

QUEENSLAND THEATRE CO.

THE SCENE PROJECT



The Scene Project 2026
Photography by Josh Woning

INFORMATION PACK
SEASON 2027

Queensland Theatre Company acknowledges the Jagera and Turrbal people who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, and their unique relationship with the lands, seas and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders both past and present, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

PROGRAM PARTNERS



Sci-Fleet Toyota



QUEENSLAND THEATRE COMPANY IS ASSISTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH CREATIVE AUSTRALIA, ITS PRINCIPAL ARTS INVESTMENT AND ADVISORY BODY. QUEENSLAND THEATRE COMPANY IS SUPPORTED BY THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT THROUGH ARTS QUEENSLAND.

Registrations open Thursday 15 October
(Week 2 of Term 4)
Registrations close Thursday 12 November
(Week 6 of Term 4)

**Registrations may close sooner if numbers exceed capacity.*

This pack is designed to provide key project information to support your school's decision to register for participation in **The Scene Project 2027**.

Please note: due to the touring requirements of The Scene Project, registrations are limited. Applicants are accepted on a first-in basis per district, and a waitlist is formed for schools who miss the initial intake. We encourage you to register quickly to avoid missing out.

REGISTER NOW

ABOUT THE SCENE PROJECT

Now in its 13th year, The Scene Project is a state-wide participatory project that involves secondary schools (Years 7–12) in the creative process of performance, from rehearsal through to presentation. It acknowledges young people and teachers as artists and encourages the making, presenting, viewing and responding to live performance in a professional space and manner. The Scene Project prioritises collaboration, professional development of teachers and young people, and enhancing existing curriculum or co-curricular activity in schools.

The Scene Project is not a competition! It aims to celebrate participation, enable performance-making and offer a supportive and inclusive creative learning environment. Each school and community engage in The Scene Project in their own way. We encourage you to get in contact with us and work through how you can engage with the program and how you can utilise it for broader learning and community outcomes for your school group. It does not need to be a curriculum-based program; many schools offer this program as an extra-curricular activity.

WHAT'S INCLUDED FOR REGISTERED SCHOOL GROUPS

- A newly commissioned script written specifically for young people
- In-depth and comprehensive education resources
- A full-day teacher professional development workshop in a district near you, led by our creative team
- Access to the QTC team as you develop your work in classrooms
- A place at an Outcome Day in one of 17 locations in Queensland where you and your students will:
 - Present your 15-minute interpretation of the play
 - Watch up to three other school performances
 - Engage in a reflection forum to unpack and explore student performances
 - Watch a performance of a QTC production of the play
 - Participate in a Q&A with QTC actors and touring team

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Participating groups are tasked with creating a short (up to 15 minutes) presentation, responding to the commissioned play. This can be an interpretation of, inspired by, or a portion of the text. You are given complete creative license!

On Outcome Day your group has thirty minutes on stage. This time must include your set up, technical run and performance.

For this reason, school performances are limited to:

- No AV/Projection
- Open ambient overhead lighting: lights at full, mid or blackout
- Minimal sound cues
- Minimal set, props and design – all materials must be transported by students
- Nothing rigged or hung overhead

CONTACT US

education@queenslandtheatre.com.au
(07) 3010 7600

“The Scene Project is a brilliant celebration of process, play and giving it a go – all the hallmarks of great theatre. We aren’t interested in competition or perfection – this is all about playing with a story and story-telling. It’s about having the freedom to remix, re-work and interpret the work of our playwrights – to make a piece of performance that is distinctly your own ... and, in doing so, building an ensemble, and engineering a whole world using a collective imagination and creating a new piece of theatre.”

— Dan Evans, Artistic Director

ABOUT THE PLAY

A THOUSAND TIMES GOODNIGHT

In 2027, QTC is proud to commission two outstanding Queensland playwrights. Madeleine Border and Liam Lowth are charting a hilarious, thought-provoking, metaphysical journey into the cosmos.

Inspired by key works from the 2027 mainstage Queensland Theatre Company Season, *A Thousand Times Goodnight* presents a kaleidoscopic exploration of one very special night.

We've seen how students love to respond to work across twelve years of The Scene Project. We've heard the forms that teachers want to work with and connect to the syllabus. 2026's *Icarus* presented educators and students with infinite choices. *A Thousand Times Goodnight* refines that open model into an accessible, thrilling, original script especially designed for Queensland schools.

SYNOPSIS

In 2027, history cracks open. The birth of a star close to Earth causes ripples in time and space. The result: a spontaneous burst of transmissions from across human history.

It's your job to make meaning from the wreckage.

The gathered data are snapshots of humanity between sunset and sunrise, each pulsing with an edge of finality.

Young people splintered across space and time have one final night to achieve the impossible: to say goodbye, to avert disaster, to finally get revenge on their older sibling or to change history. For each of them, it is their final opportunity to confess to their crush, to get entry into their dream university, to overthrow the government, to witness the final life cycle of an endangered butterfly...

This new work will delve into teenage friendships, coming of age discoveries, historical conflicts, fate and free will. Expect comedy, tragedy, and a thousand different ways to say good night.

We encourage you to consider how you can engage students to participate in a variety of roles. Once registered, please consider engaging students as Directors, Stage Managers, Scenographers, Choreographers, Sound and Lighting Designers and Operators to support the full theatre-making experience.

THEMES

- Finality
- Love, bonds, and parting
- Hope, opportunity, and overcoming adversity
- How bigger historical and socio-political forces shape our relationships
- Relationships across forms, including myth, historical fiction, dystopian fiction and realism

FORM & STYLE

- Magic Realism
- Australian Gothic
- Realism
- Epic Theatre
- Contemporary Performance
- Visual Theatre
- Physical Theatre
- Theatre of Social Comment
- Greek Theatre

EXPLORE USING

- Devised theatre
- Ensemble work
- Chorus
- Improvisation
- Monologues and duologues
- Stylised movement
- Non-linear narratives and episodic structures
- Small group work exploring short scenes

MEET THE WRITERS



Madeleine Border

As Writer: Playlab Theatre: Big Yikes!, Rising; Other: 34 Scenes About the Weather, Maddie is the New Karen, Deep Breath In, This Fantastic Plastic Planet, Sometimes It's Hot like the Sun; As Assistant Director: Counterpilot: Breaking. Training: University of Queensland: Bachelor of Arts (Drama, Political Science), Master of Writing, Editing and Publishing, Creative Writing PhD Candidate. Positions: Playwright-in-Residence (2023), Young Playwright-in-Residence (2021), Playlab Theatre; Resident Artist (2019), Backbone Youth Arts.



Liam Lowth

Queensland Theatre Company: As Writer: Lucky (2026), DOOR 3, presented by Yeah Nah Theatre. Other Credits: As Writer: Moncrieff Entertainment Centre: Failure to Launch; As Assistant Director: THAT Production Company: Kill Climate Deniers. Positions: Hatchery Artist in Residence (2027), Ipswich City Council, as Writer: Kelly. Awards: Queensland Premier's Drama Award (2026) — Shortlisted: Freedom.

2027 KEY DATES

TERM 4 – 2026

Registrations Open – Thursday 15 October

Registrations Close – Thursday 12 November

No payment is required to register; we encourage you to do this ASAP to not miss out.

On registration you will be required to nominate your

- Preferred outcome day dates
- Preferred Teacher PD dates

Schools with any outstanding fees from prior programs will be put on the waiting list. Once accounts are settled, you can be moved back to the registered groups if places remain.

Placement notification from Thursday 26 November.

We'll notify you of your allocated outcome day based on your preferences, or if you are on a waiting list. If allocated to an Outcome Day, we will ask you to confirm your participation.

TERM 1 – 2027

Friday 29 January | Deadline for Schools to confirm participation

We know some schools don't release their calendars until Term 1, so please contact us as soon as possible if you need to make any changes to your Outcome Day and we will accommodate where possible.

Friday 12 February | Payment Due

You will be invoiced and have until **5pm on Friday 12 February** to withdraw your registration – this ensures we can give schools on the waitlist your place with sufficient time to participate fully.

To withdraw from The Scene Project, email education@queenslandtheatre.com.au with your School Name and The Scene Project Withdrawal in the subject heading.

Any withdrawals between 5pm on 12 February and 5pm Monday 15 March will incur a \$300+GST cancellation fee.

Any withdrawals after 5pm on Monday 15 March will incur the full registration fee.

We encourage schools to connect with us before withdrawing, there are multiple ways to engage with this program. Where we can engage in a flexible participation, we will.



The Scene Project 2026
Photography by Josh Woning

Week Commencing Monday 15 February | Script Delivery

We deliver:

- The complete script for 2027
- Education Resources for the play

Remaining Term 1 | Teacher Professional Development

You will be able to attend a specialised professional development day with key QTC staff and artists. This will include a thorough introduction to *A Thousand Times Goodnight*, and time to explore with peers how to make the script work in your specific context.

Teacher PD dates are listed on The Scene Project website. We will be in touch at the start of Term 1 2027 to confirm your attendance.

TERM 2 – 2027

You and your students create the work in the classroom, with options to check-in with QTC staff remotely for assistance.



Cast and Creatives of *Icarus*.
Photography by Josh Woning

TERM 3 – 2027

Outcome Day check-in: 1 week ahead of Outcome Day

We'll contact you ahead of Outcome Day. We'll need:

- Updated group numbers
- Access needs and medical conditions that may impact outcome day
- Anything that requires our attention on Outcome Day

Outcome Day

You'll attend your allocated Outcome Day at a specified venue and share your work before participating in a reflection forum with other schools. The day will finish with a full-length performance from Queensland Theatre Company by professional actors.

Schools arrive from 8.30am for a 9am start and the day ends at 3pm.

A typical Outcome Day will run as follows:

8.30am – 9.00am	Schools arrive and check-in
9.00am – 9.30am	Welcome, check in, warm up
9.30am – 11.30am	School performances
11.30am – 12.30pm	Reflection forum
12.30pm – 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm – 2.30pm	Queensland Theatre Company performance
2.30pm – 3.00pm	Q&A with touring team from QTC

Schedule may change depending on number of schools present at your Outcome Day. Where we can, we will accommodate early departure times.

Outcome Day survey | Post event

We'll distribute a survey for students and teachers – we always appreciate your thoughts to help us shape and improve the program!

TERM 4 – 2027

Registration open for 2028

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to connect with the team on education@queenslandtheatre.com.au or (07) 3010 7600.

78 Montague Road
South Brisbane Queensland 4101

P 07 3010 7600
Ticketing 1800 355 528

education@queenslandtheatre.com.au

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QUEENSLAND THEATRE CO.

REGISTER AT
queenslandtheatre.com.au/tsp

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Information is correct at the time of publication and may be subject to change.
Queensland Theatre Company reserves the right to amend information at short notice.