

The Royal
Lyceum
Edinburgh

A Christmas Carol

Child Casting Call



The Snow Queen Photo © Jess Shurte.

About The Lyceum

The Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh is the leading producing theatre in Scotland and one of the United Kingdom's most prolific theatre companies.

The Lyceum is a crucial part of the cultural life of Edinburgh and Scotland, with a reputation for producing innovative, artistically exciting, high-quality theatre. Developing award-winning work with national and international partners, The Lyceum's co-productions and collaborations represent a key strand of the company's strategy to extend the future life of productions and to present the company's work across the UK and abroad.

The Lyceum is committed to being a truly civic theatre rooted in Scotland's capital city - entertaining, challenging, and inspiring all the people of Edinburgh. We continue to be the

most active producing theatre in Scotland - producing and co-producing high quality work to share with Edinburgh, Scotland, the UK, and the world.

Each year we present a programme of work that embodies the values of the company. Work of the highest quality, created with talented artists and prestigious partners. Programming and producing with courage to ensure there is room for new voices and diverse stories. A welcoming and collaborative environment for audiences and artists, with something for everyone, driven by a passionate group of people who celebrate all that is great about live theatre.

We have ambitious plans to expand the breadth and depth of our programme - using theatre to explore pressing issues of the day,

shining new light on classic texts and stories, introducing children and young people to the magic of theatre and growing our audiences in Edinburgh as well as across Scotland, the UK, and internationally.

The theatre is a magnificent example of late Victorian theatre architecture. Our offices and rehearsal space are directly across the road, and our scenic workshop and wardrobe-making departments are situated at Roseburn, which is a little over a mile away.

The Lyceum's beautiful, intimate Victorian theatre has played a significant role in the

cultural and creative life of the city and surrounding area for over 130 years. Nominated in The Stage Awards 2020 for Regional Theatre of the Year, The Lyceum has developed a reputation for innovative, high-quality theatre, drawing upon the considerable talent in Scotland as well as developing award-winning work with national and international partners to make theatre in Edinburgh that can speak to the world.

A very important part of The Lyceum's offering is a well-attended and varied programme of engagement, outreach, youth theatre, and schools' projects delivered by our Creative Learning team.



Pride and Prejudice (*sort of).* Photo © Matt Crockett.



About The Show

A Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh production

Chill winds sweep through the gas-lit streets of Victorian Edinburgh as Dickens' beloved classic comes to life at The Lyceum for our 2026 festive season.

On Christmas Eve, three mysterious spirits whisk Ebenezer Scrooge on a whirlwind journey through his past, present, and future. Will he discover the true meaning of Christmas before it's too late?

Directed by our Award-winning Artistic Director, James Brining, let this festive classic melt the cold and fill you with cheer - join us for a Christmas tradition in the making.

By Charles Dickens

Adapted for the stage by Deborah McAndrew

Directed by our Artistic Director, James Brining

<https://lyceum.org.uk/events/a-christmas-carol>

The Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh is delighted to announce a new casting opportunity for child performers for our festive show 2026 – "A Christmas Carol".

The Lyceum Christmas show is an exciting annual event and the opportunity to be part of a professional company is a great chance to develop as a performer whilst also being part of a fun and supportive environment in one of the UK's leading producing theatres.

The Role

We are looking to cast three roles – Tiny Tim and his two siblings, Martha and Peter

Each role will be shared by 3 children, so there are a total of 9 opportunities.

All performers must be aged 9+ and must be based within a 40 minute travel time of The Lyceum Theatre.

Please note the show contains some content which could be upsetting, including death, poverty and some potentially frightening theatrical effects.

The show is rated age 7+ for the public.

It is important to note that this will be a busy performance schedule, with performances spread across morning (schools shows 10.15am – 12.15pm approx.), matinees (2pm – 4pm approx.) and evenings (7-9pm approx.).

Key dates/requirements

1. Rehearsals at the Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh: weeks commencing 19th October, 26th October, 2nd November, 9th November, 16th November. For the first 4 weeks, we will endeavour to manage attendance outside of school hours e.g. evening/s and Saturdays.
2. Technical rehearsals onstage: w/c 23rd Nov – exact dates/times TBC. Some school absence may be required.
3. Performance dates 28th Nov 2026 – 3rd Jan 2027: 3 performers for each role who will perform on rotation. Performers will also be required to be on stand-by for other performances, meaning that they could be called at short notice to step in for a performance, should another of the child actors be ill or indisposed. Some school absence will be required.

Other criteria for who can audition

This is a professional acting job, working on a large-scale production alongside a large team of actors, creatives and technicians. Child actors will be supported by the stage management, producing and chaperone teams.

Who Can Audition

In order to audition, the child actor must:

- Be aged 9+ (for licensing purposes)
- Have prior acting experience (this does not need to be in a professional setting)
- Be able to hold a tune
- Be comfortable dancing
- Have a natural Scottish accent
- Live in Edinburgh or the immediate surrounding area. Due to the nature of the performance schedule, those who would have a journey to the theatre of more than 40 minutes cannot be considered.
- Be available during the key dates above – any non-availability must be flagged at application stage and will be taken into consideration
- Have a parent/guardian able to transport them to and from rehearsals and performances at The Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh
- Some time out of school will be required, but we will keep this to a maximum of 5 days over the engagement in line with licencing regulations. We will apply for a child performance licence from your home local authority and will require cooperation and information from you and your school in order to complete this

Fees And Expenses

- £51.50 per rehearsal session
- £331.34 per week during performance weeks (to be confirmed once UK Theatre/Equity have released their rates for 2026/27)
- No other expenses will be paid.



Audition Process

- First round will be a group audition
- Recalls will be in smaller groups
- We will share information in advance about what to expect at the audition and any preparation required
- We will gather information about the child actor ahead of the audition, including any access needs

1st Round Auditions – you will be invited to one of these dates

- Thurs 11 June (5pm – 7.30pm)
- Fri 12 June (5pm – 7.30pm)
- Sat 13 June (10am – 12.30pm)
- Sat 13 June (2pm-4.30pm)

Recalls

- Sat 20 June (10am-1pm)

About the roles

Tiny Tim (male)

Playing age 9

Actual age of performers 9-11 / Max height of performer approx. 134cms (4'4")

Tiny Tim is the son of Bob Cratchit, who works for Ebenezer Scrooge. Tim is poorly with an illness and has a bad cough. Despite his illness, Tim maintains a positive attitude and is well-loved by his family. He is the sibling to Martha and Peter.

The actor will also take on additional roles within the Ensemble as required.

Martha (female)

Playing age 10-12

Actual age of performers 11+ / Max height of performer approx. 148cms (4'9")

One of the Cratchit Children, sibling to Tiny Tim and Peter. Cheerful, hard-working and fun.

The actor will also take on additional roles within the Ensemble as required.

Peter (male)

Playing age 13-14

Actual age of performers 11+ / Max height of performer approx. around 158cms (5'2")

One of the Cratchit Children, sibling to Tiny Tim and Martha. Kind and supportive of their siblings and whole family.

Ideally unbroken voice.

The actor will also take on additional roles within the Ensemble as required.



Cinderella: A Fairytale. Photo © Mihaela Bodlovic.

We are committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and actively welcome applications from people with protected characteristics and those who are currently underrepresented in the arts

How to apply

Email producingteam@lyceum.org.uk to express your interest in applying and include the following:

- The name of the child actor in the subject heading
- Two photos of the child actor - one of their face, and one full body (please include their name in the file name) against a neutral background
- Confirm that you have completed and submitted this application form [A Christmas Carol // Child cast audition info – Fill in form](#)

By 10am Friday 5 June

Accessibility

The Lyceum Theatre is committed to creating accessible opportunities for young people. Should you feel that you would benefit from any kind of additional support – such as physical access, neurodiversity or mental health - please get in touch with us at producingteam@lyceum.org.uk in advance of your audition so we can make your experience as accessible as possible.

Questions

We hope that this pack has all the information you need, but if you have any questions you can get in touch with us at producingteam@lyceum.org.uk where we will be happy to help.



Cinderella: A Fairytale. Photo © Mihaela Bodlovic.