

Musical Theatre Syllabus

Sunday 8 March 2026.

Venue: Lancing Prep, The Droveaway, Hove BN3 6LU.

The Springboard Musical Theatre days are open to singers of all ages.

The deadline for entries is midnight on Wednesday 28 January 2026.

Rules

- 1 Performers should pay close attention to the time limit for each class, as a performance that is over the limit will have marks deducted.
- 2 Performing songs from memory is encouraged but not compulsory. Marks are awarded for both performance and communication, and as singing from music may have a negative impact on communication it could affect the final mark.
- 3 No pop songs are permitted in any classes unless from a Juke Box musical.
- 4 Where needed, pupils must either provide their own accompanist or use a recommended accompanist as listed on the Springboard website. Backing tracks and amplification are not permitted.
- 5 Copies of music or scores are required for the Adjudicator for all classes. (See Music Rules below regarding the copying of copyright works.)
- 6 A piece may be sung in only one class in the Festival.
- 7 In classes for under-18s, teachers and performers should be aware that the music chosen needs to be appropriate to the performer's age and ability.
- 8 Intermediate and adult performers are asked to sing in the original language wherever possible if the original language is English, French, German, Italian or Latin.
- 9 PLEASE NOTE that Springboard reserves the right not to refund entry fees if an entrant decides to withdraw.

Adjudicator

Nikki Gerrard

Nikki trained at Sylvia Young Theatre School and Guildford School of Acting and has worked as a vocal coach and singing teacher for over a decade teaching audition technique, performance skills and repertoire. Nikki also works as an actor which allows her training and perspective to remain current. Favourite credits across the West End and International Tours include, Billy Elliot playing Dead Mam, Calendar Girls, Scrooge and Dr Dolittle.

As well as teaching students privately through her own company, Nikki has taught for The Urdang Academy, various part time theatre schools and The White Rock Theatre, with teaching and facilitation roles at theatre schools, workshops, competition and festival adjudication, masterclasses and summer schools for adults, teenagers and children across the UK. Many of these workshops and summer schools have seen Nikki take full creative responsibility including choosing material, auditions, curation, choreography and direction.

Nikki's style is firm, fair, creative, nurturing, caring and focussed on thorough training in an inspirational and safe environment. Nikki is very much looking forward to seeing all the students performing at Springboard Festival.

AWARDS

MARY HAMMOND PRE-PROFESSIONAL CLASS: First prize: £50 donated by the Newitt family; Second prize, £30; donated by the Starr family.

Springboard Festival Medals are awarded to the winners of solo and small group classes for those aged 16 and younger.

Junior Musical Theatre

300 SOLO SONG (Year 2 and below)

Award: Festival medal.

One song from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Fee £9.70

7 and under

Up to 3 mins

301 SOLO SONG (Years 3 and 4)

Award: Festival medal.

One song from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Fee £9.70

Age 7 - 9

Up to 3 mins

302 SOLO SONG (Years 5 and 6)

Award: Festival medal.

One song from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Fee £10.20

Age 9 - 11

Up to 4 mins

Intermediate Musical Theatre

303 SOLO SONG (Years 7 and 8)

Award: Festival medal.

One song from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Fee £10.20

Age 11 - 13

Up to 4 mins

304 TWO CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 7 and 8)

Award: Festival medal.

Two contrasting musical theatre songs, from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Singers are permitted to make cuts to songs in order to fit the time limit, but a minimum of 4 mins of singing must be presented.

Fee £12.00

Age 11 - 13

Up to 6 mins

305 SOLO SONG (Years 9 and 10)

Award: Festival medal.

One song from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Fee £10.20

Age 13 - 15

Up to 4 mins

306 TWO CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 9 and 10)

Award: Festival medal.

Two contrasting musical theatre songs, from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Singers are permitted to make cuts to songs in order to fit the time limit, but a minimum of 4 mins of singing must be presented.

Fee £13.00

Age 13 - 15

Up to 7 mins

307 SOLO SONG (Year 11)

One song from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Fee £10.20

Age 15 - 16

Up to 4 mins

308 TWO CONTRASTING SONGS (Years 11)

Two contrasting musical theatre songs, from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Singers are permitted to make cuts to songs in order to fit the time limit, but a minimum of 4 mins of singing must be presented.

Fee £13.00

Age 15 - 16

Up to 7 mins

Senior Musical Theatre

309 TWO CONTRASTING SONGS. MARY HAMMOND PRE-PROFESSIONAL CLASS (Year 12+)

Award: First prize: £50 donated by the Newitt family; Second prize, £30 donated by the Starr family.

Two contrasting musical theatre songs, from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical) with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed.

Singers are permitted to make cuts to songs in order to fit the time limit, but a minimum of 5 mins of singing must be presented.

Fee £14.00

Age 16 - 24

Up to 8 mins

Group Singing

310 DUET, TRIO OR QUARTET

Any music theatre ensemble piece for 2-4 singers, including repertoire drawn from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical). A capella or with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed. If using accompaniment it may be either piano or backing track, no sound equipment is provided by the festival. This must be provided by the performers.

Fee £12.00

Group of 2 to 4 people

16 and under

Up to 6 mins

311 DUET, TRIO OR QUARTET

Any music theatre ensemble piece for 2-4 singers, including repertoire drawn from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical). A capella or with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed. If using accompaniment it may be either piano or backing track, no sound equipment is provided by the festival. This must be provided by the performers.

Fee £12.00

Group of 2 to 4 people

16 and over
Up to 6 mins

312 ENSEMBLE

Any music theatre ensemble piece for a minimum of 5 singers, maximum 30, including repertoire drawn from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical). A capella or with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed. If using accompaniment it may be either piano or backing track, no sound equipment is provided by the festival. This must be provided by the performers.

Fee £13.00

Group of a minimum of 5 people

16 and under

Up to 7 mins

313 ENSEMBLE

Any music theatre ensemble piece for a minimum of 5 singers, maximum 30, including repertoire drawn from musical theatre, cabaret, music hall, Disney or film (no pop, unless from a Juke Box musical). A capella or with piano accompaniment. Minimal props and staging allowed. If using accompaniment it may be either piano or backing track, no sound equipment is provided by the festival. This must be provided by the performers.

Fee £13.00

Group of 5 to 30 people

16 and over

Up to 7 mins