Education @ The Bowery Theatre

From 2018, The Bowery Theatre will provide dedicated programming for schools. This includes performances, Q&As, workshops and teacher resources. Our program aims to offer diverse, curriculum-centred opportunities that engage and enrich students.

Venue information

Located in the heart of St Albans, a short walk from St Albans train station, The Bowery Theatre is located inside St Albans Community Centre (STACC). A map is available at https://bowerystacc.com.au/contact-us/

Entry and Capacity

Entry into the theatre is via the St Albans Community Centre ground floor. The theatre can accommodate up to 202 people with raked theatre seating. Three wheelchair accessible seats are available in the front row at street level.

Parking

There are 30 Council-run parking bays located directly outside the theatre with a parking limit of 3 hrs. Additional parking is available around the theatre; however this can be busy, particularly during (Big Sam’s) St Albans Market opening hours (Weds-Sun).

Access

- Fully wheelchair accessible
- Gender neutral, accessible bathrooms available
- Service dog friendly
- Hearing enhancement facilities ie. audio loop
- Braille signage including for toilet facilities
- Companion Card accepted

Fire and Security Services

Patron safety is paramount. We have strict fire and emergency evacuation processes. Should there be the need to evacuate the building, please follow instructions from the trained front of house staff.

Schools Bookings

Bookings can be made by contacting: Siena Balakrishnan, Executive Producer (Bowery Theatre). Ph: 9249 4600 E: sienab@brimbank.vic.gov.au. Your first step in making a booking will be to complete a Schools Booking Form, with instructions for payment, and can be downloaded from the website. This form is not a booking confirmation or a ticket.
Pricing

All schools bookings are processed via a School Booking Form from a teacher. Pricing for schools bookings are:

- $15 per student
- $15 for additional teachers.

Note: One teacher for every 20 students goes free.

Student numbers and payment for schools bookings must be finalised a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the performance. Bookings are final once box office tickets have been issued and received by the teacher. If you have not received your tickets and payment has been made, please follow up immediately with the Executive Producer.

Payment

You must complete a Schools Booking Form prior to payment. Student numbers and schools booking payments must be made a minimum of two weeks prior to the performance.

Payments can be made:

1) Online using The Bowery ticketing system, a unique coupon code will be sent to the teacher in order to do this, and payment is made via credit card (Visa / Mastercard). Tickets and their respective booking are then generated on the spot.

2) Tickets will be held for you once your invoice has been generated. Once the invoice is issued, the school accepts liability to make payments in full by the due date. Schools must notify the Executive Producer once you have processed the payment, with an expected payment date. Once you pay the invoice, please allow up to 10 business days for tickets to be generated and sent to the teacher.

3) Through our Box Office via cash, eftpos, credit card. Please clearly state you are making a ‘SCHOOLS’ booking and provide the unique coupon code to the box office staff prior to payment.

BOX OFFICE: The Bowery Theatre Box Office is located in the STACC foyer and is open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, Saturday 9am to 12.30pm, and one hour prior to the start of performances. The Box Office offers telephone, counter and web sales via the house ticketing system. Bowery Theatre Ticketing Terms and Conditions are to be followed. Visit: https://bowerystacc.com.au/terms/

FOYER: At STACC there is a modern and bright foyer for teachers and students to relax in pre and post show, or during interval. The venue has wifi and is climate controlled.

KIOSK: The kiosk is available for function hire and is not currently in daily operation. For evening performances the kiosk is open and does serve alcohol under the RSA conditions. Snacks and non-alcoholic drinks are sold.

Legend

K = Kindergarten
P = Primary - Prep to Grade 4
M = Middle School (Grade 5 to 8)
S = Secondary (Year 9 to 12)
HART, by She Said Theatre  
Wednesday, 14 March  
7.30pm  
HART is a VCAA selected play.

HART is a solo theatre piece by Melbourne Fringe and Adelaide Fringe award-winner and Noongar man, Ian Michael. Weaving together the real stories of four survivors of the Stolen Generations, Michael invites you to listen in on the silenced stores of his country.

“A brave and quietly devastating performance.”  
Cameron Woodhead, The Age.

This performance is followed by a post-show artist Q&A as part of ‘In Conversations’ hosted by Lisa Maza.

TEACHER’S PLANNING INFORMATION
Show running time: 50 minutes.  
Post-show Artist Q&A running time: Additional 20 minutes.

Post-show photos with performer welcome.
Artform: Theatre (Storytelling / Verbatim)  
Key Themes: Stolen Generations, community, family, storytelling, Indigenous Affairs.
Educational links: http://stolengenerationstestimonies.com  
Subject areas: Australian history, Indigenous affairs, politics, Australian law Unit 3 and 4 Drama and Theatre studies – solo performance.

HOT TIPS:
• A great show for senior school students preparing for their final drama performance solo.  
• Best suited for audiences 12 years and up.  
• See a young Indigenous performer share his and others’ personal stories in a warm and playful way.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this production contains references to and images of people who are deceased.
Caliban, by Western Edge Youth Arts
Friday, 18 May
11am

Caliban is a VCAA selected play.

Caliban explores the battle ground of global climate politics. Set in the near future, the action moves from a Pacific Island to a partly submerged Melbourne as it follows the story of what happens to Shakespeare’s character Caliban after the waters rise and his island is flooded.

Created by Western Edge Youth Arts, Caliban reflects the diversity of its cast by providing perspectives from Pacific Island, African and Afghani characters.

TEACHER’S PLANNING INFORMATION
Show running time: 75 minutes plus interval.
Artform: Physical Theatre

Key Themes / Subject Areas: Global climate politics, and an Australian re-imagining of Shakespeare’s, The Tempest, Cultural Diversity, Unit 3 and 4 Drama and Theatre studies

‘Ethnic diversity on our stages should reflect that on our streets, and it’s great to see a show embracing it as the most natural thing in the world.’ The Age (2015)

‘The Edge Ensemble continues to impress both me and my students with their engaging, innovative performances. …You would be crazy not to take your students to experience their work’. Emily Unt Wan, Drama Teacher, Footscray City College.

Western Edge Youth Arts - Caliban Schools Workshops
Post-show (from 1pm onwards)
Length to suit, for a 30 students maximum
This opportunity has no charge and is offered as part of schools bookings for Caliban.

The Bowery Theatre in partnership with Western Edge Youth Arts can provide schools workshops tailored to meet your education needs. Members of the Edge Ensemble will lead the workshops, along with established Melbourne directors / teaching artists, Dave Kelman or Penny Halpham. For more information, see the information on the performance of Caliban.

Select from two options:
1. A workshop on sharing theatre devising techniques tailored to complete beginners or young people already doing some form of theatre and drama students.
Which Way Home, by ILBIJERRI Theatre Company
Friday, 1 June
7.30pm
Which Way Home is a VCAA selected play.
A Reconciliation Week event.

Photo: Steven Rhall

Tash and her Dad are going on a road trip. Home to country, where the sky is higher and the world goes on forever. Which Way Home draws on writer Katie Beckett’s personal memories of growing up with her single Aboriginal father. A road trip comedy 80,000 years in the making.

TEACHER’S PLANNING INFORMATION
Show running time: 65 minutes, no interval.
Post-show Artist Q&A running time: Additional 20 minutes.
Artform: Theatre (Storytelling / Comedy)
Key Themes: Single dads, #Indigenousdads, family, Urban Indigenous culture.
Educational links: ILBIJERRI runs the MARGUK Education & Learning Program and employs a full-time Education Manager who is willing to provide assistance to teachers who wish to engage with the production. The themes explored in the show are relevant to the study of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures across all secondary year levels. Teacher resources will be available from January 2018 onwards.

This performance is followed by a post-show artist Q&A as part of ‘In Conversations’ hosted by Lisa Maza.

Warnings: Occasional coarse language and sexual references.