



2020 Show Proposal Information

Please Note: The following information is a guide for anyone wishing to propose a show for BATS Theatre Company. The BATS Theatre Company Committee reserves the right to change and alter this guide and their requirements without notice.

About BATS

Founded in 1989, BATS Theatre Company provides Performing Arts opportunities to the Casey Community. Celebrating its 30th year in 2019, BATS was originally formed as the Berwick Amateur Theatre Society, and has performed in various venues across the City of Casey and the City of Greater Dandenong. Now based in Cranbourne, BATS rehearses, and has its storage facility, The Belfry, at The Factory - Rehearsal Centre for the Arts which forms part of the Casey Indoor Leisure Complex in Cranbourne East.

BATS Theatre Company's aim is to provide the community with the opportunity to experience live theatre at an affordable price, whilst also giving budding thespians, both young and old, the opportunity to perform. BATS looks forward to continuing to encourage all members of the community to actively participate in the Arts as cast, crew, and audience.

BATS Theatre Company also runs a team in Relay For Life (BATS Flying Towards a Cure) so regularly does fundraising throughout the year. This includes raffles at each production.

Show Schedule

BATS Theatre Company stages up to 4 productions per year. The schedule is as follows:

- April - Senior Youth and Young Adults Show
- July - Adult Show
- September - Youth Show
- November - Variety Show

Please note: Depending on the BATS Committee's decision, not all productions will be staged in 2020.

Applying to stage a show

In order to apply for BATS Theatre Company to stage a production, you will need to fill out the form available on www.batstheatre.org.au. There are four sections to the form:

- Your details,
- Information on the show you are proposing,
- Information on your experience and artistic vision for the show, and
- Any other relevant information.

Please note that you will be unable to include attachments on the form. If there are any relevant files you feel need to be sent to us to support your application, please send to info@batstheatre.org.au with a clear subject line.

The form will require you to fill in every question. Please provide as much detail as possible. You will be unable to return to the form to edit it once you submit. Depending on if you have all the information at hand, the application form should take around 15-20 minutes to complete.

The Theatre

BATS Theatre Company has, in recent years, performed at Cranbourne Community Theatre. This venue seats 260 and has a large foyer area. Facilities include a good sized set store and the ability to have an orchestra pit. The theatre does not have a fly tower so sets need to either be static or easy to move.

If proposing for a show to be performed at an alternative venue, please include this in the artistic vision section of the proposal form.

About Each Production

April Senior Youth and Young Adults Production

This production is staged during the April school holidays and is for cast aged approximately 16-25 (with the occasional cast member falling outside this depending on what the script calls for).

This production is typically a musical, however we will consider plays. When considering shows, think along the lines of off-Broadway style. If a musical, it should either have performance backing tracks available or be able to be staged with a very small band.

July Adults Production

This production is staged the two weekends after the July school holidays and is for cast aged 18 and over. If, however, the script calls for a child actor, this can be accommodated.

This production is typically a play, however we will consider musicals. We are happy to look at a wide variety of shows, however if a musical, it should either have performance backing tracks available or be able to be staged with a very small band.

September Youth Production

This production is staged during the September school holidays and is for cast aged 8-18. We will not be allowing cast members outside this age range.

This production has been, in recent years, from the Broadway Jr collection. If looking outside this collection, the production must have performance backing tracks available and either be 1 Act or a short 2 Act show.

November Variety Show

This production is relatively new to the BATS calendar. The staging dates can vary depending on venue availability (so could be staged in October if necessary). The intention of this show is to fundraise for our Relay for Life team. The age range can be adjusted depending on the show and what the production team would ideally like.

This production can be one of two formats:

1. A pre-made variety type show like 'I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change' or 'Songs for a New World'.
2. A show of songs and/or script excerpts from musicals and plays that centre around a specific theme.

FAQ

1. What are the key dates and process for appointment?

Applications will be open until **Friday 31st May**. Following this, the BATS Theatre Company Committee will discuss all applications at their next committee meeting. If necessary, applicants may be invited to present to the committee so that a decision can be reached by July. All applicants will be informed whether or not they are successful after the final decision has been made. Although we will try and do this in as rapid a time frame as we can, there may be circumstances that delay the process. Any delays will be communicated to all applicants.

2. Will you definitely choose one of the applicants from this process?

No. The committee may decide that none of the applications are suitable and may choose to either appoint via other means or not stage a production at all.

3. Will you definitely stage all 4 productions in 2020?

No. As previously mentioned, the committee may decide to stage less than 4 productions.

4. Can I apply to stage more than one production with BATS Theatre Company?

Definitely! We are happy for you to put in several proposals. Please fill in a new form for each proposal.

5. If I have a team, do we need to put in an application for each person on the team?

No. Please just put in one application. There is a question where you can provide details about other team members.

6. I want to direct/choreograph/musically direct but don't have a show in mind. Can I still apply?

Yes. Please don't fill in the form on our website, instead, email your theatre resume and a cover letter to info@batstheatre.org.au.

7. I want to direct/choreograph/musically direct but don't have any/a lot of experience. Can I still apply?

Yes. However, the BATS Committee may decide to appoint a more experienced person in a mentoring role.

8. I am under 18. Can I still apply?

No. However, you may apply to be a junior assistant director, choreographer or musical director. Please email your theatre resume and cover letter to info@batstheatre.org.au.

9. What if the form isn't working or I'm having trouble filling it in?

Please message our Facebook page and let us know. You can also email info@batstheatre.org.au however we tend to respond to Facebook messages a lot quicker.

10. I'm not sure if the rights are available for the show I want to stage. What should I do?

You can still apply, however we would strongly recommend that you look into if the performance rights are available in Australia. Most performance rights for major shows in Australia can be found through MTI Shows (<http://www.mtishows.com.au/>), Hal Leonard (<http://licensing.halleonard.com.au/>), or Origin Theatrical (<https://www.origintheatrical.com.au/>). There are also multiple other companies or individuals who licence shows. Try Googling the name of the show and 'performance rights Australia'. If you're still not sure, please feel free to apply and we will make our own enquiries about the performance rights.

11. I have an idea for a show but I'm a performer who wants to be in it and don't want to be a part of the production team. Can I still put in an application?

The short answer is no. We are specifically looking for people who are wanting to be on the production team for a specific show. If there is a show you would love to see BATS do that you would want to audition for, feel free to message us about it on our Facebook page.

12. When will you announce the shows you have chosen?

As previously mentioned, applicants will be informed if they have been successful once a decision has been reached by the committee. We intend to do this by July. Official announcements will be made as part of our 'Give My Regards to BATS' production in November with social media/website announcements being made around the same time.