

YOUTH ARTS

JUNIOR IMPACT ENSEMBLE

2026 AUDITION PACK



54-56 NEIL ST, TOOWOOMBA



EMPIRETHEATRE.COM.AU

PAST PRODUCTIONS

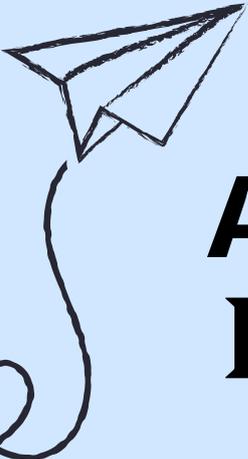
JUNIOR IMPACT

- 2025 Soul Trading by Kate Walder
- 2024 Our Egg Named Larry
- 2023 Shack by George Kemp
- 2022 Charlie Pilgrim: or a Beginner's Guide to Time Travel by Sam O'Sullivan
- 2021 The Trolleys by Sara West
- 2019 Where in the World is Frank Sparrow? by Ange Betzien
- 2018 10 George Street
- 2017 Child(ish)

SENIOR IMPACT

- 2025 When I Think of The End
- 2024 STARCROSSED
- 2023 Static Air
- 2022 Going, Going, Gone
- 2021 Off With Your Head!
- 2020 A Monster Unfinished
- 2020 We Come From Dalby
(*Western Downs Ensemble*)
- 2019 The [REDACTED] New Clothes
- 2018 Of Myths and Monoliths
- 2017 {Cross My Heart}
- 2016 C H A L K
- 2015 Titus Was Here
- 2014/15 Talking to Brick Walls
- 2013 The Seedling Project
- 2013 Slut by Patricia Cornelius
- 2012 10 Down, 6 Across
- 2012 Blackrock by Nick Enright
- 2011 TLK, TXT, SPK





ABOUT THE JUNIOR IMPACT ENSEMBLE

Since 2011, The Empire Youth Arts' IMPACT Ensembles have been challenging the assumptions made about young people and their crucial role in our changing world and its future through storytelling and performance.

Junior IMPACT offers young creatives aged 10-14 and based in the Toowoomba Region*, the opportunity to share a story which speaks authentically and powerfully with the voice of young people. Entry into the program is based on audition. Rehearsals take place weekly across March-July.

The final outcome is presented as a public two-show season on The Empire's own Armitage Centre stage.

IMPACT is a space where life long friendships are forged, doubts are beaten and young voices are put under the spotlight. Regardless of your experience with theatre, if you have a passion for storytelling or being on stage, we want to meet you at auditions!

IN 2026 THE JUNIOR IMPACT ENSEMBLE WILL PRESENT A NEW WORK, DEVISED PARTIALLY IN COLLABORATION WITH THEM...



GRANDMA'S HOUSE

[working title]

In a little old house, in a little old town, a big, wild group of cousins take over Grandma's house. Every holiday, long weekend and Christmas they spill in from their different lives and straight into the same games, arguments, play and chaos.

Before, Grandma's house never really changed. Same old rules, same old routines, same old walls echoing with every version of you that's ever been.

Now, the Grandchildren are back again, but things are different. Wrong. As they try to slip back into old roles and old rhythms, change seems to be getting in the way.

Told through fast-paced ensemble narration, physical movement, and plenty of laugh out loud moments, *Grandma's House* [working title] will be a funny, heartfelt celebration of being young, being family, and learning that some places don't disappear even when we leave them.

For the 2026 Junior IMPACT Ensemble, we are looking for a cast of **ten** young people aged **10-14 years**. Under the guidance of Youth Arts Lead Grace Sankey, this group of curious, creative young minds will work closely together to workshop and rehearse the show for its public debut in the July holidays.

As a new work, this Junior IMPACT will be more than just a rehearsal process, but also an opportunity for young people to devise, write and proudly share their own voices. The Ensemble will play a role in shaping the characters, building the world, and turning Writer/Director Grace's first draft into a show full of real, recognisable young people and memories that feel lived-in.

So, if you're a young actor who loves working with others, craves a creative challenge and loves telling stories that are funny, messy, and real **we want to meet you at auditions.**

PRODUCTION INFO

Junior IMPACT welcomes all young people 10-14 years, regardless of experience, gender, race or physical ability to apply for this production. *Applicants must be based in the Toowoomba region or close surrounds, including Dalby, Warwick or Lockyer Valley.

Commitment to this project is high priority for all involved, so please carefully review the rehearsal schedule on the next page prior to applying. Please do not apply if you are unable to attend the outlined rehearsals and performance dates. Rehearsals and production days will occur during School Holidays.

While this production will be playful, funny, and high-energy, it also will explore some big feelings, including loss. We understand that every young person brings their own experiences of family, change, and grief, and that these themes can land differently for everyone. Parents, please don't hesitate to get in touch if there's anything you'd like to discuss on your child's behalf.

For the best chance to book a part, please make sure you read the Audition information on the following pages carefully so you have all the knowledge to prepare a successful audition.

PROGRAM FEES

The fee to participate in this program is \$495.

This fee will cover tuition, photography, performance materials, and involvement in specialised experiences. Payment is only required if offered a role in the production. A payment plan is available if required. If you require financial support, please email grace@empiretheatre.com.au to discuss options prior to applying.



2026 REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Please note this schedule is subject to change depending on the needs of the ensemble and production but all efforts will be made to be consistent with this original guide.

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
Thurs 19 March	4pm - 6pm	Meet & Greet (parents invited at 5.30pm)
Thurs 26 March	4pm - 6pm	Rehearsal
Thurs 2 April	4pm - 6pm	Rehearsal
Thurs 16 April	10am - 4pm	Holiday Intensive Rehearsal
Fri 17 April	10am - 4pm	Holiday Intensive Rehearsal
Sat 18 April	10am - 4pm	Holiday Intensive Rehearsal
Thurs 23 April	4pm - 6pm	Rehearsal
Thurs 7 May	4pm - 6pm	Rehearsal
Thurs 14 May	4pm - 6pm	Rehearsal
Thurs 21 May	4pm - 6pm	Rehearsal
Thurs 28 May	4pm - 6pm	Rehearsal
Sat 30 May	10am - 2pm	Weekend Rehearsal
Thurs 4 June	4pm - 7pm	Rehearsal
Sat 6 June	10am - 2pm	Weekend Rehearsal
Thurs 11 June	4pm - 7pm	Rehearsal
Sat 13 June	10am - 2pm	Weekend Rehearsal
Thurs 18 June	4pm - 7pm	Rehearsal
Sat 20 June	10am - 2pm	Weekend Rehearsal
Thurs 25 June	4pm - 7pm	Rehearsal
Sat 27 June	10am - 2pm	Weekend Rehearsal
PRODUCTION WEEK		
Mon 29 June	DAY OFF	
Tues 30 June	12pm - 7pm	Bump In Rehearsal
Wed 1 July	12pm - 8pm	Dress Rehearsal & Preview Performance 6pm
Thurs 2 July	12pm - 8pm	Performance 6.30pm
Fri 3 July	3pm - 8pm	Performance 6.30pm
Thurs 17 July	4pm - 6pm	Production Debrief

AUDITIONS

To apply for an audition, please complete the application form found on page 10 and return in person to The Empire Ticketing Office or via email to youtharts@empiretheatre.com.au by no later than

3pm Thursday 5th March

Auditions will be held at The Empire in 10 minute individual time slots on:

Monday 9th March 3.30pm - 6pm

Thursday 12th March 3.30pm - 6pm

Grace will be in touch via email to schedule your time slot after receiving your application.

WHAT TO PREPARE

While we are keen to see your talent, we are most excited to meet and learn a bit about you! We want to see your imagination at work, hear what excites you and learn a bit about who you authentically are (a lot in 10 minutes we know!)

You will be auditioning for the Director (Grace) and 1- 2 other members of the Creative Team. We know you may feel nervous coming into the audition room, but please remember that we are there to support you and want your audition experience to be an amazing one!

Due to the style of the this show, our focus this year will be on your storytelling abilities. You will need to do both the following tasks in your audition time:

TASK 1: SCENE

CHOOSE EITHER NERRY OR ED FROM THE SCENE ON THE NEXT PAGE AND REHEARSE.

In the audition, you'll perform this scene with one of the panel. We want to see how you; play with the quick, snappy narration style, make character choices and respond to others. Memorising the scene is highly encouraged.

TASK 2: STORY

PREPARE AND TELL A SHORT STORY (MAXIMUM 90 SECONDS) ABOUT TIME OR PLACE YOU REALLY FELT YOU BELONGED.

We want to hear how you tell a, exciting, captivating story full of emotion using your body and voice! Please speak directly to us as yourself.

TIP: Take a deep breath before you start, don't rush and have fun!

Scene Three: Now

NERRY We load in the car

ED We're late, getting up felt hard

NERY We realise we forgot to pack the other DVDs

ED So we have to watch *Flubber*

NERRY Ed complains about it the whole time, so when it finally finishes, I start it again

ED We stop at a servo for some snacks, and I think Mum might buy me an actual treat, like snakes or freckles!

NERRY Instead she buys boiled peanuts

ED *Boiled peanuts!*

DONNE Are we there yet?

ED I yell at Donne

NERRY He starts crying

ED Then Mum starts crying

NERRY Nice job Ed!

ED Then Dad yells at me like I was the annoying one!

NERRY And now everyone's yelling or crying except me, so I think about crying, but decide not to bother

ED At least *Flubber* finally gets turned off

NERRY When we arrive there's lot of hugs

ED Cheek kisses

NERRY Every aunt, every uncle,

ED Lot's of "how are yous?" and "i'm okays"

NERRY And when we finally look up, we realise that something seems wrong...

ED With what?

NERRY The house

ED Oh yeah

NERRY It didn't used to be that colour, right?

ED Yes it did

NERRY No it didn't

ED It's because the curtains are closed, they're always open

NERRY Not always

ED Always during the day.

NERRY And I guess I didn't ever notice how nice the yard used to look, until now ...

ED But still, we're here

NERRY Grandma's House

ED Our house

ALL Our place

NERRY But everything feels...

JUNIOR IMPACT ENSEMBLE 2026

Applications forms must be returned to The Empire by 3pm
Friday 5th March, via Email or the Ticketing Office

EMAIL: youtharts@empiretheatre.com.au

TICKETING: The Empire, 54-56 Neil St, Toowoomba
9am-3pm, Mon-Fri

THE EMPIRE

APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT'S NAME

DATE OF BIRTH

SCHOOL + GRADE

POSTCODE

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME

PARENT/GUARDIAN NUMBER

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE/ SPECIAL SKILLS

(if you would like to attach an additional page of matriel or CV please do so.)

Please attach a
recent photo here

Or digitally attach to your
email submission

MEDICAL INFORMATION (relevant conditions, injuries, allergies, dietary requirements etc.)

ANYTHING ELSE TO NOTE? ANY SCHEDULING CONFLICTS WITH THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE?

If selected for the Junior IMPACT Ensemble, Please indicate how you would intend to pay:

Pay fee in full

Use a payment plan

Require financial support

I acknowledge there is a fee to pay to take part in this program, and a commitment to make the rehearsal schedule as it changes depending on the productions needs. I also grant permission for images and video of my child to be captured and shared for the purposes of advertising the production and program.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

JUNIOR IMPACT ASSISTANT CREATIVE

Interested in the world beyond the stage? The ins and outs of putting on a production? Each year IMPACT has invited young artists to join the Junior IMPACT creative team, where they will learn invaluable skills in theatre making and production.

The Junior Assistant Creative is a volunteer role open to interested young people ages 15 - 18. Anyone based in the Toowoomba region, within this age bracket and of any experience level is invited to apply.

JUNIOR ASSISTANT CREATIVE ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with the Director in areas of interest such as;
 - working with actors (blocking, devising, character development)
 - script writing and devising
 - set and costume design
 - AV and video devising/creation
 - stage management
 - and/or lighting and sound design.
- The JAC can be as involved as they'd like in each of these areas, perhaps preferring to observe and learn or jump in with ideas.
- The JAC will be asked to stand by for absent actors, either by filling in for rehearsals or by taking and passing on missed notes and communication.
- The JAC is required to attend all rehearsals and performances. They may be invited to also attend the auditions.
- The JAC is expected to treat the role with respect and maturity. We will be looking for someone who enjoys working with younger people and shows excellent leadership skills.

INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THE ROLE OF JUNIOR ASSISTANT CREATIVE?

1. Read the Junior IMPACT Audition Pack and submit the Junior Creative Assistant Application Form directly to grace@empiretheatre.com.au
2. Please include in the body of this email why you are interested in the role of Junior Assistant Creative, including 100 words on the skill areas you are interested in exploring.
3. Attend a 10 minute Interview on the afternoon of Monday 2nd March 4pm-6pm, to be scheduled following your submission.

**CREATIVE ASSISTANT APPLICATIONS
ARE DUE BY
3PM THURSDAY 26TH FEBRUARY**

JUNIOR IMPACT ENSEMBLE 2026 JUNIOR CREATIVE ASSISTANT

Applications forms must be returned via email by 3pm
Thursday 26th February, including your 100 word statement

EMAIL: grace@empiretheatre.com.au

THE EMPIRE

JUNIOR CREATIVE ASSISTANT APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT'S NAME

DATE OF BIRTH

SCHOOL + GRADE

POSTCODE

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME

PARENT/GUARDIAN NUMBER

APPLICANT'S EMAIL

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE/ SPECIAL SKILLS

(if you would like to attach an additional page of matriel or CV please do so.)

Please attach a
recent photo here

Or digitally attach to your
email submission

MEDICAL INFORMATION (relevant conditions, injuries, allergies, dietary requirements etc.)

ANYTHING ELSE TO NOTE? ANY SCHEDULING CONFLICTS WITH THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE?

With my application I acknowledge that if selected there is a commitment to attend all rehearsals and shows, and be a kind, inclusive leader to the young performers.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (if under 18)