

Robin Hood – Design a Dame Competition

Introduction

Aged 4 - 18? Got a brilliant idea for Nanny Molly Coddle's showstopping finale frock? You could design the biggest, flashiest costume in this year's panto, and the winning design will be professionally made and worn in *Robin Hood* this Christmas!

Pictured here is an example from our production of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, designed by last year's winner, Farzin Shahid.

What is a Dame?

The Dame is one of pantomime's most iconic characters. Traditionally played by a man in an exaggerated women's costume, she's bold, hilarious, warm-hearted, and full of mischief.

In Robin Hood, Nanny Molly Coddle is Maid Marian's nanny. She's hardworking, practical, and bursting with character, and she is never underdressed.

Your Design Brief

The big finale is the scene at the end of the show when each character takes a bow. This is the biggest flashiest costume of the show.

We're looking for designs that:

- Go big on colour, accessories and character – but make sure it could really be made and worn.
- Don't forget a wig, hat, or headpiece to complete the look.

How to Enter

You can use our printable template or create your own design from scratch.

Competition closes: 9am on Friday 7 August 2026

We'll contact the winner via email on w/c 17 August

Age Limit: Open to anyone aged 4 to 18

Submit your design by:

Email: competition@queens-theatre.co.uk (subject: Design a Dame Entry) or drop it off at Queen's Theatre Hornchurch Box Office.

Please write in the email, or on the back of your design, your child's name and age, parent/guardian name and contact (email and phone) details.



The Prize

- The winning design will be worn on stage this Christmas in Robin Hood.
- The winner will be invited to visit the theatre for a behind-the-scenes experience – this could include watching the costume being made or attending a fitting.
- 4 tickets to press night. A special panto goodie bag filled with treats.