

ANNUAL REVIEW 2018/19



LEWISHAM YOUTH THEATRE

Empowering Young Voices Since 1987

MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

This year, we've invested more than ever before in young people guiding our programme and helping to create the work we produce.

Since 1987, LYT has worked to empower Lewisham young people and build their ambition. We ensure our members have a voice in the work we create and how it's developed.

Feeding off ideas developed by our Members' Committee in June 2018, we met with our different groups, we played and we gathered ideas that gave structure to our 2019 programme. Our theme for the year became about **the stories we tell and how we tell them.**

Inspired by J.B. Priestley, the Senior Youth Theatre created their plays about secrets, lies and their twisted consequences. The Junior 12-14s focused on how body language impacts the stories told. The 8-11s groups drew inspiration from the Horniman Museum's World Gallery to perform new adaptations of stories from around the world. The Juniors gave their ideas and experiences to help the Young Touring Company create *Stacked* about how reputation affects young teenagers. When the consultation group heard the fictional storyline taken from their own ideas, they said, "I think I know that guy!"

A really important part of LYT's offer is our ability to support young people to find new pathways to success. That's why we've focused on progression routes between projects, allowing members to move on to volunteering and

training, and ultimately towards opportunities outside LYT. This year, we've made the most of the world class organisations and facilities that London offers to expand our members' horizons. Our members have taken up diverse and exciting offers in all areas of cultural and business life – from the National Theatre and the BBC to the Financial Reporting Council.

Engaging members in our programmes' research & development was such a success this year. We will continue to use this model in the coming years so members can take the lead in what they create and perform. And we'll be on the lookout for new opportunities for members to engage with and learn about routes into the creative industries across London.



Helen Stanley
Artistic Director



"The Directors think about your ideas, listen to your ideas and if they didn't fit in, they changed the script to put your ideas in."

Participant, aged 10

"I can finally say to myself: 'You're not a quitter, you can handle it. And you can really push yourself in the future.'"

Arts Award participant



YEAR IN NUMBERS

- **330** Participants aged 3-24
- **458** in interactive outreach sessions
- **196** went on **14** theatre trips
- **184** hours of one to one support for **84** young people
- **66** youth volunteers
- **2** productions toured outside Lewisham

"The commitment of the LYT staff in the young people's lives is huge. My son has had so many opportunities to follow his dream of working in theatre."

Parent

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- **Aoife** studying Theatre Production at Guildford School of Acting
- **Chiamaka** studying Law at Cambridge
- **Dean** studying Acting at Mountview Drama School
- **Nicole** studying Criminology at University of Kent
- **Rav** accepted onto the National Youth Theatre's *Playing Up* course

A full list of opportunities accessed by our members can be found in our Annual Accounts.

LYT PLAYS



NEW PROJECT IN 2018-19

LYT Plays was a pilot project that encouraged storytelling and play with 87 reception children and their families in Prendergast Ladywell and Launcelot primary schools.

"Great modelling of storytelling. All children and adults were fully engaged. The teachers were able to learn new ways of creating a better atmosphere whilst story telling."

School Partner

THE STORIES WE TELL AND HOW WE TELL THEM

This year we were able to offer a clear progression across projects for all age groups, so young people were able to learn, practice and develop.

WORKSHOP PROJECTS

189 young people aged 8-24

Short taster projects in both Drama & Technical Theatre. A low pressure way to develop creative skills & build team work, cooperation and self-confidence.

"This has been an eye-opening experience. It has helped me in many ways get adjusted to the working life and work life balance. So it's really prepared me for my future."

Life Skills Participant

"My confidence has upgraded. Before, I was bullied. I lost my confidence. [LYT] will help me to be myself. Not to go with other people's opinions because if you live by what other people are saying you're not really living life."

Participant, age 15

STEP UP LIFE SKILLS uses drama to develop life and employability skills with 16-24s.

35% PARTICIPANTS PROGRESS TO NEXT STEP PROJECTS.



WORKSHOP COMPANIES

62 young people aged 12 to 18

Focusing on building creative skills, these projects lead to short performances for family and friends.

SECRETS created by Seniors 14-17s

Interweaving stories, each with a secret that has to be revealed.

JUNIORS' SHOWCASE performed by 12-14s

Showcase of scenes from scripted plays.

TECHNICAL PRODUCTION for ages 12-16

In-depth technical theatre workshops linked to LYT's productions.

"It gives every child the chance to perform; be cooperative; be supportive and increase confidence in the wider world."

Parent



ACTING COMPANIES

104 young people aged 8-24

Demanding projects that lead to intensive rehearsals during the school holidays, and a full production in the Broadway studio.

OFF THE MAP

Junior Youth Theatre, 12-14s

Using a mixture of existing text and devised movement sequences to tell the story of a school day.



A WORLD OF STORIES

Adapted by Helen Stanley

2 groups of Junior Youth Theatre, 8-11s

Inspired by the Horniman Museum's World Gallery and written with the young people involved.



STORY OF MY LIFE

Created by Seniors, 16-21s

with Playwright Dani Moseley

About a young woman's disappearance and the secrets that led to it.

"When first I joined LYT I didn't like theatre. The more I came to the rehearsals my opinions have changed and when I received a huge ovation for my performance I felt liberated and that I finally belong."

Participant, age 20



STACKED

Created by Young Company, 16-24s

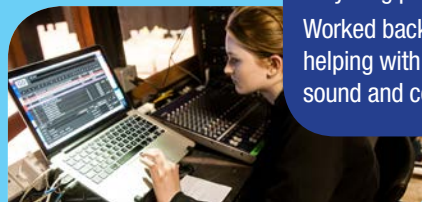
About reputation, expectations and the choices we have to live down.

Toured to Lewisham schools and the International Youth Arts Festival

TECHNICAL CREW

17 young people aged 14 to 17

Worked backstage on all productions, helping with stage management, lights, sound and costumes.



QUALIFICATIONS

16 young people aged 12-17 received Bronze Arts Awards

15 young people aged 16-24 received AQA Unit Awards

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Members' Committee 45 young people took part in our youth leadership board, consulting on our projects, helping to plan events and representing LYT to the wider community.

Christmas Event – A comedy workshop and Christmas celebration

City Hall Event – Members represented LYT at a special event at London's City Hall, thanks to Lewisham's Assembly Member Len Duval

Opening Doors – Members planned and moderated this panel discussion with professionals from across the creative industries, both onstage and behind the scenes. You can listen to their inspirational advice on our website: www.lewishamyouththeatre.com/opening-doors-2019/

Peer Mentors 14 young people volunteered to support their peers, assisting on projects and acting as understudies in performances.

Work Experience 3 members undertook their Year 10 work experience with LYT; 4 members aged 18+ who had previously volunteered as Workshop Assistants took on paid Work Experience roles on LYT projects.



Speaking at City Hall



Moderating Opening Doors industry panel

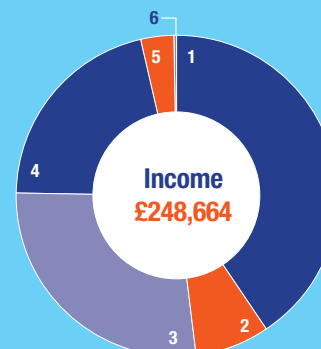
"It inspired me to commit more time to creative arts. To seek out new opportunities."

Opening Doors Audience

"I like helping to shape the future of LYT by sharing my ideas to help improve and celebrate LYT."

Committee Member

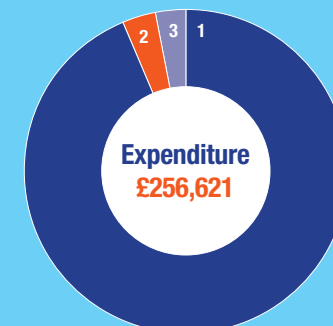
HOW WE MAKE THE WORK HAPPEN



1 Trusts & Foundations	£101,015
2 Corporate Donations	£18,718
3 Statutory Funding	£68,116
4 Lottery Funding	£52,005
5 Individual & Box Office Donations	£8,150
6 Other	£660
Total	£248,664

Our work this year was made possible by grants and donations from: BBC Children in Need, Co-op Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, Henry Smith Charity, Hillcote Trust, Lewisham Borough Council, Mayor of London's Young Londoners' Fund, Mercers' Company Charity, National Lottery Community Fund, St. James's Place Foundation, Sir William Boreman's Foundation, SLAM Smile Together and the William Wates Memorial Trust.

We would also like to thank our individual donors for investing in the wellbeing of Lewisham young people: Ian Jamieson, Nick Heard, Nitya Bolam and Tom Toomse-Smith; Ed King for running the



1 Direct Charitable Activities	£240,595
2 Support Costs	£8,701
3 Governance Costs	£7,325
Total	£256,621

Balance of Funds at 31 Aug 2019

Restricted Funds	—
Unrestricted (Designated to Projects)	£21,799
Unrestricted Reserves	£64,880
Total	£86,679

Brighton Marathon in aid of LYT; and the families and supporters who donated across the year.

If you would like to find out more about how you can help make a difference for Lewisham young people, contact us at development@lewishamyouththeatre.com



Re-accredited Gold Quality Mark, a quality assurance scheme, accredited by City & Guilds



THANKS

We'd like to thank all those who have supported on LYT projects during 2018/19

Special Thanks To: Cllr Andre Bourne; Cllr Brenda Dacres; The BRIT School; Carmel, Helen & Sam (Broadway Theatre); Christine Carnell (Holbeach Primary); Dan Fenton (Kojohed); Jade Anouka; Cllr Jonathan Slater; Judith Adam (South Thames College); Kustom Klothng; International Youth Arts Festival; Little Fish Theatre; Liz Dart, Andy Thomas and Nancy Stridgen (Lewisham Culture Team); Len Duvall (London Assembly); London Youth; Lyric Hammersmith Theatre; Markus Hall Props; National Association of Youth Theatres; Ninth Life Pub; Oberon Books; Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts; Supersets; Telegraph Hill Centre; Unicorn Theatre; Access VFX; Vic Bryson (Maynard Leigh Associates); Young Vic Theatre and all the panellists from the Opening Doors industry panel.

Referral Partners: Lewisham Baseline; Community Connections; Lewisham Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS); Lewisham Children's Social Care, Looked After Children's Service, Leaving Care Service and Functional Family Therapy Team; Lewisham Homes; JEM Support Services; Job Centre Plus
Local Primary School Partners: Holbeach; John Ball; Launcelot; Prendergast Ladywell; Rushey Green; St. Marys CofE School.

Local Secondary School Partners: Abbey Manor; Bonus Pastor; Christ the King; Forest Hill; Prendergast Ladywell; Sedgheill; St. Matthews Academy; and Trinity.

Volunteers and Placements: Many thanks to all 39 volunteers and placements, and 66 youth theatre members who gave up their time to support on our projects. A full list, including Members' Committee, work experience and peer mentors, can be found on our website.

LYT Core Team:

Helen Stanley (Artistic Director)
Victoria Shaskan (Executive Director)
Flo Dessau (Programmes Administrator)
Charlie Risius (Outreach & Volunteer Co-Ordinator)
Louise Balhatchet (Technical Programmes Manager)
Sheryl Malcolm (Participation Manager)
Emma Hewitt (Step Up Programme Manager)
Many thanks and good luck to Sheryl Malcolm who is leaving us after over 15 years with LYT.

Freelancers: Amanda Mascarenhas, Annekoos Arlman, Courtney Morris-Spencer, Ben Moon, Dani Moseley, Elen Jones, Flora Wilkinson, Kat Gill, Jacqueline Gunn, Laura Wheeler, Molly Freeman, Lewis Ashby-Whelan, Rosie Whiting, Sebastian Constantine, Tig Land.

Paid Work Experience: Amaarah Roze, Bushra Baig, Emanuel Mendes-Da-Silva, Ricky Brent

LYT Council of Management: Genine Whitehorne (Chair), Dani Moseley (Secretary), Tom Toomse-Smith (Treasurer), Ed King, Grahame Anderson, Jamiel Thomas, Mairi Hayes, Stella Jeffrey.

Advisory Board: Jane Wilson (Clinical Psychologist)

Patron: Lucian Msamati, Phaldut Sharma.

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LYT Principal Supporters:



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