



DRAMA
LIVES
HERE

EDUCATION 2017

MTC





MELBOURNE'S HOME OF THEATRE

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SCHOOL
TERM

VCE

VCE
PLAYLIST



EDUCATION
PACK



PRE-SHOW
TALKS



ON THE
ROAD

MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY

MTC is the state theatre company of Victoria and Melbourne's home of live storytelling. To complement MTC's mainstage season of eleven plays, we present the world premiere of *Melbourne Talam*, and a vibrant and diverse Education program featuring tours, workshops, talks and extension programs – all of which make our theatre, your theatre.

Our vision is to enrich lives with understanding and empathy through the storytelling power of the finest theatre imaginable. The stories in our 2017 season are relevant to all subject areas and invite conversation beyond the classroom. After visiting the theatre, teachers have told us their students were 'buzzing', 'connected' and 'mesmerised', and that the performance had 'opened their eyes up to the big world beyond'. Share this brochure with other teachers at your school. It might just be what they and their students need.



Melbourne Theatre Company acknowledges the Yalukit Willam Peoples of the Boon Wurrung, the Traditional Owners of the land on which Southbank Theatre and MTC HQ stand, and we pay our respects to Melbourne's First Peoples, to their ancestors past and present, and to our shared future.

2017 Term Planner

TERM
1



Born Yesterday
by Garson Kanin

14 January – 25 February
Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner



John
by Annie Baker

10 February – 25 March
Arts Centre Melbourne,
Fairfax Studio



Faith Healer
by Brian Friel

4 March – 8 April
Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

TERM
3



Noises Off
by Michael Frayn
8 July – 12 August
Arts Centre Melbourne,
Playhouse



Di and Viv and Rose
by Amelia Bullmore

12 August – 16 September
Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

TERM
2



Three Little Words
by Joanna Murray-Smith

18 April – 27 May
Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner



Melbourne Talam
by Rashma N. Kalsie

4 – 20 May
Southbank Theatre,
The Lawler



Minnie & Liraz
by Lally Katz

12 May – 24 June
Arts Centre Melbourne,
Fairfax Studio



Macbeth
by William Shakespeare

5 June – 15 July
Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

TERM
4



**Noël Coward's
Hay Fever**

23 September – 28 October
Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner



The Father
by Florian Zeller, translated
by Christopher Hampton

2 November – 16 December
Arts Centre Melbourne,
Fairfax Studio



Vivid White
by Eddie Perfect

18 November – 23 December
Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

VCE

Drama Playlist



MELBOURNE TALAM

by Rashma N. Kalsie

4 MAY – 20 MAY

Southbank Theatre,
The Lawler

Genre: Non-naturalistic
contemporary Australian drama

Key themes: Culture, Community,
Choices, Journey, Identity and Belonging

Recommended for: Year 9+

Warning: Contains coarse language,
mature themes and references
to suicide.

A great excursion for: Drama, English,
Languages and all Humanities students

*You have to time it right.
If you follow the beat of the city,
your life never goes off-key.*

Three young people see each other across a crowded city station. They just missed the train. Now they wait. They think about home: Punjab, Delhi, Hyderabad. And how they just can't seem to get the city's talam – its rhythm – right. A sudden and calamitous event changes the lives of all three and their future in Australia.

Inspired by real events, *Melbourne Talam* follows three young people from India making a new life in Australia. Fast-paced and non-naturalistic in style, its engaging storytelling rhythms are punctuated with conflict and collision: strangers colliding on public transport in peak hour, difference colliding with bigotry, and dreams colliding with reality. Directed by Petra Kalive.



VCE



SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Lawler Season

Students: \$27

Accompanying teacher: Free

Additional teachers: \$43

ON THE ROAD



Melbourne Talam and regional workshops will tour across the state.

For venues, dates and booking information see page 23.



BORN YESTERDAY

by Garson Kanin

14 JAN – 25 FEB

Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

How can a junk yard tycoon win over Congress if his girlfriend, Billie, is always bringing down the tone? Enter reporter Paul Verrall, ready to teach Billie a few things about politics. A Broadway precursor to *Legally Blonde*, this story of power and corruption will give students a fresh perspective on contemporary politics. Cast includes Christie Whelan Browne and Joel Jackson, directed by Dean Bryant.

Genre: Classic Broadway comedy

Recommended for: Year 9+

A great excursion for: Drama, Music, History, Global Politics, Theatre Studies

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45





JOHN

by Annie Baker

10 FEB – 25 MAR

Arts Centre Melbourne,
Fairfax Studio

A young couple arrive late one evening at Mertis Graven's bed and breakfast in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, historic site of a terrible Civil War battle, trying to get over some history of their own. Filled with gothic eeriness and magical realist gestures, this spooky psychological drama will challenge students' expectations of naturalistic theatre. Cast includes Julia Blake, Helen Morse and Ursula Mills, directed by Sarah Goodes.

Genre: Contemporary drama

Recommended for: Year 10+

Warning: Contains coarse language

A great excursion for: Psychology, Drama, Theatre Studies

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27

Accompanying teacher: Free

Additional teachers: \$45



VCE
Theatre Studies
Playlist



FAITH HEALER

by Brian Friel

4 MAR – 8 APR

Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

From one remote village to the next, faith healer Francis Hardy works his magic, curing the sick and the lame, giving strength to the weak. His powers are real. Or so he says. *Faith Healer* exposes students to the power of unadorned storytelling by three of Australia’s most skilled and compelling stage actors, Colin Friels, Alison Whyte and Pip Miller. Directed by Judy Davis (*The Dressmaker*).

Genre: Classic drama

Recommended for: Year 10+

A great excursion for: Theatre Studies, Religion and Society, Psychology, Drama, Sociology

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45



VCE





THREE LITTLE WORDS

by Joanna Murray-Smith

18 APR – 27 MAY

Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45

At an anniversary dinner Tess and Curtis casually drop a bombshell – they have decided to split up. There's no way to predict or control the devastation that follows. This acerbic comedy of contemporary manners shows students how a playwright with a unique ear for dialogue and a sharp pen can skewer our delusions and self-defeating follies. Cast includes Catherine McClements, directed by Sarah Goodes.

Genre: Contemporary comedy drama

Recommended for: Year 10+

Warning: Contains coarse language

A great excursion for: Sociology, Theatre Studies, Drama





MINNIE & LIRAZ

by Lally Katz

12 MAY – 24 JUN

Arts Centre Melbourne,
Fairfax Studio

At the Autumn Road Retirement Village in Caulfield, Minnie seizes the opportunity to set up her granddaughter with Liraz's hopelessly single grandson amidst a fiercely competitive bridge club. Lally Katz (*Neighbourhood Watch*) has written a black comedy with oddball characters that will make students rethink intergenerational relationships. Cast includes Nancye Hayes AO, Sue Jones, Virginia Gay and John Leary. Directed by Anne-Louise Sarks.

Genre: Contemporary comedy

Recommended for: Year 10+

A great excursion for: English, Literature, Drama,
Theatre Studies

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27

Accompanying teacher: Free

Additional teachers: \$45



Minnie & Liraz was commissioned
by the Kim Williams Fellowship.



MACBETH

by William Shakespeare

5 JUN – 15 JUL

Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

Three unearthly women predict undreamed-of greatness for two soldiers. When the first of the prophecies comes true, one of them dares to imagine. This fearsome interpretation of *Macbeth* will boldly activate Shakespeare's language for students, employ stunning theatricality, and expose the startling relevancy of the play to our contemporary political landscape. Directed by Simon Phillips (*Hamlet*, *Richard III*).

Genre: Classic tragedy

Recommended for: Year 10+

Warning: Contains violence. More details regarding this production's content will be available closer to the season.

A great excursion for: English, Literature, History, Politics, Drama, Theatre Studies

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45



Workshops available. See page 21.



VCE

Theatre Studies
Playlist

QUEENSLAND
THEATRE

A co-production
with Queensland
Theatre

NOISES OFF

by Michael Frayn

8 JUL – 12 AUG

Arts Centre Melbourne,
The Playhouse

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45

A misfit gaggle of actors struggles to cope with mounting disasters, while the director tries to keep the show from slipping off the rails. Infused with the tropes of Commedia dell'arte and British bedroom farces, *Noises Off* brilliantly shows students the best and worst of theatre practice from both sides of the stage. Cast includes Ray Chong Nee, Simon Burke AO and Libby Munro. Directed by Sam Strong.

Genre: Classic comedy

Recommended for: Year 9+

Warning: Contains coarse language.

Details regarding this production's content will be available closer to the season.

A great excursion for:

Theatre Studies, Drama, English



VCE



Workshops available. See page 21.



DI AND VIV AND ROSE

by Amelia Bullmore

12 AUG – 16 SEP

Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45

From different classes and places, Di, Viv and Rose would never have crossed paths if they hadn't shared a flat all those years ago. Students will be treated to a showcase of transformative acting, as the play tracks the lives of the three characters over twenty five years. Cast includes Nadine Garner, directed by Marion Potts.

Genre: Contemporary Drama Comedy

Recommended for: Year 10+

Warning: Contains coarse language and mature themes.

A great excursion for: English, Literature, History, Politics, Drama, Theatre Studies





Noël Coward's

HAY FEVER

23 SEP – 28 OCT

Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

Mayhem ensues when each member of the eccentric Bliss family invites a guest to stay without telling any of the others. Beyond *Hay Fever*'s effervescent comedy, students will see the artistry of Coward's playwriting, and his subtle takedown of conventionality and conservatism. Cast includes Marina Prior, directed by Lee Lewis.

Genre: Classic comedy

Recommended for: Year 9+

A great excursion for: English, Literature, Theatre Studies, Drama

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45





**SYDNEY
THEATRE
CO**

A co-production
with Sydney Theatre
Company. By special
arrangement with
Theatre Royal Bath
Productions.

THE FATHER

by Florian Zeller, translated by
Christopher Hampton

2 NOV – 16 DEC

Arts Centre Melbourne,
Fairfax Studio

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45

A touching, funny and deeply unsettling mystery, *The Father* transposes strains of *King Lear* into a minor key. Students will witness one of Australia's greatest stage actors, John Bell AO, in an international play on the universal theme of ageing and the particular experience of dementia. Directed by Damien Ryan.

Genre: Contemporary comedy drama

Recommended for: Year 10+

A great excursion for: Health and Human Development, Psychology, Theatre Studies, French, Drama





VIVID WHITE

by Eddie Perfect

18 NOV – 23 DEC

Southbank Theatre,
The Sumner

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students: \$27
Accompanying teacher: Free
Additional teachers: \$45

When couples Liz and Ben and Cynthia and Evan set their sights on the same house – it's war. Eddie Perfect (*The Beast*) has created an ultra-modern Australian comedy spiced with absurdism, environmentalism, sci-fi horror and satirical songs to transform every student's idea of theatre. Cast includes Brent Hill and Verity Hunt-Ballard. Directed by Dean Bryant.

Genre: Contemporary satire

Recommended for: Year 10+

Warnings: Contains blood, violence and very coarse language. Details regarding this production's content will be available closer to the season.

A great excursion for: Politics, Music, English, Drama, Theatre Studies



Pre-Show Talks

Enhancing the experience to see beyond the performance

For VCE Playlisted and selected mainstage productions, MTC offers 45-minute pre-show talks in the theatre. These are facilitated by an experienced VCE educator/assessor or special guest. Pre-show talks focus on the Key Knowledge and Key Skills from the relevant Unit for VCE Drama or Theatre Studies. After the pre-show talk, there will be a 75-minute break before the performance commences. The performances with pre-show talks also include a 20-minute post-show Q&A session with available members of the cast and creative team.



SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Students and Teachers: \$12

For further information email
schools@mtc.com.au

Melbourne Talam

Monday 8 May,
 11.30am – 12.15pm

Wednesday 10 May,
 11.30am – 12.15pm

Monday 15 May,
 11.30am – 12.15pm

Thursday 18 May,
 11.30am – 12.15pm

Faith Healer

Wednesday 29 March,
 11am – 11.45am

Macbeth

Wednesday 21 June,
 11am – 11.45am

Noises Off

Wednesday 9 August,
 11am – 11.45am

Workshops

Our suite of workshops help your students engage with theatre as young artists.

VCE Workshops

Tailored for VCE students, these practical workshops assist students in constructing their interpretation of either the prescribed structures from the solo performance examination, or a monologue from the stagecraft examination. An actor presents a short performance, making connections to the assessment criteria. Workshops take place at MTC HQ.

VCE Drama Workshops

Monday 5 June, 9.30am – 3.30pm

Tuesday 6 June, 9.30am – 3.30pm

Wednesday 7 June, 9.30am – 3.30pm

VCE Theatre Studies Workshops

Monday 19 June, 9.30am – 3.30pm

Tuesday 20 June, 9.30am – 3.30pm

Wednesday 21 June, 9.30am – 3.30pm

PRICES

Students \$34

Accompanying Teacher: Free

Additional Teachers: \$20 each

For further information email

schools@mtc.com.au



Macbeth Workshop

This practical workshop makes Shakespeare understandable and exciting. Students reinterpret the classic text with insights from the MTC production. Suitable for English and Drama students, Year 9 and up. Workshops run for two hours at MTC HQ.

Thursday 8 June

9.30am – 11.30am & 1pm – 3pm

Friday 9 June

9.30am – 11.30am & 1pm – 3pm

Noises Off Comedy Workshop

Explore comedy styles seen on stage in *Noises Off* in this madcap performance workshop at MTC HQ. Suitable for Year 9 and up. Workshops run for two hours at MTC HQ.

Thursday 22 June

9.30am – 11.30am & 1pm – 3pm

Friday 23 June

9.30am – 11.30am & 1pm – 3pm

PRICES

Students \$17

Accompanying Teacher: Free

Additional Teachers: \$20 each

For further information email

schools@mtc.com.au

Regional Workshops

We strive to make creative, theatrical experiences accessible to all students in Victoria. Thanks to generous donors we are able to offer **free** workshops to a limited number of regional students in 2017.

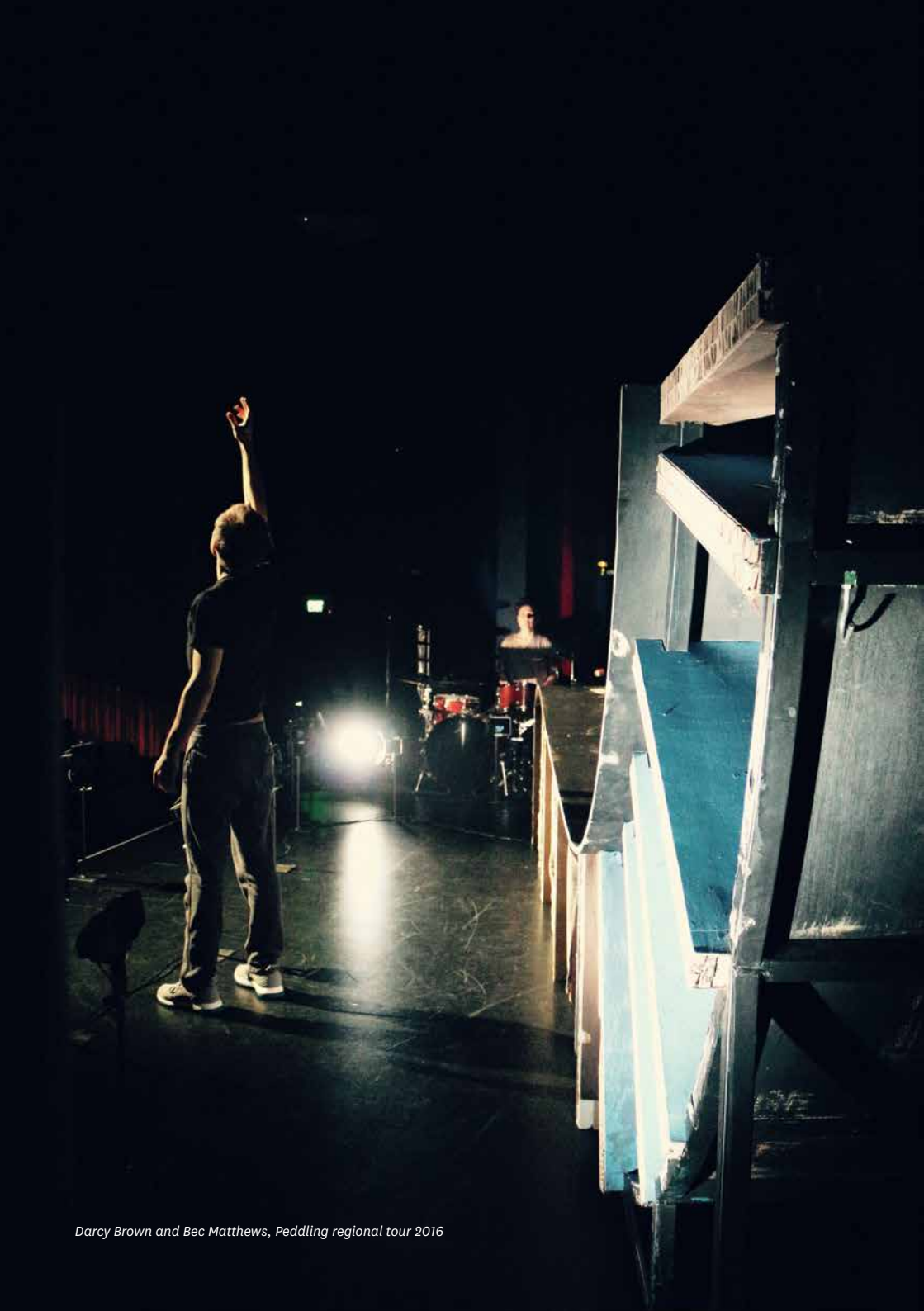
To enhance the experience of seeing *Melbourne Talam* in regional venues across the state, two hour workshops will be offered to explore the themes, ideas and non-naturalistic performance styles of the production.

A limited number of other workshops (including VCE, *Macbeth* and *Noises Off* workshops) are also available at low or no-cost to regional schools.



Kindly supported by the Gailey Lazarus Charitable Foundation

For further information email
education@mtc.com.au



Darcy Brown and Bec Matthews, Peddling regional tour 2016

On The Road

We're hitting the road touring to regional venues with our full-scale production of *Melbourne Talam*, travelling far and wide to bring this powerful story to young people across Victoria and Tasmania.

Contact sharingthelight@mtc.com.au for more information, or the venues below directly to book tickets:

Mildura Arts Centre

Tuesday 23 May 1pm
arts_centre@mildura.vic.gov.au
03 5018 8330

Lighthouse Theatre, Warrnambool

Thursday 25 May 1pm & 7.30pm
lighthouse@warrnambool.vic.gov.au
03 5559 4999

Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo

Tuesday 30 May 1pm
boxoffice@bendigo.vic.gov.au
03 5434 6100

Eastbank Centre, Shepparton

Wednesday 31 May 1pm
boxoffice@riverlinksvenues.com.au
03 5832 9511

The Cube, Wodonga

Thursday 1 June 1pm
thecubeboxoffice@wodonga.vic.gov.au
02 6022 9311

Geelong Performing Arts Centre

Tuesday 6 June 1pm & 7pm
kelly@gpac.org.au
03 5225 1207

Launceston College (TAS)

**Thursday 8 June 1pm,
Friday 9 June 10am**
elizabeth.bennett@education.tas.gov.au
03 6332 7751

Pre-show talks and workshops are also available in regional areas.

Contact
sharingthelight@mtc.com.au
for more information.



Indigenous Scholarship Program



MTC, in partnership with the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development, is offering a one-of-a-kind experience to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16-21 interested in the performing arts to learn hands-on how a production goes from page to stage. This **free** four week intensive workshop program will explore writing, performing, stagecraft, technical design and marketing for a live performance – culminating in a performance for family and friends.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants will be supported by the Wilin Centre with the ability to use it as a ‘home base’, receive cultural support and be offered assistance in making an application to the Victorian College of the Arts, The University of Melbourne, if they choose to.

The program aims to give a unique insight into the many different roles and potential career pathways available in the industry. At the end of the four weeks, participants will have had the opportunity to not only work with experts in their field, but also see some of MTC’s own amazing productions.

Week 1 Mon 3 – Fri 7 April

Week 2 Mon 3 – Fri 7 July

Week 3 Mon 25 – Fri 29 September

Week 4 Mon 4 – Fri 8 December

Places are limited.

Download an application form at
mtc.com.au/education

For more information contact
sharingthelight@mtc.com.au
or call 03 8688 0936

*Latiesha and Jon-Paul,
2016 Indigenous Scholarship recipients
Photo by Jeff Busby*



PACKER FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Wilin



FACULTY OF
VCA &
MCM

MTC Ambassadors

An extension program for Year 11 theatre-lovers



Each year since 2010, a group of Year 11 theatre-lovers have been selected as MTC Ambassadors, embarking on a year-long extension program that offers insight into the world of professional theatre. Each month they attend an MTC production, meet with artists and staff, and share their experiences of theatre with like-minded peers. Our Ambassadors are valued advocates of MTC in their school, and in social and online communities. Participation is free of charge. Nominations for 2017 places will open in January. We strongly encourage teachers to nominate students who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and those with disabilities.

Betty Amsden Youth Scholarship Course



Every year we welcome young people from across Victoria for our annual Betty Amsden Youth Scholarship Course, a life-changing week of intensive drama workshops. This program is offered free of charge to students who would not otherwise have access to an extra-curricular drama program due to economic, geographic or personal barriers. Students are nominated by a teacher at their school, with one nomination accepted from each school. The 2017 course will run in the school holidays from 2 to 6 October. Nominations for the 2017 Youth Scholarship Course will open in June 2017. We strongly encourage teachers to nominate students who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and those with disabilities.

HQ Tours

Take a peek behind the scenes at our Southbank Headquarters to see how Australia's oldest professional theatre company operates. Learn more about the rich history of Victoria's largest theatre company and visit the MTC Production Departments, including wigs, wardrobe, properties, scenic art and the set workshop. Suitable for Year 10 and up.

SCHOOL TICKET PRICES

Groups of up to 25: \$150

For further information email schools@mtc.com.au

Education Packs

To help teachers prepare for excursions and then unpack the production back at school, our Education Packs are offered in two parts. Part A helps you prepare for an excursion by providing background information to the play, research opportunities, and pre-show activities. Part B includes production images, further insights and analysis questions that relate specifically to the MTC production. For our VCE Playlisted productions, these notes directly address the VCE Study Design. All MTC Education resources are free, and can be downloaded from our website.



Sharing The Light

MTC is committed to making theatre more accessible and affordable for the wider community. Our five-year *Sharing The Light* initiative is enabling thousands of young Victorians to expand their theatre experience with the generous support of the Crown Resorts Foundation and the Packer Family Foundation.

Sharing The Light continues in 2017 with:

- \$5 tickets to MTC shows and travel subsidies for disadvantaged schools
- \$5 tickets to MTC Family programs
- Regional Victorian and Tasmanian tour of MTC's Education production *Melbourne Talam*
- Indigenous Scholarship Program



Photo by Sarah Walker

'This program is fantastic. It really offers our students opportunities that may have been out of their reach.'

Teacher, Western Heights College

'Thank you for making your show so accessible to my students. It made me so happy to see them engaging with live theatre in such a positive way.'

Teacher, Keysborough College

For more information or to see if your school is eligible contact sharingthelight@mtc.com.au



PACKER FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Education Partnerships

Drama Victoria: The Victorian Association for Drama Education

MTC and Drama Victoria are excited to announce a new partnership in 2017, delivering special MTC ticket offers to Drama Victoria members and professional development opportunities for VCE and middle-school drama teachers in regional Victoria. For more information, visit the members section of the Drama Victoria website or contact education@mtc.com.au.



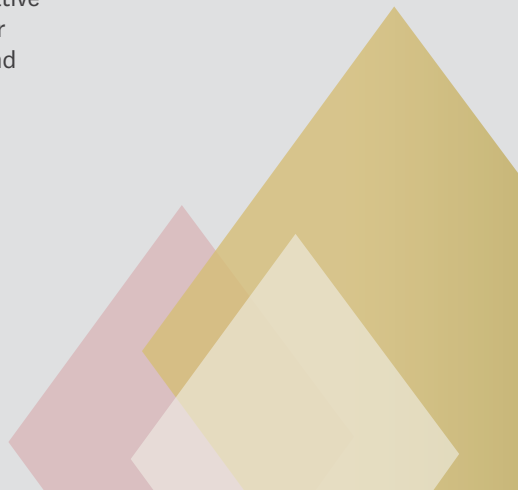
VATE: Victorian Association for the Teaching of English

MTC is continuing its partnership with VATE into 2017, offering ticket discounts and special events at MTC for English teachers. For more information, visit the membership section of the VATE website or contact education@mtc.com.au



Distance Education Centre Victoria (DECV)

In 2017 MTC is collaborating with DECV to deliver a lower secondary drama course online, in a pilot project funded by Creative Victoria's Virtual Creative Professional in Schools (VCPS) program. Look for project updates in the MTC Education eNews, and performance outcomes in late 2017.



How to book

To make a booking for your school group,
email schools@mtc.com.au with the following:

- The show you want to attend
- Date and preferred show time
- Number of students attending, their year level and subject area
- Number of accompanying teachers

Our Education Ticketing Officer will email you an invoice and conditions of booking form.

For further information on school bookings contact 03 8688 0963.

Your school may be eligible for discounted tickets and/or a travel subsidy to make it even easier to bring your students to the theatre.

Visit mtc.com.au/education
or contact education@mtc.com.au for more information



Photo by Sarah Walker



melbtheatreco



[MTC Education](#)



FLINDERS ST STATION



FEDERATION SQUARE

YARRA RIVER

ROUTE 1

ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE

ALEXANDRA AVE

STOP 14

NGV

STOP 17

SOUTHBANK THEATRE

VCA

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS

ST KILDA RD

GRANT ST

DODDS ST

STURT ST

STOP 19

ROUTE 55

MTC HQ

STOP 18

KINGS WAY

COVENTRY ST

STOP 20

DORCAS ST

STOP 116

School Group Bookings

03 8688 0963
schools@mtc.com.au

Education Enquiries

03 8688 0974
education@mtc.com.au

Southbank Theatre

140 Southbank Boulevard
Southbank, VIC 3006

MTC HQ

252 Sturt St
Southbank, VIC 3006

