

Playbox Theatre Members Newsletter

October 2022

MUSICAL THEATRE JUNIOR



We are delighted to have been able to relaunch *Musical Theatre Junior*, after a long Covid hiatus! This special workshop runs on Monday evenings at The Dream Factory, and is perfect for children who love to sing and dance. Directed by *Hannah Hampson*, this is a wonderful introduction to our Musical Theatre department. There are some spaces available, and you can apply [here](#).

CHARLOTTE'S WEB SUCCESS



A huge congratulations to the cast and crew of *Charlotte's Web*, which played to sell-out audiences at The Dream Factory last week.

Our latest Young Production Company creation was filled with music, laughter, dance and magic, brought to the stage by a talented cast of 45 young actors, between ages 5-14 yrs.



WELCOME

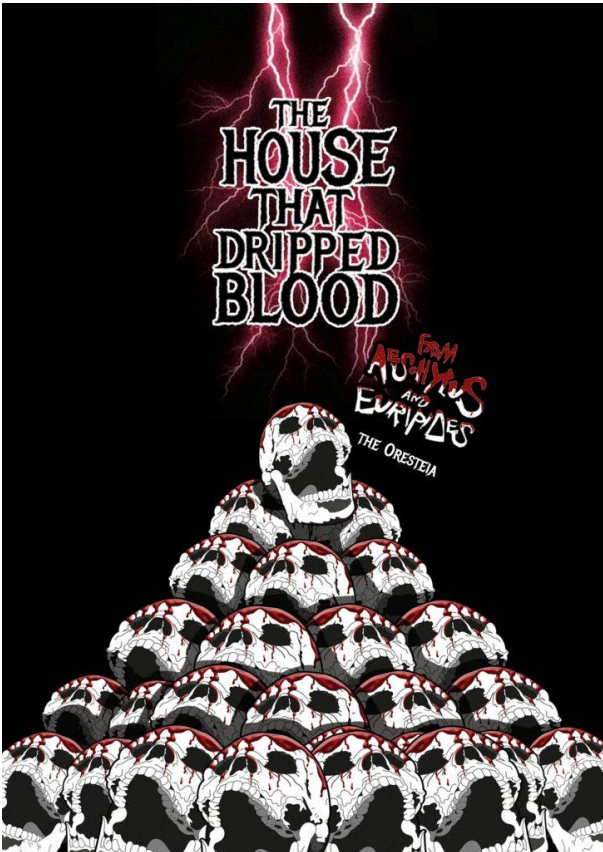
Welcome to the first edition of Playbox Theatre's monthly newsletter, for members and families. We hope that you'll find this to be an informative and enjoyable document, keeping you up-to-date with highlights across the company.

It's been such a busy autumn so far, with *Charlotte's Web* having already been completed, and rehearsals well underway for *The Oresteia* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. There's lots to look forward to, and we are delighted to have you on board.

Read on, for news and dates for your diaries,

Emily Quash
Artistic Director

ORESTEIA – THE HOUSE THAT DRIPPED BLOOD



As the screams can be heard pouring from the rehearsal room, director Stewart McGill, gives us an update on the process, “The company are deep into rehearsals for our version of the Ancient Greek cycle ORESTEIA, ours is subtly titled The House That Dripped Blood.

The team are building a show with full-on acting, movement, dance and a special unifying idea that is designed to immerse audiences and give a full ‘event’ experience.

Despite the overarching themes of the works - the destruction and aftermath of Troy - at its heart, the play tells of one family, and the effect on generations of events years before the story opens.

Things are coming together, and this week the company move from smaller studio rehearsal space into the main auditorium, and will make it onto the designed ‘runways’.

There are many ways to see the show, from sitting, to standing in the Snake Pit for full on immersion.

Nothing quite like Greek Drama to stir the blood”.

This production is suitable for audiences aged 13+.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY SUCCESS

We are very proud of Playbox actors, Emilia Danks-Smith and Belle Avi, who are currently in rehearsal for A Christmas Carol which opens at RSC for Christmas. This is a revival of a super production, and we know that many of you will be going to see this festive treat. Good luck Millie and Belle!

Their success follows that of Jack Hobson and Griffin Hall, who are about to finish an enormously successful run in RSC’s production of Richard III. Well done all round!

These young actors are members of the Playbox Agency, which reopens its books in January 2023.



Emilia Danks-Smith



Belle Avi

CBBC SATURDAY MASH-UP!

Playbox member and Agency actor, Frankie Minchella, will be appearing as guest-star on the crazy, popular, CBBC Saturday Mash Up this weekend.

Frankie has recently starred in Theodosia for HBO Max. It's also available to view on CBBC and is brilliant.

[Click here](#) to tune in on Saturday to see Frankie!



HOLIDAY PROJECTS - OCTOBER



Booking is open for our October half term holiday workshops, which include A Series Of Unfortunate Events, as well as half day festive theatre 'parties' for younger people.

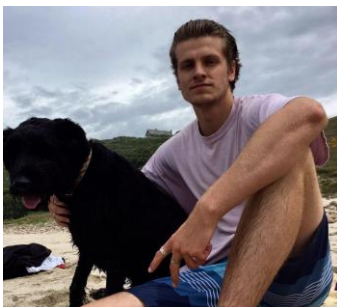
We are also delighted that the superb writers' workshop, Blank-Shift, will be resident, with workshops for 8-12 yrs and 13-19 yrs, exploring screen-writing, film pitching, screenings, pizza and more.

Everything can be found [here](#)

ALUMNI NEWS

We love Playbox alumni, who achieve so highly in a range of post-Playbox careers. Here are a few highlights from this month:

Jared Appleton is a Graphic Designer who we've commissioned to create the wonderful image for Oresteia ~ The House That Dripped Blood



Mairin O'Hagan is currently appearing at Omnibus Theatre in a brand-new play called 'Cassandra' which is a translation of a 100-year-old Ukranian play, about the Trojan War, and funded by the Ukranian Institute as a response to the current invasion.



Sofia Galluci has just been confirmed as the new resident director for Six ~ The Musical in The West End following her graduation from Bristol Old Vic Theatre School

