

Seeking young people aged 14-19 for northern youth theatre tour in 2019



Mortal Fools and Tyne Valley Youth Theatre (TVYT) are casting 10-12 young people aged 14-19 (school years 10+) to be part of a northern youth theatre tour in 2019. Participants will have the chance to work with a professional director and production team to create and perform a full-scale theatre production which will tour to up to 8 different venues across the North of England.

Mortal Fools (TVYT's parent company) are using this project to develop a new Young People's Theatre Exchange in the North, giving opportunities for young people to develop new skills, see more plays by other young companies and professional companies, and share their plays with new audiences. We pioneered this programme in 2018 and took our youth theatre on tour for the first time – it was a huge success, and this time we are connecting with more new tour venues than ever.

Who we're looking for:

We are looking for young people that are open to trying new things and new ways of working. The most important attributes in this process are hard work, creativity, team work, enthusiasm and commitment – these things are more important than what previous experience or skills you might have in performance. There are 8-10 places for performers and 1-2 places for young people interested in technical theatre, stage management and design.

The Play

We haven't chosen a play yet, but the theatre we produce is rooted in themes that are relevant to young people today. The play will be a contemporary script that will offer flexible casting, directed by Helen Ferguson. Rehearsals will involve devising content around the scripted material and finding innovative ways of staging the play and bringing it to life.

Rehearsals and Performances:

Rehearsals will take place in Prudhoe on Sundays (full days) and Thursdays (evening). There will also be intensive rehearsals during February half-term in Riding Mill. Performances are in March and April (including the Easter Holidays). Please see overleaf for a detailed schedule.

Getting Involved and Fees:

To get involved, please submit an expression of interest online and let us know why you would like to be involved: tyvt.org.uk/ensemble-booking-form no later than **5pm Friday 11th January 2019**. Places will be offered on a first-come-first serve basis! **Please note, rehearsals are due to start in January, so booking ASAP is advisable.**

There will be an information session on Thursday 17th January 18:00 – 19:30, for parents and participants to discuss any concerns they might have with the project practitioners. Some things we will cover include how the tour will work including pastoral care and information the partners we are visiting, how we manage other commitments e.g. school work and ensuring the group are supported throughout, but please let us know if there are any other key topics you'd like us to address.

The participation fee for this project is £150 per person. We have funding in place to offer a limited number of reduced cost or free places to families for whom finance would be a barrier to participation. Similarly, if travelling to Prudhoe or Riding Mill is an issue, we can offer financial support with transport.

If you have any questions about the project, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing info@tyvt.org.uk or calling us on 0191 5801251.

Best Wishes,

Helen Ferguson (TVYT Ensemble Director) and the TVYT team

| Full Cast Rehearsals and Performance Schedule* | | |
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| Date: | Time: | Notes: |
| Sunday 20th January | 10:00 – 17:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Thursday 24th January | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Sunday 27th January | 10:00 – 17:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Thursday 31st January | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Thursday 7th February | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Sunday 10th February | 10:00 – 17:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Thursday 14th February | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February | 10:00 – 17:00 every day | Full cast rehearsal – Feb Half Term Riding Mill Millennium Hall |
| Thursday 28th February | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Performances and Technical / Dress Rehearsals begin | | |
| Sunday 3rd March | 10:00 – 17:00 | Full cast rehearsal with set and tech: Riding Mill Parish Hall |
| Thursday 7th March | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Friday 8th March | 17:00 – 20:00 | Tech and Dress Rehearsal: Riding Mill Parish Hall |
| Saturday 9th March | 10:00 – late | 1st performance – Riding Mill Parish Hall |
| Thursday 14th March | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Sunday 17th March | 10:00 – 17:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Thursday 21st March | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Sunday 24th March | 10:00 – 17:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Thursday 28th March | 18:00 - 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Saturday 30th March | 11:00 – late | 2nd Performance – Arts Centre Washington |
| Thursday 4th April | 18:00 – 20:00 | Full cast rehearsal: Fuse Media Centre |
| Monday 8th April | 11:00 – late | 3rd Performance – Gosforth Civic Theatre |
| Tuesday 9th April | 11:00 – late | 4th Performance – Caedmon Hall, Gateshead |
| Thursday 11th April | To be confirmed | 5th Performance – The The Ashton Group’s Theatre Factory, Barrow-in-Furness** |
| Friday 12th April | To be confirmed | 6th Performance – Burnley Youth Theatre** |
| Saturday 13th April | To be confirmed | 7th Performance – Action Transport, Ellesmere Port** |
| Saturday 27th April | To be confirmed | 8th Performance - The Witham, Barnard Castle |
| Sunday 5th May | 10:00 – 14:00 | Full cast evaluation day: Fuse Media Centre |

Wednesday evenings 18:00-20:00 will be reserved for extra rehearsals to work on detailed sections with chosen cast members. Please be aware that you may be needed for some, but not all of these rehearsals:

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| Wednesday 23rd & 30th January | 18:00 – 20:00 | Fuse Media Centre |
| Wednesday 6th, 13th, & 27th February | 18:00 – 20:00 | venue to be confirmed |
| Wednesday 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th March | 18:00 – 20:00 | venue to be confirmed |

* There will be a trip to watch a professional theatre show in February (date & time to be confirmed).

** The visit to The Ashton Group, Burnley Youth Theatre and Action Transport will involve travelling to Barrow-in-Furness first thing on the morning of Thursday 11th April, staying overnight for 3 nights in a Premier Inn or similar, and returning on Sunday 14th April.