

**BLACK BOX THEATRE CO
PRESENTS**

next to normal

AUDITION PACK

EARL ARTS CENTRE

22ND - 29TH JUNE

**Book and Lyrics by Brian Yorkey, Music by Tom Kitt
Licensed exclusively Music Theatre International (Australasia).
All performance material supplied by Hal Leonard Australia**

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BLACK BOX THEATRE CO

At Black Box Theatre Co, we believe that exceptional musical theatre has the power to inspire, entertain, and uplift. We strive to create unforgettable experiences that transport audiences to captivating worlds, evoke powerful emotions, and leave a lasting impression. From beloved classics to contemporary hits, our repertoire is carefully curated to showcase the very best of the musical theatre genre.

BLK
BOX

THEATRE CO.

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ABOUT THE SHOW

Next to Normal is a gripping, raw, and heart-wrenching rock musical that first stormed onto the stage in 2008, with a powerful score by Tom Kitt and an emotionally charged book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey. The story revolves around Diana Goodman, a mother whose battle with increasingly severe bipolar disorder casts a shadow over her family's life. As Diana's mental health deteriorates, we are drawn into a world of complex emotions, where love, loss, and desperation collide.

The musical dives deep into the haunting realities of grief, depression, and the dark consequences of untreated mental illness, offering an unflinching look at the toll it takes on both the individual and their loved ones. *Next to Normal* doesn't shy away from tough topics such as suicide, addiction, and the ethical dilemmas within modern psychiatric care, while also exploring the undercurrent of pain that often lurks beneath the seemingly perfect surface of suburban life.

With its electrifying rock score and its poignant exploration of the human psyche, *Next to Normal* is a rare theatrical experience. It's not just a musical; it's a cathartic journey into the heart of what it means to be human.

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THE CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR – LAUCLIN HANSEN
MUSICAL DIRECTOR – TRAVIS HENNESSY
CHOREOGRAPHER – BERNITA MOORE
MORE TEAM TO BE ANNOUNCED

PRODUCER – LIZ BENNETT



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KEY DATES AND INFO

Our production of *Next To Normal* will begin rehearsing on the 30th of March. Rehearsals will then continue every Tuesday and Thursday night from 7pm until 10pm, and also every Sunday from 12pm until 5pm.

A full breakdown of the rehearsal schedule will be sent out once the show has been cast to the successful auditionees, and will be updated regularly.



We expect successful cast members to be available for all rehearsals. That being said, we do appreciate circumstances and value your time so we will only call you when required

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AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held on the 9th and 10th of March at the Black Box Studio, which is located at the rear of 59 Brisbane street, or you can enter via Earl Street.

Sunday 9th of March

10am – 2:00pm / Individual audition slots

BREAK

3:00pm – 8:00pm / Individual audition slots

Monday 10th of March

10:00am – 11:30am / Mandatory Dance audition *

BREAK

12:00pm – 2:00pm / Callbacks

All audition materials can be found here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/x7wqlh6fnig0o3h8w1vak/h?rlkey=e2h3yji0hq5jk309sgjhuesad&dl=0>

*** During the group dance call, our choreographer will teach you a brief sections of choreography from the show. Please wear suitable attire for the group dance call**

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CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Black Box Theatre Co acknowledges the diversity within the Australian performing arts community. As a company, we aim to portray a realistic representation of Australia on our stages. We strive to uphold the integrity of the production and strongly encourage applications from performers of various experiences and circumstances, including (but not limited to) those from culturally diverse backgrounds and performers with disabilities.

Please note: Due to the nature of the content of this show, we are seeking actors over the age of 18.

DIANA

Delusional, bipolar, and depressed. The sexiness of her yesterdays has only recently begun to soften. She is determined to make her family perfect but is tortured by a death in the family.

Gender: Female

Age: 35 to 45

Vocal range top: F#5

Vocal range bottom: G3

GABE

Diana & Dan's son. Dashing, athletic, and bright. He is a playful man and everything a mother could imagine.

Gender: Male

Age: 18 to 25

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: B2

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CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

DAN

Diana's husband. He is handsome and genuine. Though a constant in Diana's tumultuous life, he has grown tired and weary of her antics.

Gender: Male

Age: 35 to 45

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: Ab2

HENRY

Natalie's classmate. The all-around musician, philosopher, and slacker. He has an intoxicating capacity for sympathy and romance.

Gender: Male

Age: 17 to 20

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: G#2

NATALIE

Diana & Dan's troubled daughter. An accomplished pianist and hardworking student, her struggles are exacerbated by her mother's behavior. She greatly admires Henry.

Gender: Female

Age: 17 to 20

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: G3

DR. MADDEN

Diana's handsome psychiatrist. Quite assured in his practice and considered somewhat of a rock star.

Gender: Male

Age: 30 to 40

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: A2

We will also be casting an ensemble of four performers for this show, we will be looking for 2 male and 2 female performers to make up the ensemble.

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CONTENT WARNING

We would like to make all auditionees aware that Next to Normal addresses sensitive and potentially triggering themes. The show explores complex and emotionally challenging subjects, and we want to ensure that all participants are fully informed before auditioning.

Mental Illness: The musical portrays a family coping with the effects of bipolar disorder, with scenes depicting emotional breakdowns, hospitalisations, and the challenges of living with a mental health condition.

Substance Abuse: Characters struggle with addiction, which plays a significant role in the story.

Suicide: The musical touches on themes of grief and loss, including the impact of suicide on the family.

Grief and Trauma: The narrative includes raw portrayals of personal loss, and characters struggle with unresolved trauma.

This production contains moments of intense emotion, graphic themes, and adult language. We encourage anyone auditioning to carefully consider their own emotional comfort and well-being before participating.

If you have any concerns or would like to discuss the content further, please feel free to reach out. We are committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and supportive environment for all involved.

Thank you for your understanding and consideration.

THANK YOU

We appreciate you taking the time to review the audition information for our Next To Normal performance season in 2025. We are excited to meet each and every one of you at our next auditions.

Please contact us at info@blackboxtheatreco.online or through our social media accounts on Facebook or Instagram if you have any questions regarding the audition process or anything you've read in this audition kit.