

# Les Misérables

## SCHOOL EDITION

**MARCH 2025 | CECIL HEPWORTH PLAYHOUSE**  
**AUDITION INFORMATION PACK**



**In March 2025, South Side Theatre will be presenting Les Misérables School Edition, and you can take part! We are on the lookout for young performers aged 11 to 18, who have a passion and drive for theatre to bring this inspiring story to life. The production will be led by a tremendous creative team, including musical director, Ffion Aynsley, our Artistic Director, Toby Ward-Smith and stage managed by Aisling Larkin.**

Auditions are open to anyone aged 11-18, in secondary school from September 2024. Auditions will be held at the cornerHOUSE, Surbiton on Wednesday 9th October, 5:30-8:30pm and Sunday 13th October, 2-5pm. You will only need to attend one of the two days.

Cast rehearsals will take place in Surbiton on

- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 5:30-8:30pm
- And then Wednesdays and Fridays from 5:30-8:30pm, from the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> January.
- 2 full day rehearsals on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> & Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

You will only be called for the specific rehearsals you are required for, so no one will be required to attend every rehearsal, but all cast are expected to commit to the full rehearsal process and give us their rehearsal availability on the audition form. Knowing your availability now will allow us to plan accordingly.

To take part, sign up for an audition via [www.southsidetheatre.com/lesmisauditions](http://www.southsidetheatre.com/lesmisauditions). Please read the information below.

The total project fee is £185 with a discounted price of £165 for current Weekly Academy members and for siblings. This can be paid 3 monthly payments or in full. Payment will only be due if successfully cast in the show.

We don't want anyone to miss out due to cost. Bursaries are available for those on low incomes. Please contact [info@southsidetheatre.com](mailto:info@southsidetheatre.com) to apply.

**All cast be available for show week from Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>-Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.**

## ABOUT THE AUDITIONS

For cast auditions, you can choose whether you want to audition for a principal role or if you want to audition for an ensemble role. Regardless of the role you want to audition for, your audition will involve learning a routine, scene work and learning an

ensemble song. Those wanting to audition for a principal role will then be invited to do a solo vocal audition, with details below.

Following auditions we will distribute the cast list via email, within a couple of weeks.

*The full list of characters can be found below.*

PRINCIPAL ROLES	THE STUDENTS
JEAN VALJEAN	COMBEFERRE
JAVERT	COURFEYRAC
FANTINE	FEUILLY
YOUNG COSETTE	JOLY
COSETTE	GRANTAIR
MARIUS	PROUVAIRE
EPONINE	LESGLES
ENJOLRAS	
THERNARDIER	
MADAME THENARDIER	
GAVROCHE	

OTHER ROLES
CHAIN GANG 1-5, BISHOP, CONSTABLES 1-2, FARMER, LABOURER, FOREMAN, WORKERS 1-2, WOMEN 1-8, GIRLS 1-5, SAILORS 1-3, OLD WOMAN, LOVELY LADIES 1-3, PIMP, BAMATABOIS, ONLOOKERS 1-4, FAUCHELVANT, BABET, CLAQUESOUS, MONTPARNASSE, BRUJON, ARMY OFFICER

NON-SINGING ROLES (BUT WILL BE REQUIRED TO SING AS CHORUS)
YOUNG EPONINE, JUDGE, MISTAKEN JEAN VALJEAN (& FAMILY), NUNS, SENTRIES 1-3, MAJOR DOMO

### A NOTE ON CASTING

We are aiming to create a production that is high-energy, impactful, and heart-warming. The show will be supported by strong production values enforced by our commitment to value every performer within the show.

The nature of this show requires a diverse cast of young performers with a clear passion and commitment for performing. Please come prepared to stretch yourself, and support everyone in achieving a fantastic experience.

We will be keeping the title characters to their originally written gender in the production; however, we are open to all genders for each part; you need only be comfortable presenting as the gender the role is written for. For example, if you are non-binary but wanting to portray a male character we welcome this.

There are no specified ethnicities in the story. We welcome all ethnicities to apply for any of the roles.

## PRINCIPAL AUDITIONS

You will need to prepare and perform a section from one of the listed songs below, which can be found here:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MAJyYz1EC5L5zhRa21A\\_cMubxipCdu2A](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MAJyYz1EC5L5zhRa21A_cMubxipCdu2A)

You are able to choose any of the 6 songs;

- Bring Him Home (Bar 92 to 121)
- Stars (Bar 19 to 47)
- On My Own (Bar 93 to 121)
- Master of the House (Bar 1 to 51)
- Castle on a Cloud (Bar 1 to 27)
- Little People (Bar 9 to 28)

The sheet music and backing tracks for the auditions can all be found in the Google Drive folders, accessed by the link above.

Remember that it's important that we see how you act as well as how you sing.

### **Jean Valjean: Male. Range G#2 - A4**

Jean Valjean is the hero of the show. It is his life journey that we follow. Jean Valjean is supposed to be stronger than other men, and so he should physically appear robust. Jean Valjean is a vocally demanding role. (Recommend song 'Bring Him Home')

### **Javert: Male. Range F2 - F#2**

Javert is the inspector who serves as antagonist to Jean Valjean. Javert is unswerving in his belief that men cannot change for the better. At first glance, Javert might appear to be the villain of the story, but upon closer examination, it is clear that he is not an evil man. (Recommend song 'Stars')

### **Fantine: Female. Range F3 - C5**

Fantine is the beautiful, young girl who, abandoned by her lover, is left to fend for herself and her daughter, Cosette. She is rejected by society and forced through circumstances to sell herself. She is a brave woman defeated by life. (Recommend song 'On My Own')

### **Enjolras: Male. Range A2 - G4**

Enjolras is the student leader. He is handsome, brave, and daring, although youthful. He combines his revolutionary ideals with strong, charismatic leadership. (Recommend song 'Stars' or 'Bring Him Home')

### **Marius: Male. Range A2 - Ab4**

Marius is the romantic hero of the story. He is impulsive, passionate, wilful, and headstrong. (Recommend song 'Bring Him Home')

### **Cosette: Female. Range Bb3 - C6**

Cosette is Fantine's strong-willed, loving daughter. She is an intelligent, inquiring, personable girl; she is not in any sense a sappy, romantic heroine. Once she is adopted by Jean Valjean, Cosette lives a comfortable, if secluded, life. (Recommend song 'On My Own')

**Eponine: Female. Range F3 - E5**

Eponine is the Thénardiens' daughter. Living hand to mouth, she survives by helping her father in his life of crime. She is a young girl who is streetwise and tough but also sensitive and lonely. (Recommend song 'On My Own')

**Thénardier: Male. Range C2 - G4**

Thénardier is the true villain of Les Misérables School Edition. He delights in cheating, robbing, defrauding, and blackmailing, and relishes every aspect of his schemes with glee. He is tough, greedy, brutal, lowbrow, crafty and yet irresistible. A great comedy role. (Recommend song 'Master of the House')

**Madame Thénardier: Female. Range G#3 - D5**

She is married to Thénardier. Together, Madame Thénardier and Thénardier con the world as partners in crime. They were made for each other, and although she complains about him, she loves him dearly. (Recommend song 'Master of the House')

**Young Cosette: Female. Range A3 - C5**

Young Cosette is Fantine's daughter and the Thénardiens' ward. She has been forced into child labor. She is underfed, beaten by Madame Thénardier, and bullied by Eponine. (Recommend song 'Castle on a Cloud')

**Gavroche: Male. Range B3 - G5**

Gavroche is left to fend for himself and lives by his wits in the streets of Paris. His archenemy is Javert, the policeman. Gavroche is brave, witty, and arrogant, with a fantastic, unchanged voice. For comparison, think of a young Artful Dodger. (Recommend song 'Little People')

**CREATIVES**Toby Ward-Smith - Director

Toby trained at the Guildford School of Acting, following gaining a distinction in his Performing Arts Teaching Diploma. He has extensively performed in the likes of Bugsy Malone (New Wimbledon Theatre), In the Heights (Stockwell Playhouse) and It Snows (Orange Tree Theatre). Alongside performing Toby has worked in Children's theatre for numerous years, starting out as a Class Assistant in the Children's Theatre Club at the Lantern Arts Centre, before leading their Easter Holiday Projects at the age of 18. He then went on to be the Assistant Director of the Young Company at the Churchill Theatre Bromley. In 2018, Toby founded South Side, with a belief that theatre should be accessible for everyone, with an aim to run all-inclusive, professional drama classes and productions for all young people. Since then, he has directed and produced 27 South Side productions and is your first point of contact should you need anything!

Ffion Aynsley - Musical Director

Ffion is a singer songwriter, musician, voice artist and performer. Her musical background is rooted in her upbringing in rural West Wales where she began singing and playing the piano at an early age. She lived in Spain for 6 years where she worked as an actor and singer for a Theatre in Education company. During this time she also facilitated music and theatre workshops with young people and performed regularly in Folk and Jazz ensembles. Ffion is also a qualified music therapist and has experience working in nurseries, mainstream and SEN schools and in palliative care. She is currently working as musical director and performer in the new theatre show, Platonics Live and is heading up to the Edinburgh Fringe with 2 shows in August 2024.

For South Side, Ffion recently musical directed our productions of Elf the Musical JR and Beauty and the Beast JR.

Aisling Larkin – Assistant Director & Stage Manager

Aisling is from Waterford, Ireland and has been performing since the age of four. After spending many years in stage schools and local theatre groups she went on to do examinations with the Royal Irish Academy of Music in Pop and Musical Theatre Vocals.

She then went on to study Musical Theatre, obtaining a BFA Musical Theatre from the American College Dublin. Since graduating she has been working as a freelance singing and MT teacher across the Southeast of Ireland & was the Head of MT at Alize's School of Singing Kilkenny, Ireland.

Aisling moved to London in February 2024 with the hopes of exploring more opportunities in the theatre industry here and is delighted to be part of the South Side team.

**If you have any questions please email us at [info@southsidetheatre.com](mailto:info@southsidetheatre.com)! We look forward to seeing you at auditions!**