

BBC NORMAN BEATON FELLOWSHIP 2018 SUPPLEMENTARY BRIEFING FOR ACTORS

WELCOME TO THE BBC NORMAN BEATON FELLOWSHIP (NBF) 2018 !

The BBC Norman Beaton Fellowship is an initiative to draw new actors into Radio Drama.

Theatres around the United Kingdom have been invited to join us again in the search for new talent in this, the Fellowship's sixteenth year.

- Each theatre will shortlist actors for a first round Audition Workshop.
- The next stage is a Semi-final in London on **20th February 2018**, and then a Final on **19th - 20th March 2018** –also in London.
- From this, at least two actors will be awarded a five-month binding contract with the BBC Radio Drama Company (RDC) based in London, starting on **21st July 2018**.

WHAT IS THE RADIO DRAMA COMPANY (RDC)?

The celebrated RDC has been at the heart of BBC radio drama projects for over 70 years – and has featured in thousands of productions, many of them landmark projects such as *The Lord of The Rings*, *The Mahabharata*, *The History of Titus Groan*, James Joyce's *Ulysses*, the Prix Italia winning dramatization of *1984*, *Home Front*, *The Archers* and in summer 2017 a new five-hour dramatization of *Midnight's Children*. RDC actors work across other areas of Radio production – they played a major part in R4's ground-breaking *The History of the World in 100 Objects*. RDC actors are contracted on a full-time basis for a fixed term, to play as cast in roles for BBC Radio drama projects, readings, news and magazine-style programmes. For more information please see www.bbc.co.uk/soundstart.

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE FOR THE AUDITION?

- Theatres should provide you with a copy of the BBC's notes on how to prepare for your audition.
- Please prepare two contrasting monologues lasting no more than three minutes in total. You don't need to memorise your pieces, but you should have worked at them sufficiently to know the texts well and be able to anticipate every word. Try to find something that suits your natural voice, and only offer accents if you are

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totally confident with them. We prefer you not to perform material you've written yourself, and you should avoid using song or poetry.

- We may take your photograph on arrival (just for identification).
 - There will be an introduction to Radio Drama
 - There might be some group work to begin the workshop.
 - Then the judges will ask you to present your prepared monologues.
 - You will also be given a short piece of sight-reading
 - This completes the audition.
 - Your audition may be recorded.
- **Listen to the plays on BBC Radio 4 and Radio 3.** This will give you a glimpse of the range of voices currently used by Radio Drama. You can also listen online at www.bbc.co.uk/drama/radio

ENTRY TO THE EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE

DOES THE BBC PAY TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR ATTENDING THE WORKSHOP?

There are no expenses provided by the BBC for travel or meals at this stage of the event.

But applicants invited to the Semi-finals or Finals stage will be reimbursed reasonable expenses as advised at the time.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

1. You must be eligible to work in the UK. Applicants will be asked to provide information on their recent professional acting work.
2. Anyone who has graduated from a full-time course run by an accredited drama college **cannot** apply for the NBF. The list of accredited colleges is below. Radio Drama already runs a scheme in partnership with the Drama Schools (listed below) called the BBC Carleton Hobbs Bursary Award – aimed at students graduating from accredited Drama colleges.
3. If you have acted for Radio Drama before, you are still eligible.

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4. If you have auditioned for NBF in a previous year, you are still eligible. But former BBC NBF winners are **not** permitted to re-apply.
5. You must be at least 18 years old on 21st July 2018 to enter. There is no upper age limit

IN REGISTERING TO TAKE PART, YOU MUST SIGN THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE BBC NBF 2018'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ACCREDITED COLLEGES

If you are currently studying or have graduated from a **one or three year** fulltime acting course **accredited with the Drama UK or Conservatoires UK** at one of the listed schools you are **not** eligible. However if you have only done a short term course or masterclass at one of the schools below, or attended a school that is not on this list you are eligible.

ALRA	LIPA
Arts Educational London Schools	Manchester School of Theatre
Birmingham School of Acting	Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts
Bristol Old Vic Theatre School	Oxford School of Drama
Royal Central School of Speech and Drama	Queen Margaret University College
Drama Centre London	Rose Bruford College
Drama Studio London	Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA)
East 15 Acting School	Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Guildford School of Acting (GSA)	Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art
Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts	<i>(before it merged with Central School of Speech and Drama in 2006)</i>
LAMDA	

www.bbc.co.uk/soundstart

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