



**Broadford Amateur Theatrical Society Presents:**

## **LES MISÉRABLES**

### **AUDITION INFORMATION**

**Broadford Amateur Theatrical Society Inc. (B.A.T.S):**

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Broadford Amateur Theatrical Society Inc. (B.A.T.S) is a not for profit, community theatre company based in Broadford, Victoria.

In 2020, BATS celebrate their 40th anniversary with one of the worlds most loved musicals, *Les Misérables*. Joining forces with the Broadford youth theatre company BYTE, the conjoined production means we are looking for a large cast of all age ranges for this production and here is all you need to know to be a part of this fantastic show.

#### **The Show:**

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Winner of over 100 international awards and seen by over 65 million people worldwide, *Les Misérables* is an epic and uplifting story about the survival of the human spirit. This true modern classic is based on Victor Hugo's novel and features one of the most memorable scores of all time.

In nineteenth century France, Jean Valjean is released from 19 years of unjust imprisonment, but finds nothing in store for him but mistrust and mistreatment. He breaks his parole in hopes of starting a new life, initiating a lifelong struggle for redemption as he is relentlessly pursued by police inspector Javert, who refuses to believe that Valjean can change his ways. Finally, during the Paris student uprising of 1832, Javert must confront his ideals after Valjean spares his life and saves that of the student revolutionary who has captured the heart of Valjean's adopted daughter. His world view shattered, Javert commits suicide, and Valjean finally attains the peace that he has sought for so long.

Epic, grand and uplifting, *Les Misérables* packs an emotional wallop that has thrilled audiences all over the world. The sung-through pop opera is ideal for a cast of exceptional singers and overflows with melodies that are already standards. A spectacle on Broadway and in London, *Les Misérables* is equally effective with a minimal set; it is its powerful affirmation of the human spirit that has made *Les Misérables* a popular masterpiece.

The full synopsis is here: <http://www.mtishows.com.au/les-miserables-0>

#### **Location:**

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The auditions, rehearsals and shows will be held at Broadford Shire Hall - 18 Murchison Street, Broadford VIC 3658

#### **Who can audition?**

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Anyone and everyone is eligible to audition.

## Key Dates:

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- **Information Night:** Wednesday 30 October @7:30pm
- **Auditions:** Wednesday 27 November @7:30pm and Sunday 1 December @2:30pm
- **Rehearsals:** Monday and Wednesday nights between 7:30pm-9:30pm commencing from Wednesday 29 January, 2020
- **Weekend rehearsals:** May be required. This will be advised.
- **Production Week:** Sunday 7 June 2020
- **Show Dates:** Friday 12 June 2020 @7:30pm, Saturday 13 June 2020 @7:30pm, Friday 19 June 2020 @7:30pm, Saturday 20 June 2020 @7:30pm, Sunday 21 June 2020 @3pm, Friday 26 June 2020 @7:30pm and Saturday 27 June 2020 @7:30pm.
- **Bump Out:** Sunday 28 June 2020

You may only be required for some or part of scheduled rehearsals. Until the show is cast, we cannot be sure how long we will need for certain songs/scenes. Please assume that you are required for all of the above dates when auditioning, and you will receive a schedule as soon as possible after casting which will assist in your planning.

If you know you are unable for any of the above dates please tell the audition panel at your audition.

**Once the schedule is distributed, attendance is compulsory.**

## Audition Information:

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For your audition please come prepared to sing one of the following songs from the show:

**Women:** Please prepare either *I Dreamed a Dream*, *On My Own*, *In My Life* or *Castle on a Cloud*

**Men:** Please prepare either *Bring Him Home*, *Empty Chairs at Empty Tables*, *Stars* or *Master of the House*

Please note:

- You may not be required to sing the whole song
- You may be asked to sing more than one song at your audition. Please be familiar with all song options.
- You do not need to prepare a monologue for this audition
- There will be no choreography/movement audition

## Membership:

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All performers must be a member of Broadford Amateur Theatrical Society (B.A.T.S.)

Annual membership fees are only \$15 for individuals, \$10 for students/concession and \$30 for a family.

Applications can be made via the website - <https://bats.net.au/membership/>

## Working with Children's Check:

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Please note if you are over 18 you will be required to have a Working with Children's Check.

If you apply as a volunteer, there is no charge.

You can apply for one through the following website: <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>

## Photography/Videography:

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As part of performing and promoting *Les Misérables* photography and video footage of cast members involved will be used throughout a range of publications including but not limited to the official programme, advertising boards, rehearsal recordings, the BATS website and/or digital/social media.

As a member of the cast for this production, it is expected that all cast members accept and understand these conditions, however, if you do have any specific concerns regarding the publication of photography/video footage, please contact us via email.

**General Questions:** If you have any further questions please contact the audition panel.

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Geradine O'Brien	Director	<a href="mailto:geradineo@hotmail.com">geradineo@hotmail.com</a>	0422 814 923

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

*Les Misérables* is a very inclusive production that requires a large cast. The show has many amazing roles for all ages. The ensemble work for this show is very challenging and there are many cameo solo roles throughout the show which means an opportunity for everyone to display their talents.

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### LEADING MALE ROLE:

Jean Valjean - The Hero of the show, it is his life story that we follow. He should carry himself as mature and paternal. Valjean's ability to change is his greatest asset. The key to this character is his great humanity and compassion. Valjean is a vocally demanding role. Soloist.

Vocal Range; Tenor to High Baritone (Low A to High A).

Javert – The antagonist. Javert is unswerving in his belief that men cannot change for the good. He is a dedicated Policeman with a profound sense of duty. His attitudes are rigid and unmovable. Javert is stern, forbidding and lacking in compassion. Soloist.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low F to High F Sharp).

Marius – The romantic Hero of the story. He is impulsive, passionate, wilful and headstrong. Marius is sweet and tender but also capable of great courage and compassion. He falls in love with Cosette. He should have a lovely, lyrical voice with a contemporary edge.

Vocal Range; Tenor (Low A to High A Flat)

### SUPPORTING MALE ROLE:

Thenardier (The Inn Keeper) – The true villain of the show. He is the embodiment of evil but also possess a wicked sense of humour. Thenardier hates society and blames everyone else for his misfortune. He is an opportunist who delights in cheating, stealing, fraud and blackmail. He is also the comic relief of the show, however, his comedy shouldn't be too exaggerated. Soloist.

Vocal Range; Tenor (Middle C to G Sharp)

Enjolras – The Student leader of the ABC Society. He is brave and daring. He combines his revolutionary ideals with a strong charismatic leadership. Physically and vocally dominate on the barricade, a natural leader. Needs to be a strong dramatic actor as his death on the barricade is one of the most dramatic highlights of the show.

Vocal Range; Tenor (A to High G)

Gavroche (Child's Role) – He is Thenardier's son who was left to fend for himself and lives by his wits on the streets of Paris. His 'arch enemy' is Javert! He is brave and witty. Gavroche has a very dramatic death at the barricade.

Vocal Range; Tenor (B to G)

### FEATURED MALE ROLE:

Bishop of Digne – The Bishop is a good man who saves Val Jean with his compassion which carefully establishes the premises of the show. Soloist.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A to High E)

Combeferre – Member of the ABC Society. The philosopher and believer in peace. He is gentle, humane, strong and brave.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A o F)

Feuilly – Member of the ABC Society. A worker, self-educated and an orphan. A believer in “nationality”. Affectionate, warm and poetic.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A o F)

Courfeyrac – Member of the ABC Society. He is youthful, passionate and fearless.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A o F)

Joly – Member of the ABC Society. Eccentric and light-hearted, although sometimes morbid.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A o F)

Prouvarie – Member of the ABC Society, He is kind, softly spoken and at the right moments, strong and masterful.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A o F)

Lesgles – Member of the ABC Society. Cheerful, laughing at life but unlucky.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A o F)

Grantaire – Member of the ABC Society. He believes in nothing. Witty and drunken he is unaffected by the world around him until Gavroche is killed and he is left so heartbroken that he abandons his cynicism and rushes to die on the barricade.

Vocal Range; Baritone (Low A o F)

#### FEATURED MALE ENSEMBLE ROLE:

Thenardier’s Gang;

- Brujon – A genuine gangster. He is stupid and evil.
- Babet – He is lean and cunning.
- Claquesous – Tough, dangerous and secretive.
- Montparnasse – Dangerous, he kills with a knife. A Teenager.

Constable’s 1 & 2 – Both have solos.

Farmer – Sung solo lines (Middle C to D Flat)

Foreman – He is virile, commanding and a bit sleazy.

3 Sailors – These Sailors begin the Docks Scene and all three have solo singing lines.

#### MALE ENSEMBLE ROLES:

Factory Workers, Wedding Guests, The Poor, Army Officers, Pimps, Chain Gang, Workers, Constables, Sailors and Orphans.

#### LEADING FEMALE ROLE:

Fantine – She is the beautiful young girl who is left to fend for herself and her daughter Cosette. She is a brave woman who has been defeated by life. She is a noble character whose life becomes a series of terrible events that rob her of her pride, character and ultimately her life.

Vocal Range; Mezzo-Soprano with a BELT (Gb3 to Eb5)

Eponine – She was the daughter of the Thenardier’s. She is streetwise and tough, but also very sensitive and lonely. Eponine is a tragic character, hopelessly in love with Marius and follows him to fight at the barricade. The character should be an exceptional vocalist with a contemporary edge to her voice.

Vocal Range; Alto/Mezzo BELT (F#3 to E5)

Cosette (Adult) – the beautiful daughter of Fantine. She is strong willed and loving. She is an intelligent, inquiring, personable girl. She falls instantly in love with Marius, changing her world and her priorities.

Vocal Range; Soprano (Low Bb to High C)

#### SUPPORTING FEMALE ROLE:

Madame Thenadier – Wife of Thenadier, together they con the world and are partners in crime. She is coarse and vulgar, unhappy in her existence without knowing why. She is romantic, greedy, stupid, evil and larger than life.

Vocal Range; Mezzo (G#3 to D5)

Young Cosette; The daughter of Fantine. Forced into child labor and sings "Castle on a Cloud". She is a trembling little creature, beaten and bullied by Madame Thenardier. Coette is small and pathetic looking but she needs to be sweet and heart-warming.

Vocal Range; Mezzo (Low A to C)

#### FEATURED FEMALE ENSEMBLE ROLE:

Old Woman – Nice featured part. This is the character that purchases Fantine's hair.

Factory Girl – The shop girl that fights with Fantine. She is mean, catty and selfish.

Vocal Range; Alto

Young Eponine – Daughter of the Thenardiers. Very small part, no singing or speaking required.

#### FEMALE ENSEMBLE ROLES:

Factory Workers, Wedding Guests, The Poor, Whores, Workers, and Orphans.