



ADULT CAST AUDITION INFORMATION & CASTING BRIEF as at 26 June 2018

Universal Theatrical Group, Working Title Films, Greene Light Stage, Michael Coppel Entertainments and Louise Withers Presents are delighted to announce that *Billy Elliot the Musical* will return to Australia in 2019 for its 10th Anniversary tour. The hugely successful West End musical premiered in Australia in 2007 as the first international production outside of the UK and prior to its Broadway premiere. With the first Australian tour concluding in Melbourne in 2009, this new 10th Anniversary tour kicks off in 2019, ten years after the curtain came down in Australia.

Billy Elliot the Musical was brought to the stage by the multiple award-winning creative team including **Elton John** (music), **Lee Hall** (book and lyrics), **Stephen Daldry** (director) and **Peter Darling** (choreographer). The production features scenic design by **Ian MacNeil**, costume design by **Nicky Gillibrand**, lighting design by **Rick Fisher** and sound design by **Paul Arditti**. Musical supervision and orchestrations by **Martin Koch**.

The Australian production associate creative team is **Simon Pollard** associate director, **Tom Hodgson** associate choreographer and **Stephen Amos** associate music supervisor.

Producers:

Tim Bevan, Eric Fellner, Jon Finn, Sally Greene, Louise Withers, Michael Coppel & Linda Bewick

Executive Producers: Angela Morrison & David Furnish

Executive Producer Australia: Philippa Gowen

Casting Director: Lynne Ruthven

PRODUCTION DATES

Adult cast rehearsals commence in Sydney on or about Mon 12 August 2019.

Please note - certain roles commence earlier;

- Dance Captains on or about Mon 24 June 2019
- Mrs. Wilkinson, Older Billy, Ballet Girls & Ballet Girl Swings on or about Mon 29 July 2019
- All remaining Adults on or about Mon 12 August 2019

The Premiere Season commences in Sydney at the Lyric Theatre in October 2019 to then be followed by seasons in other capital cities including Melbourne, Perth, Brisbane & Adelaide.

Contracts will be "Run of Play" Australia

Publicity dates and costume fittings will be required in advance of these dates (dates to be advised)



AUDITIONS DATES

Melbourne first round: Sun 23 Sept – Thur 27 Sept 2018 (subject to change)

Melbourne second round: Fri 28 Sept 2018 (subject to change)

Sydney first round: Sun 30 Sept – Sat 6 Oct 2018 (subject to change)

Sydney second round: Sun 7 Oct 2018 (subject to change)

Final round: Sydney: Tue 9 Oct – Wed 10 Oct 2018 (subject to change)

All auditionees will need to be available for the above audition period to be considered for this production.

SUBMISSION PROCESS – ADULT CAST ROLES

Please email a photo and biography to:

Lynne Ruthven - Casting Director

Email : info@lynnerruthvencasting.com

Please be sure to include ALL the following information:

- Full name
- Current height
- Principal place of residence, suburb & postcode
- Audition city
- Agent's details (if applicable)
- One current photo (head & shoulders) & one full length photo
- Current biography

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS – CLOSE OF BUSINESS, FRIDAY 27 JULY 2018

- The Casting office will be in contact with **all** applicants regarding the progress of their application. Not all submissions will be guaranteed an audition.
- Please refer to character descriptions below for role requirements, as they are quite specific. You are welcome to submit for particular characters however the audition team may request you to audition for another character.



BILLY ELLIOT THE MUSICAL ADULT CASTING GUIDELINES - CHARACTER NOTES

- All characters in *Billy Elliot the Musical* will have regional accents from County Durham, Northern England.
- The Performer may be required to use tobacco-free smoking props in the production and /or be onstage with performers using tobacco-free smoking cigarette props throughout the show.
- The production script includes swearing by both adults and children. The film BILLY ELLIOT is a good guide if you are not familiar with the story and its context.

MRS WILKINSON

Runs the ballet classes in the local hall at Easington County Durham. Great energy, drive, determination, warmth and compassion. Doesn't suffer fools gladly. Good comedic skills. Good mover, tap experience an advantage. Must be a strong singer & actor. Not only music theatre performers but dramatic actors are encouraged to apply.

Playing Age 35 – 50
Dialect Northern England

DAD

Billy's Dad. Genuine Northern England or Geordie. Geordie miner. Working class. Single parent. Narrow minded. Tries to do the best for his family. At the end of his tether. Although he comes across with a tough exterior, underneath is a man who has a big heart. Because of the miner's strike he finds it hard to make ends meet financially, and does not like Billy learning ballet. When he finally decides to give Billy a chance at an audition for the Royal Ballet School, he sacrifices himself to make it happen.

Must be a good actor with solid comic timing. Must sing. This is really an acting role. Dance not essential but must have some movement skills.

Playing Age 40 - 55
Dialect Northern England or Geordie

— 10TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR —

BILLY ELLIOT

THE MUSICAL



TONY

Tony is Billy's older brother. Geordie miner. He is a hard line unionist, not afraid to stand up for what he believes, especially as far as the miner's strike is concerned. At first he doesn't understand Billy's desire to dance or audition for the Royal Ballet School. Only in the final moments of the show does he give his full support. Good singing voice. Out spoken, loud and up for a fight. This is really an acting role. Dance not essential but must have some movement skills.

Playing Age 20 - 27
Dialect Northern England or Geordie

GRANDMA

Billy's grandmother lives in the house with Billy and his family. She is a tough woman who has had to deal with a lot in her life. She has a great sense of humour and has a close relationship with Billy. Needs to be able to sing. Good dance or movement skills an advantage. Tap if possible. Good comedy skills required.

Playing Age 60 - 80
Dialect Northern England or Geordie

GEORGE

Billy's Boxing teacher. Geordie miner. Excellent comedy skills. Friend of Dad's. Community spirited. Working class. Some singing is required for this role. Qualities of a pub entertainer needed. Must have great comic ability/ timing. George is often, but not always required, to be a Dad cover. This is really an acting role. Dance not essential but must have some movement skills.

Playing Age 35 – 55
Dialect Geordie

DEAD MUM / ENSEMBLE

Billy's deceased Mum. Only Billy and the audience can see her when she is on stage. Geordie. Warm, compassionate, sympathetic. Strong singer - soprano. Some tap dance an advantage but not essential. This performer is also part of the ensemble. Dead Mum is usually a Mrs Wilkinson cover.

Playing Age 30's
Dialect Geordie

— 10TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR —

BILLY ELLIOT

THE MUSICAL



MR BRAITHWAITE / ENSEMBLE

Dance school pianist and miner (piano skills not required). Geordie. Strong singer. Good comedy skills. Mr Braithwaite features in a tap and skip rope routine. Tap and dance skills essential. Ideally an ex-dancer with good flexibility. Splits an advantage.

Playing Age 30's – 40's
Dialect Geordie

OLDER BILLY / MALE ENSEMBLE

It is essential this character be an excellent ballet dancer and have a strong physique. Some tap dance ability an advantage. Singing is also required for this track. He is also part of the ensemble, plays other roles such as a miner and policeman etc. Must be able to cope with Geordie, Northern or Scottish accent with solo spoken lines.

Playing Age 20 - 30
Height 5'9" – 6'5" (175cm – 196cm) minimum height 5'9" (175cm)
Dialect Geordie, Northern England or Scottish

ADULT BALLET GIRLS (FEMALE) / ADULT BALLET GIRL SWING/S

We are looking for adult dancers to join the onstage group of child ballet girls in the show and some ensemble scenes. Must be good ballet dancers with solid pointe technique, and good tapers. Good singers. All shapes and sizes with a youthful appearance, but should have a strong presence and good comic ability. The adult ballet girl swing/s covers the adult ballet girl tracks and child ballet girl tracks.

Age Performers need to be 18 years and over by Mon 29 July 2019
Playing Age To be playing pre-teen / teenage ballet girls with the child ballet girl ensemble
Height 4'11" – 5'5" (149cm – 165cm)

— 10TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR —

BILLY ELLIOT

THE MUSICAL



TRACEY ATKINSON (ADULT BALLET GIRL)

We are looking for an adult dancer to join the onstage group of child ballet girls in the show and some ensemble scenes in the role of Tracey Atkinson. Onstage, this character loves her food. All shapes and sizes with a youthful appearance should apply. Should have a strong presence and good comic ability. Must have ballet and tap skills (pointe work not required). Good singers.

Age Performers need to be 18 years and over by Mon 29 July 2019
Playing Age To be playing pre-teen / teenage ballet girls with the child ballet girl ensemble
Height 4'11" – 5'5" (149cm – 165cm)

SUSAN PARKES (ADULT BALLET GIRL)

We are looking for an adult dancer to join the onstage group of child ballet girls in the show and some ensemble scenes in the role of Susan Parkes. This character is not the best dancer in the class. Physically slight, long limbed and a youthful appearance. Should have a strong presence and good comic ability. Must have ballet and tap skills (pointe work not required). Good singers.

Age Performers need to be 18 years and over by Mon 29 July 2019
Playing Age To be playing pre-teen / teenage ballet girls with the child ballet girl ensemble
Height 4'11" – 5'5" (149cm – 165cm)

MALE & FEMALE ENSEMBLE / SWINGS

Excellent singing voices and ability to dance or move well. Good tap skills essential. Character men and women of all ages. All shapes and sizes welcomed, but must be physically fit and have great stamina. Female and male ensemble play; miners, policeman, officials, parents and friends etc. All ensemble cast must be able to sing. Good minor / cameo roles to come from this ensemble. One female ensemble track requires less dance/movement experience and more character acting (this track usually understudies the role of Grandma). Performers from the male and female ensemble / swings cover all principal roles, minor roles, ensemble tracks and ballet girl tracks.

Playing Age 25 - 65s
Male Ensemble Height minimum height 5'5" (165cm)
Dialect Geordie, Northern or Scottish



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Please note that the roles in *Billy Elliot the Musical* may have very particular physical, height and vocal requirements.
- We are aware that some individuals / organisations may offer workshops to prepare auditionees for Billy Elliot auditions. Please be aware that these workshops are not officially associated with the production, and therefore we cannot guarantee auditions will be granted to all workshop participants. Each applicant will be assessed independently.
- Please note that auditionees may be photographed and recorded as part of their participation in the audition process for casting purposes.
- Auditionees may be asked to be recorded, either inside or outside the audition room, with such recording to possibly be used for promotional content of the production process including, but not limited to; news stories, programing for broadcast and social media. Such recording will be voluntary without compensation.
- This production includes tobacco-free smoking, strong language, strobe lighting, pyrotechnics, theatrical smoke and loud music.
- Auditionees will be asked to read and sign acceptance of workplace code of conduct and other various workplace policies.
- *Billy Elliot the Musical* is a committed equal opportunities employer with responsible child safeguarding practices in place.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

- *Billy Elliot the Musical* works in partnership with the relevant child authorities in each state that monitor child employment to ensure that statutory code of practices are followed, along with promotion of best practice.
- All cast employed acknowledge that they will be working with children in the production of *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Please note that the production has developed a Working with Children Policy and it is a requirement of *Billy Elliot the Musical* that all production personnel undertake a Police Check annually as part of the production's due diligence in working with children. In the event the Police Check reveals any caution, arrest or conviction, this may prohibit employment or continuation of employment on the Production.
- Compliance with the Working with Children Policy will be mandatory at all times.