



Role Description

Role: Technical Theatre Tutors

Summary: We are seeking technical/backstage theatre specialists to join our freelance tutor pool to help deliver training in backstage and technical theatre skills with young people aged 12-17. Technical Theatre Tutors will help to plan, deliver and evaluate LYT's long-standing Technical Theatre training programme, alongside the Programmes Manager.

Responsible to: Technical Theatre Programmes Manager

Initial Projects: **Workshop Group:**
5 x Mondays 4-6pm
February – March 2022 (Exact dates TBC)

Production Group
12 x Mondays 4.30 - 6.30pm
April – July 2022 (Exact dates TBC)

Fee: £75 per session plus planning time

Our Mission Statement

All young people have a powerful voice and a right to be heard.

Lewisham Youth Theatre (LYT) **nurtures** and **inspires** young people's voices through free participatory theatre activities, helping them to develop enduring and transferable skills that lead to increased **life chances** and **long term well-being**

We bring young people together from across the Lewisham community to create outstanding theatre in an environment of high expectations and collaboration. We work from the core belief that artistic excellence is key to expanding young people's horizons and creating lasting transformation.

About Lewisham Youth Theatre

LYT creates excellent and inclusive theatre as a tool to improve the long-term well-being and life chances of Lewisham young people aged 3-24, helping them build the skills, resilience and ambition to achieve their potential. Since 1987, we have provided inclusive drama, performance and technical theatre activities completely free of charge to young people from across Lewisham's diverse communities, working from the core belief that artistic excellence and an environment of high expectation is key to expanding young people's horizons and creating lasting transformation that will support them to achieve in any future environment. We do not audition and the majority of participants (minimum 70%) face significant disadvantage across a range of needs. Through individual progression mentoring and referrals from local services, we

actively support those in need to engage, progress through our activities and move on to positive next steps in training and employment within a wide variety of fields. This level of support leads to high retention rates, with 90% of users taking part in 3+ sessions and 85% completing their projects.

LYT's programmes are supported by a broad base of funders, including multi-year support from Lewisham Council, National Lottery Community Fund and Mayor of London. The Technical Theatre Programme is currently funded by the People's Postcode Society Trust.

Since 2015, the quality of our programmes have been recognised by a Gold level London Youth quality mark, a quality assurance scheme accredited by City and Guilds.

OUR PARTICIPANTS

Each year, LYT works with over 200 young people aged 8-24 in sustained projects and reaches another 400+ through one-off outreach sessions. We provide an integrated service that brings young people together from across Lewisham's diverse communities, targeting our outreach to recruit young people facing disadvantage across a range of needs. Over 70% of participants every year are identified as facing disadvantage, including:

- Poverty
- Mental Health needs, including those that don't yet meet thresholds for CAMHS care)
- Special needs, Inc. physical/sensory disability, learning difficulty or autism spectrum disorder
- Family disruption, including Looked after children, Young Carers, those known to social services, and those suffering early bereavement
- Other needs that may require additional support to take part, including young refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals, those with English as an additional language, and those facing educational disengagement.

Our [referral partners](#) include local primary and secondary schools, PRUs and special schools, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Lewisham social care services, youth offending team and other social service programmes.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LYT

Please refer to the [Publications Page](#) of our website for more information about our programmes and their impact, including our [2020 Annual Review](#) (video of live-streamed events led by our participants), [2017-2022 Strategic Plan](#) and [BIG Impact Report](#) – an independent evaluation into the long-term impact of our work.

About the Technical Theatre Programme

The programme provides young people aged 11-17 free backstage training and work experience in Set design, stage management, lighting, sound, costume and make-up. This helps them to develop transferable employment skills, raise their ambitions and develop knowledge of pathways in education and employment. The programme includes a series of weekly workshops, tours of professional theatres, Q&A panels and specialised workshops with industry professionals, opportunities to crew LYT's productions and Arts Award qualifications.

Technical Theatre Co-Lead Role Overview

The Technical Theatre co-lead will help plan and deliver our Technical Theatre projects, working closely with the Technical Theatre Programmes Manager to lead workshops that introduce young people to backstage roles in Set design, stage management, lighting and/or sound, costume and make up. The co-lead will also support participants' pastoral care, as necessary.

The Co-lead will be able to lead fun, interactive and age-appropriate activities that allow participants to gain an understanding of technical and backstage theatre. You will also be comfortable with facilitating warm up/icebreaker games and exercises to help build a positive group dynamic and increase participant's social skills.

You will have a passion for supporting young people's development and for broadening their knowledge about roles in backstage theatre arts.

Co-lead to the Technical Theatre Programmes Manager Responsibilities

The Co-lead will work closely with the Technical Theatre Programmes Manager, to plan and co-facilitate workshops that introduce participants to technical theatre and backstage skills. Tasks will include:

- Planning the course and individual sessions with the Technical Programmes Manager
- Delivering practical activities that support learning in technical and backstage theatre roles, alongside Technical Theatre Programmes Manager
- Setting up the workshop space and clearing away at the start/end of the session
- Taking registers and calling young people/parents who have not arrived
- Encouraging all participants to take part in activities and to contribute to the session
- Leading warm-ups or exercises to support positive group dynamics and social skill development (Inc. confidence, communication and teamwork)
- Noticing any problems with or between young people in the session and communicating these in post-session debriefs
- Evaluating individual sessions and the project as a whole with the Technical Theatre Programmes Manager
- Undertaking other duties regarding the realisation of the workshops

Skills and Qualifications

You will have:

- Training and professional experience across multiple backstage areas of Backstage/Technical Theatre, including lighting, sound, stage management, design, multimedia etc.
- Experience delivering technical/backstage training with young people

- Up to date knowledge of the Theatre industry
- Training and/or experience in youth arts or creative youth work
- Commitment to training the next generation of Technical Theatre Practitioners and an interest in supporting young people to reach their creative potential
- Knowledge of current youth arts practice and the needs of young people, including Child Protection Practices.

You will be:

- Reliable and able to commit to the agreed days and times
- Approachable and able to communicate professionally with children, young people and adults
- Organised
- Creative and able to think outside the box
- Able to work well in a small team
- Flexible and able to take on new or challenging tasks as they arise

You will need to hold a recent DBS or be willing to undertake one.

To apply, please email recruitment@lewishamyouththeatre.com with:

- Your CV
- Covering letter outlining how your skills and experience meet the requirements of the role

AND

- Complete an Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form at:
<https://forms.gle/c7emwu4ZVTyGruMm6>

Closing date: November 10th 2021

We will review applications on a rolling basis before this date, so please apply as soon as possible.