



Thumbelina Audition Pack



September 14th 2025

Synopsis

Thumbelina is a tiny maiden who bloomed from a flower. She is no bigger than a thumb which is where she gets her name. One night, Thumbelina is taken from her home by two greedy toads. On her adventure trying to return home she encounters many different situations. She meets vaudeville dancing frogs, a snail longing for the sea, a kind spider, and a dramatic Shakespearian worm. Thumbelina experiences a tea party with some judgy insects and watches a magic show performed by a mole. She tries many things to get back home. Just when Thumbelina has lost all hope of ever getting home, she encounters magical fairies who come to her rescue. Their kindness helps her to get back home.

The overarching theme being that one thing that this world needs is more kindness.

Important Dates, Times and Venues

Audition Date: Sunday 14th September - 10am-2pm.

Callbacks, if required: Monday 15th September - 5pm-6:30pm.

Duration of Commitment: 19th October – Saturday 24th January.

Rehearsal Series 1: Sunday 19th October - 14th of December: 2:30 - 6:30pm

Venue: Downer Community Centre, Frencham Place, Downer, in the east room around the corner of the building.

*Christmas break from the 14th of December to 13th of January.

Rehearsal Series 2: 13th - 15th of January 5:30pm to 8:30pm.

Venue: Canberra REP Theatre, 3 Ellery Crescent, Canberra.

Tech Rehearsal: Saturday 17th of January – All Day.

Dress Rehearsal: Sunday 18th of January – All Day.

Final Dress: Tuesday 20th of January – All Day.

Opening Show: Wednesday 21st January - 10:30am. Please Note: You will need to be there an hour before show time (9.30am and 12.30pm)

Show Times and Dates: Wed 21st, Thus 22nd, Fri 23rd, Sat 24th of January - 10:30am and 1:30pm.

Bump out: Saturday 24th of January after 1.30pm show.

**To book your audition please fill out this form:
[Thumbelina Audition Form - Google Forms](#)**

Creative Team

Jessica Fellows (Director) - Jessica Fellows has been a part of Child Play since 2011. She has performed in many shows including Much Ado About Nothing, Macbeth, The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe and the Drowsy Chaperone. Jessica completed an Advanced Diploma in Acting and a Certificate IV in Acting for Stage and Screen with Perform Australia and then completed her Bachelor of Screen and Stage (Acting) at the Australian Performing Arts Conservatory in Brisbane, averaging high distinctions. She has a passion for all aspects of theatre and launched her off stage Career in 2021. Jessica has directed such productions as 'Alice in Wonderland', 'The Wizard of Oz', 'Dr Dolittle' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. She has adapted the original version of Thumbelina, by the author Hans Christian Anderson, and given it a new underlying message – The world can never have too much kindness. Jessica is excited to be directing Thumbelina and working together with the cast and crew to entertain and bring enjoyment to the audiences that watch it.

BJ Anyos (Founder & Assistant Director) - BJ Anyos is the Founder and Artistic Director of Child Players ACT, BJ is also the Early Childhood Coordinator at Questacon, where she has been working for 20 years and is responsible for creating the well-loved science workshops for young children called 'Science Time'. She completed her Bachelor of Education (Primary) at University of Canberra and has a passion for teaching children of all ages. She is an award-winning director, writer, performer and designer of theatre programs for children and young people. She has loved drama and performing since she was a child and enjoys both creating and watching theatre. She thanks her mother Kathy for giving her a love of theatre and supporting all of her theatre dreams. BJ and Kathy founded Child Players ACT in 2005. Running this youth theatre company allows BJ to combine her passions of education and theatre, and dedicate herself to educational youth theatre. She loves watching children achieve their theatre dreams and potential. Her goals include passing on her love of theatre to the next generation; creating a positive and supportive environment where children can grow creatively and develop a life-long enjoyment and appreciation of theatre; and helping guide tomorrow's theatre practitioners and performers.

About Us

Child Players ACT was founded in 2005 by Kathy Thomas and BJ Anyos, a mother and daughter team with a love of theatre and a commitment to passing on that love to future generations!

Child Players ACT was created to provide an opportunity for young people to grow creatively in a positive, nurturing, inclusive, and supportive environment. It provides a place where everyone feels supported, safe, confident and comfortable to express themselves and develop a life-long enjoyment and appreciation of theatre.

With regards to our newest venture Thumbelina, we are looking for adult performers across all ages, backgrounds and levels of experience to audition. Including performers who identify as a person with disability, BIPOC, First Nations, gender diverse, LGBTQIA+, neurodiverse and from any and all cultural backgrounds.

Cast Obligations

***While Child Players normally runs programs with a cast of children, we are looking for adults 18+ for this production.**

- All participants over the age of 16 will be required to hold a WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLES card.
- You may not be called for every rehearsal or be required to stay for the entirety of a rehearsal, although you are required to attend all rehearsals you are called for. If you know in advance that you will be unavailable on any of the listed dates, please put this information on your application form. **Attendance at rehearsals during production week and at all performances is mandatory.**
- Child Players run their shows on a very small budget. You will be provided with costumes but will need to provide your own shoes. Also, there will be working bees helping with set and prop making. Any help with these will be greatly appreciated.
- Working as part of a team is important for the success of Thumbelina. Cast and crew are reminded to act with respect and bring a positive mindset to all rehearsals and performances.



Character Breakdown

Most Actors will play two to three roles. All roles are flexible with regards to gender and age.

Thumbelina will be younger than 16 and it has already been cast.

Toad One and Two - The toads are the villains of the show. They are not the smartest characters and very greedy. They are motivated by making money.

Insects / Ladybug, Centipede and Cricket - The insects are judgy and stylish. They have tea parties but don't invite other bugs and insects. They are mean to everyone they don't like but by the end of the musical have learnt how much kindness is needed in this world.

Frogs One, Two and Three - The three frogs are vaudeville dancers looking to star on Broadway. They get along together most of the time, however they are highly competitive, and this can cause friction between them.

Butterfly - Butterfly is friends with Ladybug, Centipede and Cricket until she meets Thumbelina where she finds out what a real friend looks like. Throughout the musical Butterfly learns the importance of friendship, and to thank Thumbelina for her kindness she introduces her to the fairies.

Spider - Spider is a friendly vegetarian with 153 kids. Spider helps Thumbelina try to get home until the rain comes and scares her away.

Mole - The magnificent, terrific, Wondrous Magical Mole is a wannabe magician who is passionate, however not so skilled, in magic. He lives with Mouse underground.

Mouse - Mouse is sweet and allows Thumbelina to stay in her place underground when it is raining. She lives with Mole and is his Magic Act assistant.

Worm - Worm is dramatic and cries about everything. He quotes Shakespeare and is sad about how the world sees worms.

Snail - Snail longs for the sea. Even though he has never been to the seaside or knows how to swim he knows that is where he belongs. Snail tries to convince Thumbelina to go to the sea with him but with no luck.

The Fairies - The fairies enter at the end of the play. They help Thumbelina to get home by giving her wings. There are four fairies all based on flowers or mushrooms.

What to Expect on Audition Day

- Everyone auditioning will be required to book an audition time and fill out a google form before the audition.
- Please prepare two monologues from the monologues provided. Please ensure they are different characters. Please also prepare a 30 second to one minute song that you are comfortable with to share. A Bluetooth speaker and connection for most phone types will be available on the day for your song.
- You will be allocated a 10-minute audition spot to share your monologue and song.
- You are not expected to memorise the monologue but please familiarise yourself. Holding the monologue in hand is allowed.
- During the audition your photo will be taken. Your audition will also be recorded to assist the panel with their deliberations.
- You will be informed whether you are successful in the auditions by email or a phone call as soon as possible after the auditions and call-backs have been completed.

What to bring to your audition;

- A water bottle
- An instrumental backing track (a YouTube karaoke backing track is suitable)
- Comfortable clothing and footwear that you can move in.



Monologues

*Please pick two monologues of contrasting styles.

Toad: Do you also have a bad feeling in your stomach? I have this weird feeling in my tummy that I have never felt before. What is this feeling? I tried to take my daily nap earlier and I couldn't sleep. I didn't even eat lunch either because I feel... I feel... I think I feel guilt? We need to go find Thumbelina and help her get back home. When I have a problem, money is always the solution. We can tell her that she can make some money and join us, then we can pay someone to help her find her way back home.

Ladybug: Butterfly! It's great to see you. Nice of you to finally come. I was betting you would be 15 minutes late. *(All bugs laugh richly)* Who's your friend? *(To Thumbelina)* I couldn't imagine only have two legs and what a boring colour you are. *(Gasp)*... she doesn't have any feelers! No Spots! No wings! No personality!
Boring colour! No style! Small eyes. Two legs. How ugly.

Snail: I have been a lost soul on a journey for many months. I know my destination however I knew it was going to be a long and dangerous trip. I have been in the doldrums for a while, but I will NEVER give up! THE SEA! The beautiful blue sea is my destination. Where my soul will truly be happy and no longer lost. You should really get a movable home. You will never get lost if your home follows you everywhere. And as for friends and family. I don't need them. The waves will be my family, and the sand will be my friends.

Frog One: And a one and a two and a one, two, three, four. *(Toad one is leading the other toads in a dance but it's not going to plan)* Step, kick... Step, kick... and turn... then jazz hands while you *(Points to toad two)* do a backflip and you *(points to toad three)* lift me up and let me have my ... What? You can't do a backflip? We need to dazzle the audience. We are never going to make it to Broadway! I knew I should have gone solo.

Spider: Eat you! Oh, how horrible. Bless your heart. I couldn't think of anything worse. I am a vegetarian. I'm not going to eat you darling. I just finished eating a beautiful piece of banana cake. I have the recipe if you want it. Are you lost, Honey? I have 153 kids. All doing their own thing now. But they all know their way back home. It's very important to me that I know that they are safe. That's why they all send me a lot of snail mail. It takes up most of my days trying to respond to all 153 of them. Lucky, I have 8 legs, so I can write 8 letters at a time. Here let me get you out my web.

Butterfly: I was once a plain insect without all my colour and grace. You three were not my friends when I was a caterpillar but once I was deemed worthy by you, you started talking to me. You don't care about my personality... you only care about looks and that's not right. You're all mean, and I don't want to stand here and not speak up. I feel sad about what you said to Thumbelina, and I have come to realise that you are not real friends. Friends should be supportive of each other. I was a bad friend to Thumbelina, but I won't be a bad friend anymore.

Worm: In sooth, I know not why I am so sad. But I am. There are too many reasons to mention. I am merely a worm in this cruel world. In a world filled with birds I am a worm. What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. Or one named a worm will still always be a worm and nothing else even if called by another name. I will always be just a worm. To be a worm or not to be a worm: that is not the question because I can never not be worm. One cannot change their fate.

Frog Two: Toads! How dare you. We are FROGS. We look nothing alike. I can't believe people get us mixed up. Toads have bumpy, dry skin covered in warts. Frogs actually take care of their skin. I moisturise. The toads wish they could jump high like us. Instead, they have to stomp everywhere. Can you believe. Toads. HA!