



Blindspot Collective seeks performers for *Ponderbog*, a new touring musical for young audiences. This production will tour to San Diego County Elementary Schools in October, 2026.

SEEKING: Professional performers over the age of 18. Teaching artist experience is beneficial but not necessary.

ABOUT THE PROJECT: *Ponderbog* is an interactive adventure that whisks two feuding sisters into the magical, endangered forest kingdom of Ponderbog. When a heated argument accidentally unleashes real magic, Kim vanishes into the woods, and Nancy must journey through a world built from childhood memory and imagination to find her. Guided by an unlikely troupe of forest friends, Nancy battles mischievous sprites, the fearsome Hound, and her own self-doubt. *Ponderbog* is a joyful celebration of imagination, conservation, and love.

Directed by: Shellina Hefner

Written by: Tyler Tafolla

Performers will receive a stipend of \$200 for rehearsal, and \$50 per performance for an estimated 24 shows for a total compensation of \$1,400. Note that total compensation will be based on the number of performances. Additional extended tour dates may be offered to schools if we develop a waitlist, meaning compensation could exceed \$1,400 but a minimum of \$1,400 is guaranteed.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE:

September 6th, 2026 - October 3rd, 2026: Rehearsals scheduled based on performer availability. Daytime rehearsals are possible.

October 4th, 2026: Dress Rehearsal in rehearsal space.

October 5th, 2026 - October 30th, 2026: Performances.

Please note: all performances will take place during school hours. While limited daytime conflicts are permitted, daytime availability is necessary to participate.

Rehearsals will primarily take place in Downtown San Diego. Performances will take place at elementary schools across San Diego county. Performers will be responsible for their own parking and transportation.

DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION. Submissions will be accepted until **11:59pm PST on Sunday, August 23rd.**

To be considered, please submit here: <https://forms.gle/uojrpWCBMkzTviH99>

The audition form collects your personal information, including any known conflicts with the rehearsal dates, as well as a recorded audition video. All performers must submit a recorded video of a portion of a musical theatre song (16 to 32 bars, or about a minute) that showcases your passion, energy, and emotive storytelling skills. Please sing with a backing track or accompany yourself as a capella submissions will not be considered. We encourage you to upload your audition to YouTube or a similar service to ensure there are no issues accessing your materials. Only the director and members of the creative team will have access to your submission materials and we will reach out regarding callbacks.

Please note: the quality of your video will have no bearing on the opportunity. Feel free to capture yourself using your phone, computer, etc. If you are unable to complete a video due to accessibility challenges, please reach out to us at submissions@blindspotcollective.org and we will do our best to work with you.

Blindspot Collective is committed to inclusivity, and encourages ALL members of our community to submit, particularly members of communities who have historically been excluded or underrepresented — including but not limited to artists of color, Native American and Indigenous artists, women, non-binary and gender non-conforming artists, LGBTQ+ artists, and artists with disabilities.

CASTING NOTES: All roles will require guiding and interacting with audience members through the library or through specific tasks. Blindspot Collective is interested in bending the audience's preconceived notions of these beloved literary figures. The creative team seeks performers of all ethnicities and gender expressions, individuals who may speak with a non-English accent, and all body types for this production. However, all interested performers should submit as there are many flexible roles available.

If you have any questions whatsoever, please email at info@blindspotcollective.org. We are here to be a supportive resource in whatever way we can.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

NANCY (any ethnicity, Feminine Presenting)

The older sister, practical and a bit prickly, more comfortable with her phone than with imagination. Reluctant hero who must learn to trust her own creativity and face her fears to save Kim and the kingdom.

KIM (any ethnicity, Feminine Presenting)

- The younger sister, wildly imaginative and playful, self-declared "Queen Kimberly" of the forest. Her imagination literally built the world of Ponderbog.

MARIUS FANG (any ethnicity, Masculine Presenting)

- A swaggering, self-mythologizing knight-ranger of the woods, all bravado and clumsy heroics.

GRIBBIT (any ethnicity, Masculine Presenting)

- A small, sly, slime-handed troll who's fascinated by human objects and "borrows" them. Loyal, funny, and secretly the most emotionally perceptive of the group.
- Gribbit will be portrayed by puppet.

THE GREAT SAGE/THE HOUND/THE ROTHBOGGLE (any ethnicity)

- The ancient, wise tree spirit Great Sage, who guides Nancy with warmth and gravitas; the swampy comic menace of the Rothboggle; the shadowy, taunting villain the Hound. This role calls for a performer who can shift with vocal power for the Sage and Hound's musical numbers.

Note: All performers will also play "storytellers" and help narrate.