



# DRAMA & MUSICAL THEATRE HANDBOOK 2026



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# About INSPIRE

Located in Caringbah, Inspire began in 2008 with a vision to provide a safe, inclusive and creative haven for young people to learn dance, drama and various art forms. Inspire embraces kids, teens and adults of all ages, abilities and walks of life. Led by a qualified team of educators who are experienced, passionate and dedicated, our vision is to inspire young artists to thrive in skill, creativity, confidence, and to realise their unique potential.

## Our MISSION

Our mission is to provide a fresh and unique approach to teaching young creative artists in a way that nurtures creativity, builds relationships and inspires a love for learning. We aim to foster a passion for the Arts in children and young people, and encourage their growth in confidence and self-esteem. We serve our community with a high quality program, and strive to lead Inspire students with integrity, passion and professionalism.





# SARAH FURNARI

PROGRAM COORDINATOR & TEACHER: DRAMA & MUSICAL THEATRE

With over 15 years of teaching experience including NIDA, The Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) and The McDonald College, Sarah is excited to be returning for her eleventh year with Inspire Creative Arts. As an actor, Sarah has worked in theatre, film, TV, improv, and musical theatre, and has toured Australia extensively with Theatre in Education programs aimed at empowering young people from low socio-economic communities. Sarah's recent TV credits include Maria in Ten Pound Poms (BBC & Stan) and Kaynee in Year Of (Stan.). Sarah also has extensive experience and training in singing, dance, and choreography. In 2020 Sarah penned our end-of-year feature film REWRITTEN which showcased our Inspire students and screened at Skyline Drive-In Cinema. Our Musical Theatre & Drama program has thrived under her guidance, with students now taking on the auditioning and casting world under Sarah's care and expertise. Sarah holds a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Performance) from the University of Wollongong, where she was awarded the faculty's Creative Arts Excellence scholarship.



***"My vision for my students is that they grow into courageous, authentic storytellers with open hearts, empathy for others, and a tonne of creative flair. By taking ownership of their own story, young people can make their voices heard – and little by little, creative artists have the power to shape their future and change our world."***

# ALICIA CLOVER

MUSICAL THEATRE & DRAMA TEACHER



Alicia holds a Bachelor of Musical Theatre from the Queensland Conservatorium, where she received expert vocal and dance training. During her studies, Alicia appeared in a series of musicals including Les Miserables, The Drowsy Chaperone and Elegies. Since graduating she has appeared in TVCs for major brands including KFC, and was also accepted into the original cohort of the THEatreBRIDGE Program where she trained with Australia's top industry professionals in Music Theatre. Most recently, Alicia played the role of Ali/Sophie Understudy in Tall and Short Theatre Company's MAMMA MIA! Alicia has fallen in love with teaching young people, especially when it comes to vocal coaching and technique training. She looks forward to being a part of the Inspire team and meeting all the wonderful students!

# OUR PROGRAMS

## MUSICAL THEATRE

With singing, acting and dance all in one; Inspire Musical Theatre classes are jam-packed, exciting sessions where students explore the art of storytelling and experience the magic of modern and classic musicals. Each session begins with group singing coaching before adding acting and dance to tell the stories of a series of musicals. Perform in our mid-year Showcase as well as our 2026 whole-school production!

Want to push your Musical Theatre skills even further, and perform at competitions and public events throughout the year? Check out our IPC Musical Theatre Ensemble.

## DRAMA

With improvisation, playbuilding, script work, characterisation, comedy, live performance and more, our Drama classes are a brilliant way for students to grow in self-confidence, communication skills, team work, leadership, and the process of creating works for the screen and stage. Perform in our mid-year Drama & Musical Theatre showcase, as well as taking part in our November 2026 whole-school production.

## WE ALSO OFFER:

- + Private Singing Tuition
- + HSC Drama Tuition
- + Audition Coaching
- + Audition Tapes: Directing, Recording & Editing
- + Holiday Workshops
- + Musical Theatre Performers Ensemble (IPC Teams) ... and more!





# DRAMA

With classes for ages 6 to 18, our Inspire Drama program is tailored towards the needs of each specific age group.

## **JUNIOR DRAMA (School Grades 1 - 3)**

Our fun intro to acting begins with learning improvisation skills through structured games and exercises. We build characters and tell stories using voice, mime, movement and more! We nurture teamwork skills, creativity and confidence as we create a short piece of theatre from scratch. Students extend their script skills as we perform a comedy play.

## **PRIMARY / INTERMEDIATE DRAMA (School Grades 4 - 6)**

Our Primary students explore comedy, drama, physical theatre, improvisation and devising at an intermediate level. We explore a variety of genres, and work on characterisation as we create original scenes from scratch. Students enjoy furthering their understanding of ensemble work, scripted comedy, and drama as we work on a play.

## **TEEN DRAMA (School Grades 7 - 8)**

We challenge our Teen students to work from a place of truth, and nurture their unique voice and personal stories, as we focus on small-group scenes using scripts from theatre, film and television. We also extend our teamwork skills and have huge amounts of fun with playbuilding, improvisation, mime, voice and comedy work.

## **SENIOR DRAMA (School Grades 9-12)**

Senior students explore comedy, drama, physical theatre, improvisation and devising at an advanced level. Our Senior students work with exciting and sophisticated texts from stage and screen as they hone their script analysis skills. We continue to focus on truthful acting, and learn the essentials of screen acting. Senior actors are also equipped with skills for auditions and castings.



# MUSICAL THEATRE

With classes for ages 6 to 18, our Inspire Musical Theatre program provides each age group with specific skills...

## **JUNIOR MUSICAL THEATRE (School Grades 1-3)**

Students are introduced to the world of Musical Theatre and learn to express the stories, themes, and emotions of popular musicals through singing, dancing and acting.

## **PRIMARY / INTERMEDIATE MUSICAL THEATRE (School Grades 4-6)**

We further investigate the themes and characters of a range of new and classic musicals and build on our storytelling skills. Students advance their singing, dancing and acting technique to the next level, and add harmony singing, and theatre jazz dance technique to their list of skills.

## **TEEN / SENIOR MUSICAL THEATRE (School Grades 7-12)**

Senior students tackle music and subject matter of increasing sophistication and are exposed to a range of theatrical choreography styles. Students explore the characters, themes and stories of a variety of new and classic musicals and hone their performance skills and stage presence.

## **MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMERS (IPC Teams)**

Want more opportunities to perform in 2026? Our Musical Theatre Performers groups represent Inspire at eisteddfods and community events throughout the year! Increase your confidence and level-up your technique in singing, dancing, and acting to become a true "triple-threat" (see next page for more info!)





# 'IPC' MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMERS



In 2026, our Musical Theatre Performance Ensembles will learn exciting new singing and dancing routines and enjoy a range of performance and extension opportunities, as part of our school's performance initiative: The Inspire Performance Collective (IPC).

- Entertain our local community at various community events and shows
- Compete in eisteddfods & competitions;
- Receive mentorship to help you achieve your personal goals, and grow as a performer;
- Receive audition notices for local and professional opportunities as they arise;
- Feature in our Mid-year Musical Theatre & Drama Showcase;
- Feature in Inspire's end-of-year Production and Christmas Shows;
- Participate in specialised workshops with industry guests. Practise your skills ready for auditions, gain an understanding of the professional entertainment industry, and increase your confidence as a performer!

Members of our IPC teams represent Inspire with passion, dedication and pride, and are role models and leaders in our Inspire community. Auditions will be held in Nov 2025 + Jan 2026 for the following teams:

IPC Musical Theatre Performers (Year 3-6 Ensemble)

IPC Musical Theatre Performers (Year 7+ Ensemble)

Check out our 2026 Inspire Performance Collective Information  
or email [info@inspirecreativearts.com.au](mailto:info@inspirecreativearts.com.au) for more info

# OTHER OPPORTUNITIES & SERVICES



## **Solo Singing Lessons**

We offer solo singing lessons for students wishing to extend their skills and build their confidence in a one-on-one setting. Please email through your inquiry for more information and to reserve your 2026 timeslot!

## **Audition Coaching & Taping Sessions**

Whether you're auditioning for a musical, a specialty school or university, or a network TV series, live auditions often require performers to come prepared with specific material on a short deadline. One-on-one coaching on the material, casting process, and audition mindset can boost your child's confidence and give them an edge in the audition room. Meanwhile, self-tape auditions require performers to record their own auditions before sending them digitally to a casting panel. We know self-tapes come with their own challenges, so we've introduced a stress-less coaching, filming and editing service to create your child's audition tape in a supportive and professional environment.

## **HSC Drama Tutoring**

Looking for guidance with your Individual Performance, or HSC Drama theory exam prep? Miss Sarah has been tutoring HSC Drama students and providing in-school HSC Drama workshops for the past 17 years. With students receiving top results and even OnStage nominations, HSC Drama tutoring can provide senior students with an outside eye to finesse both their performance and theory work, and maximise their marks.

## **Castings and Representation**

If your child is eager to break into the industry as a professional performer, there are a few things you'll need to know, and a few things you'll need to prepare before you embark on this exciting new journey! We provide individual coaching for those students wishing to take the next step!

***Sparked your interest?***

***Contact Us: [info@inspirecreativearts.com.au](mailto:info@inspirecreativearts.com.au)***





# PARENT TESTIMONIALS



*"Musical Theatre and Drama classes with Miss Sarah have given [my daughter] such confidence on and off the stage. She races to class each week, bursting to learn and see her class friends. You run a beautiful school, with such a good moral compass and we love being part of it. "*

*- Marnie, Inspire Parent*



*"I found myself reflecting this week on the positive impact Drama has had for [my daughter] over the last few years... the confidence she has gained has been so heartwarming. To be able to go to Inspire each week and learn and perform in a supportive and friendly environment has played a huge role in building her confidence and self esteem. I just wanted to express my thanks and gratefulness for what you do each week and for investing in our kids in a way that builds them up and helps encourage them to be themselves and, hopefully, to become good people too. It's special and it's very much appreciated by us."*

*- Vanessa, Inspire Parent*



*"Inspire is such a beautiful school and community. I love how all the kids are showcased and get an opportunity to shine regardless of where they are in their learning journey"*

*- Kirsty, Inspire Parent*





## WHY CHOOSE MUSICAL THEATRE?

Did you know...

... studies have shown that group singing is extremely beneficial for mental wellbeing? What's more, Inspire Musical Theatre students learn how to dance, sing, AND act simultaneously (sometimes in 3-part harmony!) This multi-tasking develops focus and stamina as well as increasing cognitive function and physical coordination. Students are given opportunities to have creative input in choreography and character exploration and develop confidence and teamwork skills.



## WHY CHOOSE DRAMA?

Did you know...

... according to recent surveys in Australia, participating in youth drama programs helped improve young people's overall wellbeing? Did you know that studies have shown that people who frequently participated in theatre had increased levels of empathy? In an increasingly complex world, acting gives young people a voice. Drama helps young people to develop skills for life by increasing confidence and resilience. Parents of Inspire Drama students have reported improved skills in their child's public speaking, teamwork, reading, writing, listening, storytelling, problem-solving & improvising. Students also develop critical thinking skills and learn how to give and receive feedback respectfully and effectively.



*Contact us now for  
2026 enrolments*

**WE WOULD  
LOVE TO HAVE  
YOU ALONG FOR  
THE  
ADVENTURE**

**CONTACT US**



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