

Akina Edmonds is a powerful, authentic, ever-curious actress and singer hailing all the way from beautiful New Zealand. Edmonds has been gracing theatre stages for 16 years and more recently, screen and streaming as well.

In the same year of graduating with a BPA via Music Theatre, she auditioned and was cast for her first professional show which would land her in Australia. This first opportunity would lead her to be cast in major musicals, such as *Hamilton*, *The Lion King*, *Hairspray*, *Avenue Q*, *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* and many more. With all of these shows, she has had the privilege to perform on international stages and arenas in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Philippines, and Abu Dhabi to name a few.

Whilst in 8 show weeks, Akina has found the time to seize the opportunity to appear in a Budget Direct commercial directed by Daniel Kleinman; Australia's beloved soap, *Home and Away* and the Logie Award-winning streaming series, *The Newsreader*, second season.

Akina had the exciting honour of being able to perform with Aloe Blacc at the Invictus Games held in Sydney, Australia. She had the unique opportunity to perform as part of the quarantine entertainment for the athletes competing in the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. Some press highlights include dream features in Vogue Australia and Billboard Philippines when she was styled like her idol and inspiration, Whitney Houston.

Akina most recently finished a four year run as "Angelica Schuyler" internationally with *Hamilton*. For the future, she is always looking for new ways to hone her craft, always eager to tell stories of heart, integrity and grit