SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES WITH YORK THEATRE ROYAL

Find out more
YORKTHEATREROYAL.CO.UK
CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

York Theatre Royal’s mission is to inspire and cultivate the potential of our community through the arts.

Partnerships are at the core of our work with schools, believing sustained engagement leads to deeper and more personalised learning. As a producing theatre we are able to access the skills and expertise of professionals and apply that to our work with our schools.

We believe in learning through experiencing and doing; taking children on an imaginative journey, where they have to think and act from different points of view. The core of our work is through story and narrative, exploring through active approaches how drama and theatre can stimulate a child’s imagination and creativity.

This brochure outlines the various options for schools to engage with us, ranging from year-long to one-off workshops. Our long-term partnership scheme runs throughout the academic year and we recruit schools in February for the following year.

Our Associate Schools programme, run in partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company is a two-year project. It is a national project that involves transforming the experiences in the teaching and learning of Shakespeare, working towards a festival in the Main House in the Spring.

Playhouse is our new writing project for primary schools, where we support teachers as directors with new plays written specifically for KS2 children. We offer a number of one-off workshops throughout the year, some supporting Arts Award and others providing drama-led workshops and opportunities to engage in our work as a producing theatre.

If you’d like further information about any of our offers, or would like to book a workshop, please contact Julian Ollive on julian.ollive@yorktheatreroyal.co.uk or phone 01904 715467.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Julian Ollive
Education Associate
LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP
Our long-term partnership scheme offers year-long engagement with the theatre - every child in the school gets a unique experience that has a deep impact on their learning.
We offer projects around: the live experience, skills and experience of theatre making, and drama sessions that focus on story and narrative to enrich and enliven the curriculum.
We look to recruit schools onto our partnership in early Spring.

Partnership offer includes:
• Projects with us for each class - half day for nursery and KS1, full day for KS2
• £1 off all show tickets
• Regular liaison with theatre staff and access to lessons plans and resources
• Backstage tours of the theatre
• Invites to events and press nights
• One teachers INSET
• Pupil Ambassadors scheme where students can review shows
• Place for a group to perform a new play in our Playhouse festival

Cost
£1,350 single | £2,100 double | £2,950 triple

ASSOCIATE SCHOOLS PROGRAMME
The Associate Schools Programme partners regional theatres with local schools, with the aim of creating a significant change in the way that young people experience, engage with, and take ownership of the work of Shakespeare. Our Lead Associate School is Fulford School.

York Theatre Royal and the Royal Shakespeare Company have partnered together to offer teachers in-depth training in active rehearsal-based approaches to Shakespeare, which are transferred to children who learn in an active way - through doing and performing.
The programme represents the RSC’s Stand up for Shakespeare manifesto in action, with its call for children and young people to:
• Do Shakespeare on your feet
• See it live
• Start it earlier

We are in year two of our programme, working towards a festival in Spring 2020 short scenes from The Taming of the Shrew.

PLAYHOUSE
Playhouse is a national collaboration between Theatre Royal Plymouth, Theatre Iolo, Birmingham Rep, Bristol Old Vic and York Theatre Royal. The five theatres work together to commission professional playwrights each year to write short plays, specifically for large casts of young people aged 8 to 11 years. Previous writers include Julia Donaldson, Mike Kenny, David Wood and Philip Ridley.
Each theatre works with schools to support the development of the teacher as a director. The project is launched with representatives from all schools coming together for a two-day retreat with the writers. Following the retreat, the teachers return to school to rehearse the play with professional development opportunities throughout with the final class performance taking place in our Studio Theatre in July.

Cost £400 for one group’s participation

To register your interest or for more information on any of our partnerships, please call 01904 715467 or email julian.ollive@yorktheatreroyal.co.uk
ONE-OFF WORKSHOPS

The central focus of our workshops is story and narrative; how a story or production is made and told, is as important as what it is about. We aim to develop the child’s critical and creative abilities as well as stimulate an interest and understanding of how drama and theatre can enhance and challenge their learning.

All the following workshops are available throughout the year, either in school or at the theatre.

Do your Arts Award Discover in a day at York Theatre Royal

This year we are offering an exciting new opportunity to come and do your Arts Award Discover at York Theatre Royal!

You will participate in two different theatre workshops, interview an actor or member of the creative team behind a current York Theatre Royal production and leave with a record in your arts log.

Cost £250

Kick Off Arts Award Explore at York Theatre Royal

We are offering Arts Award centres the chance to complete two out of their four sections for Explore in an intensive arts-filled day. Students will learn about York Theatre Royal and the people who work there as well as new theatre skills.

During the day you will participate in two theatre skills workshops, go on a theatre tour where you will meet some of our staff and have the chance to hear about the work they do and ask questions. You will leave with a record in your arts log filled with resources reflecting your day (plans, pictures, quizzes and VCs) which will complete sections A and B of your Arts Award Explore.

Cost £250

All KS1 workshops half-day at £175 | All KS2 workshops full day at £250

Sessions are for a maximum of 30 students. Please contact us to discuss any access requirements (due to the age of the building not all spaces are accessible).

Travel costs incur for schools outside York.

BOOK YOUR WORKSHOP

01904 715467
julian.ollive@yorktheatreroyal.co.uk
STORY AND NARRATIVE

KEY STAGE 1 WORKSHOPS

HOW TO MAKE UP AND TELL STORIES
Open improvisation games and exercises will be used to build up a theatrical language, learning how to use our bodies to create object and place.

Using props and puppetry, participants will be encouraged to develop a story, building upon one another’s ideas and suggestions.

TRADITIONAL TALES
Explore traditional tales such as *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Jack and the Beanstalk*, looking at the characters, problems and dilemmas they face in a fun, practical way.

PAGE TO STAGE
Taking a well-known book we bring stories to life through practical approaches and exploration.

Exploring the story through the eyes of the characters, themes and ideas are explored, with participants engaging directly with their own lives, making imaginative responses to the narrative.

“Resources were readily shared so children could learn from them and do follow up work. The Ghost stories produced from one project were very positive and the teachers felt the writing from this work was the best yet.”

St.Olave’s School

KEY STAGE 2 WORKSHOPS

STORYTELLING AND STORY WRITING
Ghost Stories – *The Grey Lady*
Working from a stimulus of a character that might ‘haunt’ the theatre, this workshop will help develop the group’s own ghost stories, which will be performed at the end of the day.

SHAKESPEARE
This workshop aims to give participants a strong grasp of any Shakespearan text and its characters, through active, on your feet approaches.

“You had all the children in the palm of your hand. No-one has ever sold Shakespeare to me quite as convincingly.”

Ingleton Middle School

PLAYWRITING
An introduction to the basic components of a play including; plot, characters, setting and dialogue. The group will develop their story, write it, then perform it at the end of the day.
**USING THE THEATRE**

**KEY STAGE 1 WORKSHOPS**

**SHADOW PUPPETRY**
An introduction to light, shadow, colour, lenses, types of stage lighting, moods and atmosphere... explored through puppet theatre.

“Engaging and motivating workshops that formed an integral part of the learning for the children.”

St George’s RC Primary School

**SENSE AND MATERIALS**
Discover what types of materials and why they are used for different purposes in our building. This leads into a practical workshop where the students will be led to understand their bodies as materials and how our bodies are affected by different types of materials.

**LIGHT, SHADOW AND DESIGN**
This workshop looks at both the technical aspects of lighting a stage and set design.
An introduction to light, shadow, colour, lenses, types of stage lighting and creating moods / atmosphere.
A simple story is broken down into its various locations and ideas are discussed as to how these might represent on stage. The group then design and construct their own model box and designs.

**KEY STAGE 2 WORKSHOPS**

**PERFORMANCE SKILLS IN A DAY**
Choosing from a number of performance skills this workshop will provide a strong skills set for participants and a holistic sense of what skills a performer needs. Different sessions during the day could include:
- Acting
- Voice
- Movement
- Directing

**PLAY IN A DAY**
This popular workshop brings your class together to learn choral and ensemble skills, developing their ability to work as a team.
Using an adapted script, the group will work on an adapted script, which will be rehearsed during the day and performed to the rest of the school at the end.
WHAT IS THEATRE?
This workshop explores the historical background of theatre; how it evolved and the reasons why it developed as an art form. Leading on to what makes theatre unique, the artistic elements it uses and why people come.
Explore how stories are told and used in the theatre - how movement, spoken word, puppetry etc, are used to understand the different ways stories are told.

THEATRE DAYS
Based on a current production, this full day workshop will give an overall insight into how the production was made, linking into the themes of the production, exploring the ideas inherent in the play.
Includes tickets for the afternoon performance.
*Only available on selected and suitable shows

THEATRE DAY
MARKETING AND REVIEWING
This workshop focuses on marketing a production; what marketing means, different forms of communication and the process of how to market a show.
We will also look at reviews; what information they contain and how they are structured, ending with each participant writing their own review!
Day will include coming to see a production.

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ANY AGE WORKSHOPS

THEATRE TOURS
Our tours highlight the history of the theatre from Roman to modern day, and introduces the different roles of our staff and practicalities of how a theatre works.
Cost £2 per child

“Pre and post production workshops and theatre visits has helped the children to develop their performance skills and critical appraisal abilities.”
Knavesmire Primary School
HISTORY

KEY STAGE 2 WORKSHOPS

HISTORY OF THEATRE
This engaging workshop will explore how theatre has changed from Greek times to modern realism, covering four periods of history. Includes a backstage tour.

WORLD WAR TWO
Evacuees
Using a variety of drama approaches, participants will learn why Britain went to war and imagine what it would have been like as a child in the Blitz.
Creating a short drama based around a given narrative, on what life would have been like.

VIKINGS
A fun workshop looking at what life would have been like as a Viking.
Exploring Viking myths, learning about life in a Viking village and ending with an in-role debate.

GEORGE HUDSON – HERO OR VILLAIN?
What makes a hero? Do you need to have performed a heroic act to be a hero? This workshop explores what it means to be a hero and what qualities might be needed, through a local story of a lesser known historical York figure, George Hudson.

GREEK THEATRE
Participants will learn about how Grecian theatre developed from religious celebrations and develop skills through mask, text and choral work.
The group will work towards performing the story of Pandora’s Box building on skills learnt throughout the day.

“Thanks for a really wonderful day. The children couldn’t stop talking about it on the coach and at school over the next few days.”
Hempland Primary School

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