



Musical Theatre Scholarships 2026

Convenor: Angela Bowen email: musicaltheatre@bpacdance.org.au

Venue: Riverlife Church, 47 Jennifer Street, Seventeen Mile Rocks QLD 4073

Date: Saturday 13 June 2026

Entry fees (including GST) – from 1 January 2026

- **Junior scholarship** (9-11 yrs) – \$88
- **Intermediate scholarship** (12-14 yrs) – \$99
- **Senior scholarship** (15-19 yrs) – \$110

(age for all candidates is taken as at **31 December 2026**)

For entries registered and paid by 31 December 2025, the 2025 entry fees will apply (Junior \$77 / Intermediate \$88 / Senior \$99)

Registration: www.stardom.com.au Brisbane Performing Arts Challenge Inc (BPAC)

Entries close – 15 March 2026. No late entries will be accepted for BPAC 2026. No refunds or substitutes.

2026 prizes

All scholarships candidates receive a copy of Dancetrain Magazine

Senior Scholarship

Winner – \$1000 bursary + more

Runner Up – \$500 bursary + more

Encouragement Award – TBA

Intermediate Scholarship

Winner – \$500 bursary + more

Runner Up – \$250 bursary + more

Encouragement Award – TBA

Junior Scholarship

Winner – \$250 bursary + more

Runner Up – \$100 bursary + more

Encouragement Award – TBA

The Judge's decision is final, and BPAC will not discuss the results with any candidate, or representative of any candidate.

Scholarships winners must be available to perform at the BPAC Gala on **Saturday 13 June 2026** – failure to do so will result in forfeiture of awarded prizes. Bursaries and prizes are generously donated by BPAC's sponsors. Winners in each age group will receive their prizes after performing at the Gala.

Bursaries must be claimed by **30 September 2026**. Unclaimed prize monies will be forfeited. Please ensure that Scholarships terms and conditions are clearly understood prior to submitting entries. BPAC takes no responsibility for any loss caused by failure to read, understand, and/or accept the terms and conditions of entry.

Convenor information

All queries relating to the Musical Theatre Scholarships should be addressed in the first instance to the Convenor. The 2026 Musical Theatre Scholarships Convenor at this time (until a permanent Musical Theatre Convenor can be appointed) is **Angela Bowen**. Communication with the Convenor is to be sent via email: musicaltheatre@bpacdance.org.au or telephone: 0411 287 157.

Responsibility for all aspects of the scholarships rests with the Convenor. The Convenor may refuse acceptance of registration for any candidate who does not comply with BPAC's registration requirements. Any issues requiring escalation beyond the Convenor will be referred to the BPAC Management Committee for consideration and resolution.

Proof of age

All candidates competing at BPAC for the first time are required to provide proof of age. Registration will not be finalised for new candidates until proof of age has been provided. Once proof of age has been provided for the candidate, it will not need to be provided again in subsequent years.

All candidates must be entered in the correct age group. For the purposes of age groups, the candidate's age is taken as at **31 December 2026** to ensure that all candidates are competing in the correct age range and have equal opportunity against their peers.

Proof of age must be provided within 7 days of the submission of entry, and must be sent to proofofage@bpacdance.org.au Acceptable forms of proof of age – a copy of **one of the below is to be provided:**

- Identification page of the candidate's passport (preferred)
- Top portion only of the candidate's birth certificate, together with a recent head shot
- Official student card issued by the candidate's educational school
- Learner Permit/Driver Licence issued by the Department of Transport (for Senior candidates)

Class attire, costumes, and performance content

Commencing in 2026 to assist BPAC in meeting the requirements of the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024*, and to provide an enjoyable performance environment for everyone, class attire, costumes, and performance content will be strictly monitored.

Candidates arriving in class attire which does not meet the requirements set out above will be asked to change and will not be permitted to participate until the candidate's attire meets the requirements. This rule also applies to performance costumes for Senior candidates.

Candidates will no longer need costumes for any part of the Scholarship, including Semi-Finals and Finals performances, for both the Junior and Intermediate age groups.

Class and performance attire for Junior and Intermediate age groups

Candidates must select one of the following options:

- BPAC T-shirt
- Black monochrome conservative style leotard (no school logos, and must be worn with tights)
- Black shorts, bike pants, tights, pants
- Appropriate shoes for class and performance

Class attire for Senior age group

Candidates must select one of the following options:

- BPAC T-shirt
- Black monochrome conservative style leotard (no school logos, and must be worn with tights)
- Black shorts, bike pants, tights, pants
- Appropriate shoes for class and performance

Performance attire for Senior age group

For the Semi-Finals and Finals performances, Seniors will have the option of wearing a costume that complies with BPAC guidelines, providing they are able to dress themselves without assistance from parents or teachers. No parents or teachers will be permitted in dressing rooms at any time.

Costumes must be conservative in coverage of the candidate's body. Please use the photos below as a guide to the minimum coverage that will be accepted for costumes for Senior performances.

Class attire and performance costumes must cover the candidate's body well and maintain their dignity. No mid-riffs. The **minimum** coverage accepted for class attire and Seniors costumes should be determined by the pictures below.



Any queries regarding class/performance attire should be directed to the Convenor.

Performance content for all age groups

In each genre of the Scholarships where they are used, performance choreography, monologues, and music selection must be age-appropriate and meet the standards of public expectation regarding decency and protection of human rights and children's rights.

BPAC has zero tolerance for all forms of exploitation, harm, and/or abuse of children and young people. This includes actual or potential harm (including vicarious trauma) arising from inappropriate choreography or music selection that may be caused to candidates, judges, BPAC staff, and people attending BPAC events.

For children under the age of 16 years, performance content (including monologues, choreography and music selection) that could be interpreted as being of a sexual nature in any way is not permitted. The actual or perceived sexualisation of children is unacceptable in any form and will not be tolerated.

For candidates aged between 16 and 19 years, music selection or monologues containing lyrics that refer to, suggest, or imply, sexual activity will not be permitted.

For candidates of all age groups, music selection or monologues containing lyrics that refer to, suggest, or imply, racism, homophobia, gendered violence or any activity that promotes physical abuse, coercive control, gaslighting, or other forms of emotional abuse will not be permitted.

BPAC reserves the right to disqualify any candidate whose performance content breaches BPAC's requirements. Judges will be required to disregard and not mark the work of candidates whose performance content does not comply with BPAC's performance content requirements.

Scholarship classes

- All Musical Theatre Scholarships candidates are required to attend a preliminary scholarship class with the Musical Theatre Scholarships Judge.
- **All classes will be held in the Riverlife Church, 47 Jennifer St, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Brisbane.**
- Candidates are required to arrive **1 hour** prior to their scholarship class to register and prepare for their class.
- Upon arrival, candidates are to report to the registration desk to receive their candidate number and wristband.
- The wristband must be worn for the entirety of the scholarships, including for Semi-Finals and Finals.
- Candidate numbers are required to be worn for the scholarships class only. After the class, the candidate number may be retained as a keepsake from BPAC 2026.
- Candidates must report to the BPAC marshal in the backstage marshalling area and be ready backstage (or elsewhere as directed by a BPAC official) **15 minutes** prior to the commencement of the class. No entry will be permitted once the class has commenced.
- Candidates are requested to arrive pre-prepared for Semi-Finals and Finals, including having hair and light makeup (if desired) already done. Candidates must report to the BPAC marshal and be ready to compete **30 minutes** prior to the commencement of the Semi-Finals and/or Finals.
- Candidates are **not required to pre-prepare any solos / songs**. All scholarship work will be taught on the day, by the Judge. However, all candidates should make themselves familiar with the musical and songs provided to them in the two weeks prior to the Scholarships.
- All Scholarship classes, Semi-Finals and Finals will be performed in front of an audience.
- Ticket sales for the Scholarship classes, Semi-Finals and Finals will be available for purchase through **Trybooking**. Further information regarding ticket sales will be released once entries have closed and the final schedule has been determined. No ticket sales will be available at the door.

Selection of Semi-Finalists and Finalists for all age groups

- At the conclusion of the Scholarship classes, a maximum of 20 Semi-Finalists may be selected for each age group.
- At the conclusion of the Semi-Finals, a maximum of 8 Finalists may be selected for each age group.
- Should Junior and Intermediate candidates require assistance with headgear and props they are to seek assistance from the BPAC staff member allocated to the dressing room.
- Should Senior Candidates require assistance with costumes they are to seek assistance from the BPAC staff member allocated to the dressing room.
- **Semi-Finals and Finals will be held Riverlife Church, 47 Jennifer St, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Brisbane.**
- At the conclusion of the Finals, the judge may select a Scholarship Winner, a Scholarship Runner Up and an Encouragement Award recipient.

Junior Musical Theatre Scholarship (9-11 years age group)

All Junior candidates must be familiar with the following:

- Songs from a musical as chosen by the Judge (to be advised).
- Words and music will be supplied to all Musical Theatre Scholarship candidates two weeks prior to the event.

- Candidates will attend a Scholarship class to discuss character(s) to be portrayed when performing song and monologue as chosen by the Judge. This will be done firstly as a group and then solo.
- A maximum of 20 Semi-Finalists will be selected. Semi-Finalists will be required to learn choreography to further develop the character(s) being portrayed. This will be done firstly as a group and then maybe as a solo by each candidate.
- A maximum of 8 Finalists will be chosen. Finalists will perform, as a solo, the piece they have been taught by the Judge for the audience.
- All performances will be conducted in front of an audience.

Intermediate Musical Theatre Scholarship (12-14 years age group)

All Intermediate candidates must be familiar with the following:

- Songs from a musical as chosen by the Judge (to be advised). Words and music will be supplied to all Musical Theatre Scholarship candidates two weeks prior to the event.
- Candidates will attend a Scholarship class to discuss character(s) to be portrayed when performing song and monologue as chosen by the Judge. This will be done firstly as a group and then as a solo.
- A maximum of 20 Semi-Finalists will be selected. Semi-Finalists will be required to learn choreography to further develop the character(s) being portrayed. This will be done firstly as a group and then as a solo by each candidate.
- A maximum of 8 Finalists will be chosen. Finalists will perform, as a solo, the piece they have been taught by the Judge for the audience.
- All performances will be conducted in front of an audience.

Senior Musical Theatre Scholarship (15-19 years age group)

All Senior candidates must be familiar with the following:

- Songs from a musical as chosen by the Judge (to be advised). Words and music will be supplied to all Musical Theatre Scholarship candidates two weeks prior to the event.
- Candidates will attend a Scholarship class to discuss character(s) to be portrayed when performing song and monologue as chosen by the Judge. This will be done firstly as a group and then as a solo.
- A maximum of 20 Semi-Finalists will be selected. Semi-Finalists will be required to learn choreography to further develop the character(s) being portrayed. This will be done firstly as a group and then as a solo by each candidate.
- A maximum of 8 Finalists will be chosen. Finalists will perform, as a solo, the piece they have been taught by the Judge for the audience.
- All performances will be conducted in front of an audience.

Scholarship winners will be required to perform at the BPAC Gala on Saturday 13 June 2026, to be held at Riverlife Church 47 Jennifer St, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Brisbane.

Winners may perform a solo of their own choice in the Musical Theatre genre, or the piece taught by the Judge and performed in the Scholarships.

General requirements

BPAC is a safe, supportive environment where all candidates, their families and friends, and the general public are welcomed and treated respectfully.

BPAC is a not-for-profit, community organisation run entirely by unpaid volunteers committed to providing performing arts development opportunities for children and young people. BPAC's volunteers are doing the best they can in frequently challenging circumstances that are often beyond their control and within the tight timeframes required to deliver BPAC as scheduled.

Every person attending BPAC has the right to feel physically, psychologically, and culturally safe. Demonstrated respect for all people is a requirement for attendance at all BPAC events.

BPAC will not tolerate any disrespectful, inappropriate, or offensive language or behaviour from any person under any circumstances. Any person behaving inappropriately will be asked to leave the premises, and the Police will be called to forcibly remove such person/s if required.

For public safety and the protection of all candidates, if any candidate, family member, or associate of a candidate feels unwell on the day of the scholarships, that person or those persons are respectfully requested not to attend the scholarships or to leave the venue immediately upon feeling unwell. The Convenor is to be advised via call or text as soon as possible to advise of the circumstances.