22, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Sunday, February 23, 2025 | 13.00 - 15.30 (\*subsequent release), 18.00 - 20.30 (confirmed)**

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (\*subsequent release)

**Wednesday, February 26, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Thursday, February 27, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Friday, February 28, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Saturday, March 1, 2025 | 14.00 - 16.30, 19.30 - 22.00 (confirmed)**

**Sunday, March 2, 2025 | 13.00 - 15.30 (\*subsequent release), 18.00 - 20.30 (confirmed)**

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (\*subsequent release)

**Wednesday, March 5, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Thursday, March 6, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Friday, March 7, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Saturday, March 8, 2025 | 14.00 - 16.30, 19.30 - 22.00 (confirmed)**

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (\*subsequent release)

**Wednesday, March 12, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Thursday, March 13, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Friday, March 14, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Saturday, March 15, 2025 | 14.00 - 16.30, 19.30 - 22.00 (confirmed)**

**Sunday, March 16, 2025 | 13.00 - 15.30 (\*subsequent release), 18.00 - 20.30 (confirmed)**

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (\*subsequent release)

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Thursday, March 20, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Friday, March 21, 2025 | 19.30 - 22.30 (confirmed)**

**Saturday, March 22, 2025 | 14.00 - 16.30, 19.30 - 22.00 (confirmed)**

*\* Subsequent release performances are those for which tickets may not be available for sale at launch but may be released later, depending on ticket sales for the season. Cast must be available for all performances including Subsequent Release performances. AG Theatre will confirm Subsequent Release performances with cast as early as possible.*

## AUDITION RUNDOWN

Auditions will take place in Melbourne only. All applicants must reside in Melbourne during the rehearsal and performance periods.

## AUDITION SCHEDULE

### ROUND 1 - VIDEO SUBMISSION - **14 OCTOBER 2024, 4PM**

Applicants are to present at least 32 bars of 2 contemporary songs of contrasting styles that show off their vocal ability and character. It is preferable for at least one song to be from a musical comedy or comic in content.

### **A Note About Self Taping**

Please record your self tape in a well lit space with a clean background with your camera/device set in landscape orientation using the rear camera (not screen side camera) and make sure your voice is clear and easily audible (louder than your backing track and without any background noise).

### ROUND 2 - IN PERSON AUDITIONS - **20 OCTOBER & 23 OCTOBER**

On an invitation only basis, applicants will be asked to prepare material from the show including songs and scenes. Materials will be provided to applications upon confirmation of their in person audition booking.

### CALLBACKS (In Person) **25 OCTOBER & 27 OCTOBER**

### DANCE CALLBACK (In Person, by invitation) **27 OCTOBER 10:30 AM**

If required, applicants will be expected to attend the dance call back.

All audition results are at the sole discretion of the creative team and the company Executive Producer.

During call backs you will be asked to perform song cuts & dialogue from the show. You may be grouped with other auditionees to test chemistry. We are looking for authentic performers who make bold offers, are collaborative, and support each other throughout the audition, rehearsal, and performance phases.

If you receive a call-back and cannot attend at the scheduled time, please let us know by contacting us via email ([prod@agtheatre.com.au](mailto:prod@agtheatre.com.au)).

Please direct all enquiries regarding auditions to [prod@agtheatre.com.au](mailto:prod@agtheatre.com.au)

**DEADLINE FOR ROUND 1 VIDEO SUBMISSIONS IS  
4PM MONDAY 14 OCTOBER**

## REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Rehearsals will commence on Monday, 25 November 2024. Rehearsals will usually be scheduled on Monday and Wednesday from 7:00 PM-10:30 PM and Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM at **St Martins Youth Arts Centre, South Yarra** (and occasionally rehearsals may be in Port Melbourne or Cheltenham).

All cast are expected to be available for every rehearsal (unless otherwise advised).

### Promotional Photoshoot

Cast will need to make themselves available for a promotional photoshoot. Date and time to be advised.

### Production Week National Theatre

Please note the following important dates during production week:

Monday 17 February 2025:

5:00 PM call (Act 1 Tech Rehearsal 1)

Tuesday 18 February 2025:

12:00 PM call (Act 1 Tech Rehearsal 2)

7:30 PM (Act 2 Tech Rehearsal 1)

Wednesday 19 February 2025:

12:00 PM call (Act 2 Tech Rehearsal 2)

7:30 PM (Dress Rehearsal 1)

Thursday 20 February 2025:

12:00 PM call (Fix ups)

7:30 PM (Dress Rehearsal 2)

Friday 21 February 2025:

12:00 PM call (Dress Rehearsal 3)

7:30 PM (Preview Performance 1)

Saturday 22 February 2025:

12:00 PM call (Preview Performance 2)

***Please note, you may be required from 5.00 PM on Wednesday 19 February for a media/publicity call. It is critical that all cast are available for this call.***

Please note: You will be required for all rehearsals. If you have any unavailability during the rehearsal & performance period, please advise us of these dates & times in your audition form. We also ask that you notify us of any other prior commitments which may impact your attendance at rehearsals/performances. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be provided to you at the induction night.

Costume fittings will be scheduled to coincide with rehearsal times where possible. We will negotiate times with you if additional costume fittings are required.

## REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Monday, November 25, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Wednesday, November 27, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Sunday, December 1, 2024	12:30pm-6:00pm	Liardet Community Centre, Port Melbourne
Monday, December 2, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Wednesday, December 4, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Sunday, December 8, 2024	12:30pm-6:00pm	Liardet Community Centre, Port Melbourne
Monday, December 9, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Wednesday, December 11, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Sunday, December 15, 2024	10:00am-6:00pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Monday, December 16, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Tuesday, December 17, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	St Martins Hall, St Martins
Wednesday, December 18, 2024	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Saturday, January 11, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Monday, January 13, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Thursday, January 16, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Saturday, January 18, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Monday, January 20, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Thursday, January 23, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Saturday, January 25, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Monday, January 27, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Thursday, January 30, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Rehearsal Room, St Martins
Saturday, February 1, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Monday, February 3, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Tuesday, February 4, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Wednesday, February 5, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Thursday, February 6, 2025	7:00pm-10:30pm	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Monday, February 10, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm*	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Tuesday, February 11, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm*	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Wednesday, February 12, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm*	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Thursday, February 13, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm*	The Randall Stage, St Martins
Friday, February 14, 2025	10:00am-6:00pm*	The Randall Stage, St Martins

**\*On these days some cast may be required until 10pm, depending on roles. No cast member will be required to work more than 8 hours each day.**

**Publicity dates and costume fittings will be required in addition to these dates**



## CHARACTERS DESCRIPTIONS

### **Princeton** Puppet

A fresh-faced kid just out of college and the protagonist.

Gender: male

Stage Age: 20 to 25

Vocal range: Bb2 to G4

### **Nicky** Puppet

A slacker who lives with Rod.

Gender: male

Stage Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range: B2 to B4

### **Trekkie Monster** Puppet

A reclusive creature obsessed with the Internet and all it has to offer.

Gender: male

Stage Age: 25 to 40

Vocal range: Bb2-F#4

### **The Bad Idea Bears** Puppets

Two snuggly, cute teddy-bear types.

Gender: female

Stage Age: 20 to 40

Vocal range: Bb3 to G4

### **Brian**

A laid-back guy married to Christmas Eve.

Gender: male

Stage Age: 30 to 45

Vocal range: B2 to F#4

### **Gary Coleman**

Yes, that Gary Coleman. Lives on the Avenue and is superintendent of the apartment buildings. A BIPOC performer.

Gender: female

Stage Age: 30 to 40

Vocal range: D3-Bb5

### **Kate Monster** Puppet

A Kindergarten teaching assistant, who is a bit older than Princeton.

Gender: female

Stage Age: 25 to 30

Vocal range: F#3 to F5

### **Rod** Puppet

An investment banker who is Republican and a closeted homosexual.

Gender: male

Stage Age: 25 to 30

Vocal range: A2 to G4

### **Lucy** Puppet

A vixenish vamp with a dangerous edge.

Gender: female

Stage Age: 25 to 30

Vocal range: F3-Db5

### **Christmas Eve**

A therapist who recently moved to Avenue Q from Japan. An Asian identifying performer.

Gender: female

Stage Age: 30 to 45

Vocal range: B3 to F#5

## IMPORTANT AUDITION INFORMATION

- Auditionees may be photographed and recorded as part of their participation in the audition process for casting purposes
- Auditions are at the risk of the auditionee
- Auditionees may be required to stay after their audition should the casting panel wish to see them again that day. Auditionees may be asked to perform additional material at short notice.

## FAQ

### **What can I expect at rehearsals?**

As a part of our commitment to creating a safe and collaborative environment, the production team will support you every step of the way. We understand that some of the subject matter of the show may be sensitive, confronting, and/or challenging - we commit to approaching this content with the utmost respect and care. We aim to create an atmosphere that encourages creativity and mutual respect, whilst maintaining professionalism at all times. We believe that open communication is key to the success of our productions.

### **I'm unavailable for some of the rehearsals. Can I still be involved?**

We will consider all applicants and will take into account your unavailability prior to casting. Please indicate any unavailability in your application for the Casting Panel to consider.

### **What is the payment arrangement?**

This is an independently produced, non Government funded project. Cast members will be paid a fixed fee for their involvement in the production. Further details will be provided within the contracts which are offered to successful applicants.

### **Is this a profit-share production?**

No, we don't expect you to share the risk in producing the show.

### **If I am cast in this show, can I audition for other shows?**

If you are considering auditioning for another project during your time on the show, all we ask is that you discuss it with the production team first, so we can make sure that it doesn't conflict with your commitment to this show.

### **When will I find out the outcome of my audition?**

SMS and phone call offers are made by the production team within 48 hours after call-backs. We ask that you confirm your acceptance within 24 hours after the offer is made. We will notify all candidates of an audition outcome within 3-4 days after call-backs.

### **What are the promotional requirements?**

Cast members may be required to attend additional media calls and photo shoots.

### **I have other questions, who can I chat with?**

If you have questions about the casting process, rehearsals, or the production plans please email [prod@agtheatre.com.au](mailto:prod@agtheatre.com.au).

**On the day of your audition, please feel free to call the Production Manager on 0494 039 580 if you need to contact the production team for any reason.**