

THE BOB HOPE THEATRE ACTORS COMPANY
PRESENTS...

THE LINE
BETWEEN
MEMORY AND
REALITY
IS THINNER
THAN
WE THINK.

NEXT TO NORMAL



MUSIC BY
TOM KITT

BOOK & LYRICS BY
BRIAN YORKEY

Original Broadway Production Produced by
David Stone, James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whitman,
Patrick Catullo and Second Stage Theatre

12 - 15 MAY 2027

PERFORMANCES 7.45PM
SATURDAY MATINEE 2.30PM

TICKETS £18

online at www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk
or call/visit Box Office 020 8850 3702
Wythfield Rd, Eltham, SE9 5TG
from 10am to 1pm Tuesday to Saturday.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI
www.MTIShows.co.uk

**BOB HOPE
THEATRE
ELTHAM**

NEXT TO NORMAL AUDITION PACK

Dates:

1st November – Meet the production team - 8pm at the Bob Hope Theatre bar
22nd November – Self tape Deadline
25th November – 1st round auditions for those wishing to audition in person at MD's studios
13th December - Recalls at the Bob Hope Theatre

Monday 10th May 2027- Tech rehearsal
Tuesday 11th May 2027- Dress rehearsal
Wednesday 12th May 2027- Performance (19:45)
Thursday 13th May 2027- Performance (19:45)
Friday 14th May 2027 – Performance (19:45)
Saturday 15th May 2027 - **Matinee Performance (14:30)/ Evening Performance (19:45)**

A Welcome from the Production Team

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for Next to Normal. Whether this is your first audition or your fiftieth, we want the process to be supportive, enjoyable and accessible. We welcome performers from all backgrounds and levels of experience and are excited to see what everyone brings to these incredible roles.

Next To Normal First Rehearsals:

Date	What	Who	Where
Sun 10/1/2027	SING – Just Another Day/Who's Crazy Character Work SING – I Am The One	ALL Diana/Dan/Gabe	AW Studio
Wed 13 th Jan	SING – Everything Else SING – Perfect for You	Natalie Natalie & Henry	AW Studio
Sun 17/1/2027	SING – Superboy SING – It's Gunna Be Good Set p.7-15 – Just Another Day	Diana, Gabe, Natalie Diana, Dan, Natalie, Gabe Diana, Dan, Natalie, Gabe	AW Studio
Wed 20/1/27	SING – I Miss The Mountains/ You Don't Know/ Didn't I See This Movie SING- I'm Alive & There's A World	Diana Gabe	AW Studio
Sunday 24/1/2027	Set p.16 – 21- Who's Crazy Set p.24-29 – Gunna Be Good Set I Miss The Mountains – p.25-26	All All Except Dr M Diana	BHT Theatre
Wed 27/1/2027	SING – He's Not Here SET – P.21-23 AND P.34	Dan Natalie & Henry	AW Studio BHT Theatre
Sun 31/1/2027	SET p.30-32- He's Not Here/ You Don't Know SET p.32-34 – I Am The One SET Superboy	Diana/Dan Diana, Dan, Natalie, Gabe Diana, Dan, Natalie. Gabe	BHT Theatre

Production Team:

Director: Sarah Chapman
Musical Director: Alex Wharram
Movement Director: Michael Flanagan
Assistant Director: Kaisey Elder
Stage Manager: Trudi De Lister
DSM: Jackie Templeton
Props Coordination: Alison Johnson

Audition Process:

Please ensure you complete an audition form which can be found [here](#). The audition form will also give you the ability to upload your self tape.

We are inviting people to submit a self tape for the first round of auditions. Backing tracks for the self tapes can be found [here](#) –self tape backing tracks link.

Please ensure your self tapes/audition forms are submitted by 22nd November

If however you wish to audition in person you will have an opportunity to do so on 25th November 2026. This will be at our MDs studio in Orpington.

If you wish to audition in person please confirm this on your audition form and you will be emailed with a slot. No weight will be given to if your audition is in person or via self tape in the first round.

We will then hold recalls in person on 13th December at the Bob Hope Theatre. You will be notified by 4th December at the latest if you have progressed to the recall round and if so what material to prep and the exact time you will be needed.

Recalls are not a reflection of talent, nor does being recalled guarantee casting. Recalls allow the panel to see performers work alongside other potential cast members and explore material in more detail before making final casting decisions.

Content Advisory

Next to Normal explores themes including mental illness, grief, loss, bereavement, psychiatric treatment and family trauma. We encourage anyone considering auditioning to familiarise themselves with the show's content and to contact the production team if they would like to discuss any concerns before auditioning.

FAQ

Auditions:

Who Can Audition?

Auditions are open to anyone aged 16 and over. Previous experience is not required and we warmly welcome performers who are new to the Bob Hope Theatre.

What do I need to do if I am going for Dan & Dr Madden or Gabe & Henry

If auditioning for both Dan and Dr Madden please prepare just Dan's audition.

If auditioning for both Henry and Gabe please submit 2 self tapes

I am new to the Bob Hope Theatre – does this mean I stand less chance of getting a lead part.

Not at all we do not care if this is your 1st show with the Bob Hope Theatre or if you are a long standing member. We simply want to cast the best people for the role.

What Size Cast Is It:

We are looking for a cast of 6 people.

What Accent Is Required In the Show:

Next To Normal is set in Pacific Northwest of the United States but accents only need to be subtle. American Standard accent is fine.

How do I Record a Self Tape

Don't worry if you've never recorded a self-tape before. We are looking for your performance, not professional video production!

Before You Start

Choose a quiet location where you won't be interrupted.

Wear something comfortable that you can move in. There is no need for costume or elaborate makeup.

Setting Up Your Camera

Record in landscape (horizontal) format if possible.

Use a phone, tablet, webcam or camera. Any device is fine as long as we can see and hear you clearly.

Position the camera at eye level and make sure your face and upper body are visible.

Keep the camera steady. If possible, use a tripod or prop your device against something secure.

Lighting

Stand facing a window or light source so your face is clearly visible.

Avoid standing with a bright window or light directly behind you.

Sound

Make sure we can hear you clearly.

Turn off TVs, radios, fans and other background noise where possible.

Sing at your normal performance volume rather than shouting.

Please use the backing tracks provided. These are the versions that the audition panel will be assessing against and have been selected to match the score used for the production.

Please play the backing track through a separate speaker or device where possible so that your voice can be clearly heard above the music.

Recording Your Performance

Start recording and wait a couple of seconds before beginning.

Introduce yourself by saying: "Hello, my name is [your name], and I will be auditioning for [name of character]."

Perform your audition piece.

Leave a couple of seconds at the end before stopping the recording.

Uploading

Watch your recording back before submitting. Ensure both the picture and sound are clear.

Before submitting, check that both the track and your singing can be heard clearly on the recording.

Upload the video using the link provided in the audition form.

Most Important!

Relax and have fun.

We are interested in your personality, character and performance.

A simple recording on a mobile phone is absolutely fine.

Please don't worry about making your self-tape perfect. We understand that many people are new to self-taping and will be assessing the performance rather than the technical quality of the video.

When Will Casting Be Announced?

We aim to contact all auditionees with the outcome within 7 days of the recall audition although this will often be sooner and we will keep you updated via email.

Diversity:

Can I Transpose The Music for the audition/ show

Unfortunately the rights does not allow us to transpose the music however if the key of the song is difficult for you to sing as it is written for a gender different to the gender assigned to you at birth then please speak to our MD Alex who would be happy to discuss this with you and provide help.

Can I audition for a role that does not align with my gender identity:

We are open to auditions for any role from anyone from any gender identity but all roles must be played as the gender it was written under the licensing agreement.

Are There Any Roles That Require A Particular Ethnicity:

All roles can be played by anyone from any ethnicity and we are not concerned with if Natalie/Dan/Diana/Gabe are the same ethnicity. We are keen for a diverse cast.

Finances

What is the financial commitment of being in Next To Normal.

Once cast you must have your membership fee of £10 and your show fee of £20

The show fee covers a variety of things that cost when putting on a show – from rehearsal hall hire, the cost of the band, costumes that you are provided with, insurance, props and much much more.

The show fee is payable upon casting however we are happy to take payments in instalments and ask that you speak to a board member about doing this. Please do not let the show fee put you off auditioning. If you genuinely are unable to afford it then please speak to a member of the committee.

Do I Need To Provide My Own Costumes

You will be expected to provide your own shoes, tights (if appropriate) and show underwear. The rest of the costumes we can work together on as much of the show is naturalistic so they may be some items already in your wardrobe.

Rehearsal

When & Where Are Rehearsals

Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Do the tight knit nature of the cast expect to be called to most rehearsals – especially if playing Diana. Dan, Gabe, Natalie.

We understand that not everyone can make all rehearsals however, if you have pre-existing commitments such as holidays, family events or unavoidable work commitments, please include these on your audition form.

Rehearsals will predominantly take place at Bob Hope Theatre and our MD's studio in Orpington.

I Am Already Committed To Another Show – Does This Matter?

Please make the audition panel aware of this on your form. If it is not possible to work around this then they will speak to you prior to auditions however we will try to be as flexible as possible.

If you audition for another show after being cast in Next To Normal then please let the production team know. We understand that people may want to do multiple shows however if Next to Normal is the earlier show we would ask that this takes priority.

Character Breakdown & Audition Requirements;

Please note that there is no dialogue audition – please therefore remember that acting through song is key.

Please note that all ages listed are playing ages rather than the ages of performers auditioning. We welcome auditions from adults of all ages who feel they can realistically portray the character.

Diana

Diana has been managing bipolar disorder with delusional episodes for sixteen years. She desperately wants to maintain the image of a perfect, stable family despite the heavy toll her medical treatments take on her emotional state. Feeling alienated by medication that numbs her feelings, she strives to find clarity of mind and authentic connection with her loved ones.

Gender: female

Age: 40 to 45

Vocal range top: F#5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Audition song-

I Miss the Mountains – all

You Don't Know (start – bar 25)

Backing Tracks and sheet music can be found here.

Dan

Dan is Diana's deeply devoted husband who has spent years trying to hold their family together. He often represses his own emotional pain and exhaustion, believing that maintaining a facade of stability and functional normalcy is the best way to support his wife. Beneath his steadfast optimism, Dan harbors a profound fear of facing life alone.

Gender: male

Age: 40 to 45

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: Ab2

Audition song-

I've Been – start to bar 33

He's Not Here – start to bar 18

Backing tracks and sheet music can be found here.

Natalie

Natalie is Dan and Diana's highly driven, anxious teenage daughter. She pours all her energy into her classical piano practice and schoolwork, hoping to secure a full scholarship to Yale as an escape from her chaotic home

life. Feeling invisible in her own household, she struggles with perfectionism and the heavy emotional weight of her family's dynamic.

Gender: female

Age: 16

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Audition song-

Everything Else- all

Backing tracks and sheet music can be found [here](#).

Gabe

Gabe is Dan and Diana's teenage son, characterized by his boundless energy and involvement in numerous extracurricular activities like jazz band and football. He maintains a powerful, persistent presence in the Goodman household, particularly commanding his mother's attention and affection. He is highly protective of his bond with Diana and often challenges Dan's approach to the family's struggles. He is a playful man and everything a mother could imagine.

Gender: male

Age: 18 to 21

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: B2

Audition song-

I'm Alive bar 88-end

There's A World- all

Backing tracks and sheet music can be found [here](#)

Henry

Henry is Natalie's laid-back classmate who has a deep appreciation for jazz and musical improvisation. Directly contrasting Natalie's high-strung perfectionism, he takes an easygoing approach to life and frequently uses recreational drugs. Despite his relaxed exterior, he proves to be surprisingly steadfast and genuinely committed to supporting Natalie through her personal challenges.

Gender: male

Age: 17

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: G#2

Audition song-

Hey 2- all (just Henry's parts)

Backing Tracks and sheet music can be found [here](#)

Dr Madden

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

Gender: male

Age: 30 to 55

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: A2

Audition song-

Make Up Your Mind – start – bar 34

Backing tracks and sheet music can be found here

If you have any questions about auditions, character suitability, rehearsal commitments or accessibility requirements, please contact Sarah Chapman at sarah_mcpartlan@hotmail.com.