

May 2021



## Participation Assistant: Work Placement (Paid)

In partnership with English Heritage's national youth engagement programme *Shout Out Loud*.

- RESPONSIBLE TO:** Participation and Membership Coordinator, Associate Director and NYT SMT as appropriate
- WORKING HOURS:** This is a part-time role, working 4 days a week across a 12 week period from 12th July 2021 - 30th September 2021.
- SALARY:** National Living Wage (Or London Living Wage as appropriate)
- LOCATION:** We are open to applications from young people based anywhere in the UK, and are particularly interested in receiving applications from those based in Hampshire.
- National Youth Theatre is based in North London, 443-445 Holloway Road N7 6LW. Dependant on the location of the appointee and Covid-19 restrictions this role will either be remote working or based in our London [National Production House for Young People](#). This role will require some travel to project locations including Portsmouth.

## About National Youth Theatre

The National Youth Theatre is a world-leading youth arts charity that nurtures creative expression, personal wellbeing and skills development, engaging thousands of young people aged 11-25 around the UK every year. Established in 1956 as the world's first youth theatre, we have nurtured the talent of hundreds of thousands of young people over 65 years. We inspire, nurture and showcase exceptional performers and theatre technicians from Great Britain and Northern Ireland, commissioning brave and relevant new writing and reinterpreting classic stories for our time. Every year we reach out across the country to engage thousands of young people and deliver skills-based courses. We also produce ambitious theatrical productions in leading theatres across the UK and around the world. More information on our programme may be found here [www.nyt.org.uk](http://www.nyt.org.uk) and you can meet our young people and watch how we've helped young people stay creative and connected in 2020 [here](#).

## Our Culture

At the National Youth Theatre we want to create a culture that is inclusive, creative and collaborative. We celebrate all the ways we are different and aim to create an environment where everyone can thrive and do their best work. We want our culture to create spaces where young people from around the UK can be together, be brave and create bold work. We ask everyone involved in making each project to approach it with generosity, curiosity, kindness and respect. We believe that we do better work together than we would apart and that our work is richer and stronger thanks to the different backgrounds and experiences that everyone in our company brings. Through our work we want to be connected and responsive to each other, our communities, our industry and the wider world. Whatever your background or wherever you're from, we invite you to support our mission to be a creative force for good at a critical time for our industry, country and world.

## About the Role

We are looking for a young person aged between 18-25 interested in arts learning and engagement to join us for a 12 week-long work placement. Funding for this post is in partnership with the English Heritage Shout Out Loud programme and the age restrictions are a condition of this funding.

The placement will centre around '[The Ancestors](#)' a new National Youth Theatre creative commission and production which forms part of [Freedom & Revolution](#), a project NYT is delivering in partnership with English Heritage through the award-winning **Shout Out Loud** programme and the University of Warwick.

This new production will explore Black history at the English Heritage site Portchester Castle near Portsmouth. Working in response to historical source material, the production will aim to recentre Black voices and the narratives of Black women in particular, and create an exciting site-specific piece of theatre led by a cast of National Youth Theatre performers and local young people. For this reason we are particularly interested in applicants with lived experience of Black history and culture.

This role will focus on the engagement activity around the production which will include creating educational resources for local schools, participatory workshops for community groups, digital content around the participatory work, and supporting a community cast. The Participation Work Placement will work to support the Participation and Membership Coordinator in the delivery of this work.

As well as 'The Ancestors' project the role may also to support preparations for NYT's participation and [outreach work](#) more generally and learn more about the programmes and projects offered by National Youth Theatre.

You'll be supported throughout your placement by the Participation and Membership Coordinator and wider NYT Team to develop skills in devising, delivering, and evaluating participation programmes. As well as learning about the various elements involved in engaging communities and producing participatory events both online and in person, you will also be supported to learn more about a future career in theatre, or arts and heritage more generally, and to develop your CV to support your progression onto future roles within the sector.

### **About *Shout Out Loud***

National Youth Theatre is delighted to be able to offer this placement in partnership with English Heritage's national youth engagement programme *Shout Out Loud*.

Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund's *Kick The Dust* programme, *Shout Out Loud* aims to transform the way young people engage with history, providing opportunities for young people to shape the way English Heritage tells the 'Story of England'. English Heritage cares for over 400 historic monuments, buildings and places, bringing the story of England to life for over 10 million visitors each year.



## Key responsibilities

### The Ancestors:

- To support the coordination and delivery of outreach workshops for local community groups, participants and schools surrounding 'The Ancestors'
- To support the Participation and Membership Coordinator in the creation and distribution of Educational resource packs and audio-visual content around 'The Ancestors' to schools and young people
- To conduct research and identify appropriate groups and participants to engage in on-the-ground outreach activity in the local area
- To support the Participation and Membership Coordinator to identify ways in which the production and the narratives and histories explored within the play can reach a wider audience of young people across the UK
- To support the Participation and Membership Coordinator in collecting materials for project evaluation

### Participation

- To support the wider outreach and participation work of the National Youth Theatre including: the coordination of workshops around National Youth Theatre productions and NYT's Holloway Road venue, preparatory research and planning meetings for projects, and supporting sessions with young people who are already members of NYT

## General

- Undertake any other duties reasonably requested by senior team members within NYT as appropriate
- To undertake the NYT safeguarding training and then comply with all safeguarding and health and safety policies and procedures.

## Person Specification

### Eligibility Criteria

This is a funded placement as part of English Heritage's Shout Out Loud programme and is specifically designed for 18-25 year olds to overcome a lack of opportunity in the heritage sector. For that reason applicants **must be aged between 18 and 25** at the time of appointment.

### Essential Experience and Characteristics:

- A particular interest in working with young people in an Arts setting
- A commitment to widening participation and increasing diversity in the Arts
- Good organisational skills
- Good administrative and research skills
- Good communication skills and the ability to adapt these
- Willingness to work with others collaboratively
- The ability to work independently and to show initiative
- A can-do attitude and generous spirit

### Desirable Experience and Characteristics:

- Lived experience of Black culture and history
- Drama facilitation skills and experience delivering drama activity to young people
- Experience working with young people from backgrounds underrepresented in the arts
- Prior work experience or experience working professionally in an administrative role

## Additional Information

**DBS:** In keeping with our Safeguarding Policy, Employment with the National Youth Theatre is contingent upon the receipt of a valid Enhanced DBS Certificate, which NYT can facilitate.