PORTSMOUTH THEATRES

Full commitment is expected for the rehearsal, tech and show period. Please note any absences must be pre-planned and listed in your application to ensure they are workable with the Production.

Les Misérables
SCHOOL EDITION



Audition Pack

SHOW DATES

SAT 24th JUL – SAT 1st AUG 2027

THE STORY

Sent to jail for stealing a loaf of bread in 19th-century France, prisoner Jean Valjean earns his release after 19 years of imprisonment only to find a world unwilling to give him a second chance. When a kind Bishop comes to his aid, Valjean breaks his parole in the hope of starting a new life. In time, Valjean is able to become a prosperous business owner, loving adoptive father, and politician. But not all is serene as police inspector Javert, convinced Valjean cannot change, relentlessly pursues the parole breaker. As Valjean confronts and evades Javert at various turns, each man must face how their game of cat and mouse has challenged their ideas of a virtuous life. A story filled with revolution and romance.

Les Misérables is an epic tale of hope and redemption.



Click on logo for digital Script



CHARACTERS

Please be mindful, that all characters are listed but not necessarily will be auditioned, you will be cast as seen if not going for a main role.

Jean Valjean

Jean Valjean is the hero of the show. It is his life journey that we follow. Jean Valjean is supposed to be stronger than other men, and so, he should physically appear robust. He should carry himself confidently onstage and come across to the audience as reasonably mature and paternal. Valjean's capacity for change is his greatest asset throughout the story. The key to his character is his great humanity and compassion. Jean Valjean is a vocally demanding role.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: A4 / Vocal range bottom: G#2

Javert

Javert is the inspector who serves as antagonist to Jean Valjean. Javert is unswerving in his belief that men cannot change for the better. "Once a thief, always a thief" is his mantra. At first glance, Javert might appear to be the villain of the story, but upon closer examination, it is clear that he is not an evil man. He is a dedicated policeman with a profoundly strong sense of duty. Unlike Valjean, Javert's attitudes are rigid and unmovable. He is stern, forbidding, and lacking in compassion.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: F#4 / Vocal range bottom: F2

Cosette

Cosette is Fantine's strong-willed, loving daughter. She is an intelligent, inquiring, personable girl; she is not in any sense a sappy, romantic heroine. Once she is adopted by Jean Valjean, Cosette lives a comfortable, if secluded, life. She falls instantly in love with Marius, changing her world and her priorities. The role calls for an excellent singer with a lovely, lyrical soprano voice.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: C6 / Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Marius

Marius is the romantic hero of the story. He is impulsive, passionate, wilful, and headstrong. His moods change according to his circumstances. He is sweet and tender but also capable of great courage and compassion. In Act I, Marius plays Romeo to Cosette's Juliet. Marius should have a lovely, lyrical voice with a contemporary edge.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: Ab4 / Vocal range bottom: A2

Fantine

Fantine is the beautiful, young girl who, abandoned by her lover, is left to fend for herself and her daughter, Cosette. She is rejected by society and forced through circumstances to sell herself. She is a brave woman defeated by life who clings to her dignity and is sustained by her love for her daughter, sacrificing everything for the young Cosette. The audience witnesses her descent through a series of terrible events leading to poverty, hunger, cold, loneliness, destitution, and death from consumption. Fantine should have a powerful voice that is more mezzo (or alto) than soprano.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: Eb5 / Vocal range bottom: F3

Eponine

Eponine is the Thenadier's daughter. Living hand to mouth, she survives by helping her father in his life of crime. She is a young girl who is streetwise and tough but also sensitive and lonely. This tragic character is hopelessly in love with Marius, knowing that he will never love her. She bravely follows Marius to the barricades in the hope that they will die there together. She sings one of the most famous numbers in the show, “On My Own,” and should be an excellent actress and singer with a contemporary edge to her voice.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: E5 / Vocal range bottom: F3

Enjolras

Enjolras is the student leader. He is handsome, brave, and daring, although youthful. He combines his revolutionary ideals with strong, charismatic leadership. Victor Hugo described him as “a thinker and a man of action.” On the barricade, he should dominate everyone else physically and vocally. Enjolras is one of the more difficult roles to cast. He is a natural leader oozing with charisma and have a very strong high baritone or a tenor voice. Enjolras must inspire the students to fight and, ultimately, to die for their beliefs. His death at the barricade is one of the dramatic highlights of the show.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: G4 / Vocal range bottom: A2

Thénardier

Thenardier is the true villain of Les Misérables. He is the embodiment of evil. That said, he should also possess a wicked sense of humour. He delights in cheating, robbing, defrauding, and blackmailing, and relishes every aspect of his schemes with glee. He is tough, greedy, brutal, lowbrow, crafty and yet irresistible. He hates society and blames it and everyone else for all his misfortune. Thenardier is also the opportunist and realist of the show. He is a thief, a liar, a cheat, and steals valuables from the dead with no remorse. He is also the comic relief of the production. However, his comedy is based in reality and shouldn’t be too exaggerated. He is married to Madame Thenardier and is father to Eponine and Gavroche (although he abandoned Gavroche to the streets of Paris). Thenardier should be an excellent comedic actor who can portray a nasty edge.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: G4 / Vocal range bottom: C2

Madame Thénardier

She is married to Thenardier. Together, Madame Thenardier and Thenardier con the world as partners in crime. They were made for each other, and although she complains about him, she loves him dearly. She is coarse and vulgar, unhappy in her existence without knowing why. She is romantic, greedy, manipulative, evil, and larger than life. She is mean and nasty to Little Cosette and able to improvise in nearly any situation. She should be played by an excellent comedy actor.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: D5 / Vocal range bottom: G#3

Gavroche

Gavroche is Thenardier's son. He is left to fend for himself and lives by his wits in the streets of Paris. His archenemy is Javert, the policeman. Gavroche is brave, witty, and arrogant, with a fantastic, unchanged voice. For comparison, think of a young Artful Dodger. Gavroche has a very dramatic death at the barricade.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: G5 / Vocal range bottom: B3

Young Cosette

Young Cosette is Fantine’s daughter and the Thenardier's ward. She has been forced into child labour. She is underfed, beaten by Madame Thenardier and bullied by Eponine. Young Cosette sings “Castle on a Cloud,” she has a nice voice and can tap into the emotion in the song.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: C5 / Vocal range bottom: A3

The following roles will be cast as seen

The Bishop of Digne

The kind and gentle Bishop offers shelter and sustenance to Jean Valjean, providing the ex-convict with the compassion he so desperately needs. By giving him an alibi and forgiveness, the virtuous actions of the holy man send Valjean on a path of decency and good intentions.

Gender: male

Chain Gang

The Chain Gang consists of Jean Valjean's fellow prisoners. There are five soloists (Convicts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5).

Gender: male
Vocal range top: Eb4 / Vocal range bottom: F2

Constables

There are two solo Constables (Constables 1 and 2) in the show.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: E4 / Vocal range bottom: E3

Farmer

The Farmer has solo lines.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: Db4 / Vocal range bottom: C3

Laborer

There are several laborors but only one Laborer has a solo line.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: D4 / Vocal range bottom: A#2

Foreman

The Foreman begins Fantine on her desperate, downward spiral. He is virile, commanding, corrupt, using his job as leverage to take advantage of Fantine and the other Factory Girls.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: D4 / Vocal range bottom: D3

Factory Workers

The Factory Workers include the following characters with solo lines: Workers 1 and 2, Woman, Factory Girls 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: C5 / Vocal range bottom: E4

Girl 5 (Factory Girl)

Girl 5 (Factory Girl) is the shop girl who fights with Fantine. She is mean, spiteful, and selfish. She also is most likely having an affair with the Foreman and is jealous of his affection for Fantine.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: Eb5 / Vocal range bottom: F4

Prostitutes

The Docks are a depressing and dangerous place to be, occupied by prostitutes and their customers. Prostitutes 1, 2, 3, and Sick Prostitutes have solo lines.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: Db5 / Vocal range bottom: C4

Sailors (Sailors 1, 2, 3)

Three sailors begin the docks scene. All three have solos.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: Db4 / Vocal range bottom: Eb3

Bamatabois

Bamatabois is the customer who taunts Fantine into violence. He is a wealthy, dissolute young man who thinks of himself as a gentleman, even dressing in expensive clothes. He is drunk and in a sadistic mood. He chauvinistically feels it is his right to buy anything, even Fantine.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: D5 / Vocal range bottom: D3

Old Woman

The Old Woman is a featured role, she purchases Fantine's hair.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: D5 / Vocal range bottom: E4

Pimp

The pimp controls the prostitutes at the docks. He is mean, aggressive, and abusive. The Pimp has a small solo line in "The Docks."

Gender: male
Vocal range top: C4 / Vocal range bottom: Eb3

Onlookers and Bystanders

These characters make up the crowd of people onstage that witness the cart crash. Onlookers 1, 2, 3, and 4 have solo lines.

Gender: any
Vocal range top: C5 / Vocal range bottom: G4

Fauchelevant

Fauchelevant is the victim of the cart crash.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: Eb4 / Vocal range bottom: B3

Judge(s)

The Judge or Judges are non-singing roles. They appear once in a courtroom to preside over a trial against Jean Valjean.

Gender: male

Mistaken Jean Valjean and Family

These characters are also non-singing. Mistaken Jean Valjean is the man who Javert believes to be Jean Valjean.

Gender: any

Nuns

The two Nuns are non-singing and non-speaking roles. They serve to take care of Fantine in her sickness.

Gender: female

Young Eponine

Young Eponine is the pampered daughter of the Thenardier. She does little except taunt Young Cosette. The role requires no singing or speaking. She should be a smaller version of grown Eponine and resemble Eponine in appearance and features.

Gender: female

Gavroche's Gang

If you have young children (ages 7–9) who'd like to be involved in the show, you may add a gang of kids to follow Gavroche around. Remember that Paris at this time would be full of orphans (due to years of wars and revolutions), and representing these young people onstage is a nice addition. Do not include Gavroche's Gang in the barricade scenes, as it will negatively impact the dramatic arc of the show, taking away from Gavroche's death. One member of Gavroche's Gang could have a solo line if cast as Solo Urchin.

Gender: any
Vocal range top: G4 / Vocal range bottom: C4

Brujon

Montparnasse, Babet, Brujon and Claquesous are members of Thenardier's gang of thieves.
Brujon is physically very strong. He has the body of a bear and a pea-sized brain. A genuine gangster, he is stupid and evil.

Gender: any
Vocal range top: C#4 / Vocal range bottom: B3

Babet

Montparnasse, Babet, Brujon and Claquesous are members of Thenardier's gang of thieves.
Babet is physically frail but lean and cunning.

Gender: any
Vocal range top: E4 / Vocal range bottom: E3

Claquesous

Montparnasse, Babet, Brujon and Claquesous are members of Thenardier's gang of thieves.
Claquesous is tough, dangerous, and secretive.

Gender: any
Vocal range top: E4 / Vocal range bottom: C4

Montparnasse

These are members of Thenardier's gang of thieves.
Montparnasse is a teenager who is handsome and dangerous (he kills with a knife). He is well dressed, strongly built, and agile.

Gender: any
Vocal range top: C#4 / Vocal range bottom: C#3



Members of the ABC society

Combeferre, Feuilly, Courfeyrac, Joly, Jean Prouvaire, Lesgles, and Grantaire. These characters compose a secret society of students and workers. The letters A, B, and C, as pronounced in French, make the word “abaisse,” which means “The underdog” or “the people below.” The members are drawn from wealthy families and have chosen to fight for freedom, in stark contrast to the poor who have no choice due to their downtrodden circumstance. Additional characters in the ABC Society, besides Enjolras and Marius, include the following:

Revolutionaries

An ensemble of Revolutionaries at the barricade scenes.

Gender: any

Sentries

In addition to the ensemble of Revolutionaries, the barricade scenes need actors to serve as Sentries 1 and 2.

Gender: any

Army Officer

The barricade scene needs and actor to play the Army Officer. This actor only needs to be heard from offstage; as he’s never seen onstage.

Gender: Male

Women

There are also four soloists for working-class Women in Scene 6 (Women 1, 2, 3, and 4) who sing about the events at the barricade (Turning).

Gender: female

Vocal range top: Db5 / Vocal range bottom: Eb4

Major Domo

Requires one spoken line. He does not have a solo singing line.

Gender: male

Wedding Guests

Wedding Guests form a chorus that celebrates the wedding of Marius and Cosette. They do not have any solo singing lines.

Gender: any



Audition Pieces

Please click on picture for audition material

JEAN VALJEAN



JAVERT



FANTINE



EPONINE



THENARDIER



MADAME THENARDIER



MARIUS



COSETTE



ENJOLRAS



YOUNG COSETTE



GAVROCHE



ENSEMBLE/OTHER ROLES



Who we are looking for:

Portsmouth Theatres is committed to ensuring that casting reflects the diversity of our community and we are looking for performers from all backgrounds, genders, and ethnicities. Only young people aged 9-18 will be seen (must be 9 by audition day, no older than 18 on 1st August 2027).

Registration

The closing date for compulsory audition registration is end of day, 11th November 2026. Portsmouth Theatres reserves the right to close applications early if audition numbers exceed available audition spaces. You must register via Portsmouth Theatres website. No other way of registering will be accepted. You will then be contacted with details of the venue and time for auditions if successful during shortlisting. Parent/Guardians: If you have more than one child auditioning, please fill out a separate form for each child.

Audition day information

Auditions will be on Wednesday 6th and / or Thursday 7th January 2027. A Parent / guardian will need to remain on site throughout as cuts will be made through the session.

The audition panel will be:

Head of Production: Jack Edwards
Director: Stuart Warner
Musical Director: Kim Seagrove
Musical Supervisor: Andrew Woodford
Choreographer: *TBC*
Assistant Director: Lauren Kempton
Head of Wardrobe: Jacqueline Willis

Other members of the Creative / Production team will be around throughout the day.



By auditioning you are giving consent for photos and videos captured by Portsmouth Theatres on the day, to be used for promotional purposes.

Taking photos or videos during the audition process is not permitted by individuals.

Children's Info

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Head Chaperone will be Rebecca Henderson.

We are looking for performers! So, encourage your child to perform in every step of the audition. The Production Team will be casting two teams of children. Teams will perform in rotation over the 10 performances. Teams will be assigned show dates after the audition.

During auditions, parents will be required to remain on site as cuts will be made throughout this session. Please be prepared to be available all evening as recalls will be held for those selected from the first round of auditions.

Children should come in dance wear or clothes they can move freely in. Dance footwear (or appropriate enclosed footwear) must be worn, no bare feet, socks, Crocs or Uggs.

Please only arrive at the registration time you are requested as there is not a holding space should people arrive early.

Please note that all children selected MUST be available for all rehearsal dates and all assigned shows. Rehearsals will finish by 10pm. Non-attendance at rehearsals without the prior agreement of the Production Team will result in your child being withdrawn from the show. Agreement for absence will only be given in exceptional circumstances with evidence of the emergency provided. The Producer's decision on this will be final. No unavailability will be permitted during the Tech period.

If your child is selected, you will have to provide all the information required for licensing within a week of accepting.

Licensed chaperones will be appointed for rehearsals and the performances. If any parent/guardian who has a child performing would be interested in volunteering to become a licensed chaperone, details of how to apply for a license can be found on the relevant council websites.

Please remind your child if they are not successful this time, not to be upset or demotivated as there will always be other opportunities. The audition panel will offer support and constructive feedback.



Les Misérables Key Dates

Auditions	Wed 6 & Thu 7 Jan 2027
Meet and Greet	Tue 9 Mar 2027
Rehearsal Period	Tue 9 Mar 2027 - Thu 15 Jul 2027
Tech	Sun 18 Jul - Thu 22 Jul 2027
Dress	Fri 23 Jul 2027
Run	Sat 24 Jul - Sun 1 Aug 2027

Les Misérables - Subject to Change

Sun 14 Mar 2027
Sun 21 Mar 2027
Tue 23 Mar 2027
Tue 30 Mar 2027
Sun 4 Apr 2027
Sun 11 Apr 2027
Tue 13 Apr 2027
Sun 18 Apr 2027
Tue 20 Apr 2027
Sun 25 Apr 2027
Tue 27 Apr 2027
Sun 2 May 2027
Tue 4 May 2027
Sun 9 May 2027
Tue 11 May 2027
Sun 16 May 2027
Tue 18 May 2027
Sun 23 May 2027
Tue 25 May 2027
Sun 30 May 2027
Tue 1 Jun 2027
Sun 6 Jun 2027
Tue 8 Jun 2027
Sun 13 Jun 2027
Tue 15 Jun 2027
Sun 20 Jun 2027
Tue 22 Jun 2027
Sun 27 Jun 2027
Sun 4 Jul 2027
Tue 6 Jul 2027
Sun 11 Jul 2027
Tue 13 Jul 2027
Wed 14 Jul 2027
Thu 15 Jul 2027


Good Luck!