

Stratford East Young Company

This year Stratford East are creating a new Young Company. This Company will be made up of 12 young people aged 18-25. The company will be audition led and will perform in their own production on Stratford East's stage as part of our Spring season.

The Company will be led by Toby Clarke, an experienced Olivier Award-nominated director.

The Company will meet weekly on Wednesdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm in Stratford East's Hedley rehearsal room.

Young Company members are expected to attend for all three terms.

There will be an annual fee of £170 split into three termly payments but full and part bursaries are available. Places in the Company will only be confirmed once payment has been made.

How to Apply

In order to gain a place in the company you must take the following steps.

1) Check the dates, including the audition dates for the Young Company rehearsals carefully. As part of the application process we will ask you to tell us of any pre-existing commitments that clash with weekly sessions and extra rehearsals. You will be expected to attend all other rehearsals/ sessions.

As a key member of the Young Company it's crucial that you are able to commit to attending regularly and those who miss more than 3 unauthorised sessions will jeopardize their place.

2) Complete the application form in this link - <https://forms.gle/kXUHzVew3ZTJqrdq7>
In addition, you will need to send in a 2-minute filmed monologue via WeTransfer to the get involved email - getinvolved@stratfordeast.com The monologue needs to be a modern published text and not something you have written yourself. Please ensure your monologue is clearly labelled with your full name and the name of the piece and the writer. At the end of your monologue we'd love to find out a little bit more about you so please include a short filmed section telling us about you and your interests.

The closing date for applications is Tuesday 29 September @ Midday

You can film your monologue on your phone as we are not expecting professional-standard filming. However, it's important we can see and hear you, so make sure you are filming with a plain background in a well-lit area, you should film in landscape not portrait mode. For best results put your phone or tablet on a surface rather than holding it and make sure your camera lens is clean and free of fingerprints. Try to avoid capturing external noise by shutting any windows or doors when filming your monologue.

If you need support with filming or sending in your monologue please do get in touch via the get involved email or call us on 07895 194 403

We will not be able to process your application until we have your monologue.

3) You will be informed no later than Thursday 8 October 2020 if you have been chosen to attend an audition. This will take place on the evening of Wednesday 14 October at Theatre

Royal Stratford East. The audition panel will include Toby Clarke and Adrian Gardner. At the audition you will take part in group and duologue work. There will be two timeslots for the workshop auditions 18:00 to 19:30 or 20:00 to 21:30. You will be given your one of those timeslots for your audition.

4) You will be informed no later than 15 October if you have been successful. We will be taking on 12 Young Company members. Each Company member will be sent a link to payment or a link to the bursary application form to fill out. Confirmation of your place will only take place once payment has been made.

Before you apply for the Young Company please take the time to read the following COVID practicalities.

COVID Practicalities

Below is an outline of the COVID practicalities we are putting in place for the Young Company

Cleaning & ventilation of the rehearsal room

Stratford East are conducting enhanced cleaning services including thorough cleaning of the room and toilets in between all sessions. We will also be keeping window's open to allow for maximum ventilation and ensuring there are longer gaps between sessions to allow for maximum ventilation.

Bubbles

The Young Company will be in a 'bubble'. They will use a specific entrance and exit and the Young Company Director and Learning and Participation Coordinator will be the only adults in their bubble. They will not mix with other members of staff or participants from other youth theatre groups. This is to minimise risk and to ensure we are able to meet the expectations of the Test and Trace service.

Meeting Point

Young people will need to congregate outside the theatre no more than 10 minutes before the session. Each Young Company member's temperature will be taken and recorded, and their name ticked off on a register. If they have a temperature, they will not be able to come into the session. If they do not have a temperature they will be escorted by L&P up to the rehearsal room through the external door and staircase. Participants who are running late are asked to call/text the L&P phone.

Arrival

On the first day the group will be given a named bag that contains a named water bottle and a named face shield. The bags will be placed on a chair that also has their name on it. These bags will be stored by Stratford East between each session.

When entering the room, the group must first wash their hands and place their coats and bag in the designated area. You are free to wear the face shield if you choose to.

Layout of the room

The room will be marked out into appropriately distanced squares. These squares will be used for working in during the session. However, during the session, you will be asked to move around the room outside of your square but will be asked to kept at a distance of 1

meter minimum for all exercises. The Young Company Director will guide you through this process and Learning and Participation Co-ordinator will support this process. The Young Company Director will design exercises to allow for social distancing - touching and close contact work will not be allowed. We're confident we can design sessions that people will enjoy whilst ensuring they are safe.

Ventilation

The windows and door will be kept open throughout the session in order to ensure the room is adequately ventilated.

Toilet

Young Company must always wash their hands for at least 20 seconds after using the toilet and use the hand sanitizer when re-entering the rehearsal room.

End of session

At the end of the session the Company must wipe down their water bottle and face shield (if used) with sanitizing wipes, which Theatre Royal Stratford East will provide and place back in their named bag. They will be escorted out of the room and outside the theatre.

Feeling Unwell

If a Young Company member or member of staff is feeling unwell, they must not come to the session. They must inform the L&P Co-ordinator that they are unwell. If the young person or member of staff has suspected COVID-19 they must self-isolate and arrange to have a COVID-19 test. They can do this via the NHS website or by contacting NHS 119.

If the Young Company member or staff member tests negative, they can return to the weekly sessions. If they test negative but still feel unwell, they should not return to the weekly sessions until they are fully recovered.

If they test positive the NHS Test and Trace service will contact all members of the Young Company as well as the members of staff who run the sessions. The Test and Trace service will advise the next course of action, which may be that the whole group have to self-isolate.

As part of the Test and Trace service, Theatre Royal Stratford East will keep records of all attendees to sessions and contact details of parents and carers. Should a positive case be identified TRSE will release those contact details to the NHS so they be contacted by the Test and Trace service.

Moving to digital sessions

If the whole group are asked to self-isolate then the weekly Youth Theatre session will move to a digital output for the isolation period. Current guidelines state that anyone asked to self-isolate must do so for 10 days.

We will also move to digital sessions should there be a Local or National lockdown and we will follow government advice throughout.

In order for this possible blended learning approach to work, all Young Company members must have access to a screen; laptop, tablet or smartphone and WiFi. If this is an issue, please speak to a member of the L&P team.

Dates for the Young Company

Audition

September 29 APPLICATION PROCESS CLOSES AT MIDDAY

Oct 8 INVITATION SENT OUT FOR AUDITIONS

Oct 14 AUDITIONS AT STRATFORD EAST THEATRE

TIME SLOT ONE 6:00pm to 7:30pm

TIME SLOT TWO 8:00pm to 9:30pm

Term One

Nov 4

Nov 11

Nov 18

Nov 25

Dec 2

Dec 9

Dec 16

Dec 23 NO SESSION

Dec 30 NO SESSION

Jan 6 NO SESSION

Term Two

Jan 13

Jan 20

Jan 27

Feb 3

Feb 10

Feb 15 NO SESSION

Feb 24

March 3

March 10

March 17

MARCH 20 – FULL DAY SAT REHEARSAL

March 24

March 27 – FULL DAY SAT REHEARSAL

March 31

April 6 – FULL DAY REHEARSAL

April 7 – FULL DAY REHEARSAL

April 8 – FULL DAY REHEARSAL (possible eve tech?)

April 9 – TECH AND DRESS and 1st Performance

April 10 – performance 2 and 3rd

Term Three

April 28

May 5

May 12

May 19

May 26 NO SESSION

June 2

June 9

June 16



June 23

June 30

July 7

July 14

JULY 17 – FULL SATURDAY REHEARSAL

July 21 – AND FINAL SHARING