

### **Am I eligible to apply For the National Youth Theatre?**

All applicants should be:

- UK residents
- Age 16 by 8<sup>th</sup> August 2021\*
- Aged 25 or under on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021\*\*

\*You can apply to join as a Backstage Member of National Youth Theatre at the age of 15 providing you will be 16 by **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2021.**

\*\* For those aged 25 when you complete your course, membership can continue to be active until your 26<sup>th</sup> year. In order to be eligible to audition in 2021 you must not turn 26 years of age before **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021.**

Kindly note if you are successful in your application, identification to verify your age may be required before the course start date.

If you are unsure about your eligibility to apply, please email [info@nyt.org.uk](mailto:info@nyt.org.uk)

### **How do I interview?**

In 2021 all interviews for Backstage Membership will take place digitally. The Interview will be conducted online, through Zoom. If you want to gain Backstage Membership in 2021, you must attend an online interview by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

### **Booking my interview**

All applicants for NYT Backstage Membership need to complete a backstage interview in 2021. You can book your interview date online, after becoming a Hub Subscriber!

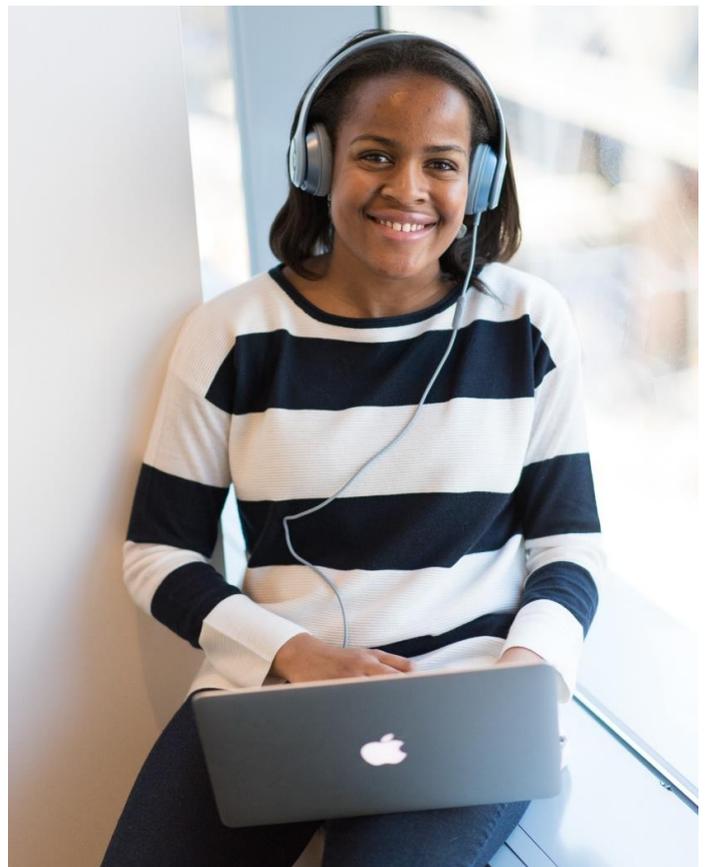
You will be emailed confirmation of your interview, including the date and time, to the main email address on your NYT account. You will also receive further instructions on to access the online interview room.

### **What happens at my Backstage Interview?**

On the day and time of your interview you will log into NYT's online studio. In this space you will meet (digitally) with your NYT interviewer and another representative from NYT. You will spend about 20 minutes with your interviewer, in a one-to-one session.

### **What should I prepare for my Backstage Interview?**

You should ensure your Zoom account works well in advance of your interview. Ensure you have good sound quality and visibility from your device.



Please prepare **at least one** of the interview tasks below to discuss:

Interview Task 1 - SCHEDULING:

- It's Monday morning and your two-hour-long show is opening at 7:30pm on Friday night.
- The show is already fully rehearsed, and the design process is complete.
- Create a production schedule for an imaginary theatre space.
- The stage is available from 10:00-22:00 every day - think about breaks, time on stage for all departments and what needs to happen during the week for the show to be ready to open.
- The departments working on the production are; lighting, sound, set, costume, actors and stage management.
- Create a schedule for the week to discuss with your interviewer.

Interview Task 2 - CREATIVE VISION:

- Read the synopsis below.
- Spend a couple of minutes thinking individually about what your creative vision for this story would be.
- Create a design based on the synopsis below for one of the following disciplines:
  - o Costume Design and Making
  - o Set Design and Scenic Construction
  - o Sound Design and Composition
  - o Lighting, projection and video
- Think about period, design, style and the space you wish to design it for.
- Your budget is unlimited.
- Prepare for the first meeting with you director thinking about your department:
  - o What creative questions do you need to make?
  - o What logistical questions do you need to ask?
  - o What offers do you want to make?

**Plot Summary – A Midsummer Night's Dream**

Performed by the NYT Rep Company Dec 2019 – Jan 2020

*Egeus brings his rebellious daughter Hermia in front of the Duke. Egeus wants her to marry Demetrius but Hermia refuses, because she's in love with Lysander. The Duke orders Hermia to obey her father or, according to Athenian law, she must face a death penalty or enter a convent.*

*Hermia and Lysander decide to elope that night. They confide in their friend Helena. However, she's secretly in love with Demetrius so, hoping to win his affection, she tells him of Hermia's plan. That night, all four lovers set out into the forest.*

*Meanwhile, a group of tradesmen (known as the Mechanicals) are planning to perform a play in celebration of the Duke's wedding. They rehearse *The Tragedy of Pyramus and Thisbe* in the same forest.*

*Elsewhere in the forest, the fairy king and queen, Oberon and Titania, argue over Titania's refusal to give up her page-boy to Oberon. He sends his servant Puck to find a magic plant to cast a spell on Titania.*

*The juice of the plant, when squeezed onto the eyes of someone asleep, causes them to fall in love with the first creature they see when they wake up. Oberon uses the juice on Titania as she sleeps in her bower.*

*Puck overhears the tradesmen rehearsing and magically transforms Bottom's head into that of an ass. The other men are terrified and flee the forest. When Titania wakes, the first creature she sees is Bottom and she falls rapturously in love with him.*

*Helena chases Demetrius in the forest and their fighting disturbs Oberon. He tells Puck to use the magic plant on Demetrius too, so that he will fall in love with Helena.*

*However Puck muddles up the two Athenian men and uses it on Lysander instead, who promptly falls in love with Helena. Both women are confused and Hermia furiously attacks her friend.*

*Eventually, Oberon lifts all the enchantments and puts the humans to sleep. Titania is horrified that she's been enamoured of an ass and is reconciled with Oberon. On waking, the lovers decide the night's events must have all been a dream. Lysander and Hermia are back to normal, and Demetrius admits he does love Helena after all. Bottom wakes up and recounts his 'strange dream'.*

**What else will happen in my interview?**

You will be asked to talk about your experience in your chosen field up to this point. If that experience is limited, don't worry. Tell us what it is that makes you want to know more and how you want to use that information in the future.

You will be asked about yourself and your interests, so it's a good idea to have a think about what you like to do in your spare time. This doesn't have to be related to performance. If you are just starting out and have little experience but big dreams, then say so!

**What happens after my Backstage interview?**

Your result will be emailed to you on results day, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Please make sure your email address is up to date on your NYT account and add [nytresults@nyt.org.uk](mailto:nytresults@nyt.org.uk) to your approved contact list to avoid your results email going to spam.

**How will I receive the outcome of my interview?**

No matter what the outcome, NYT will always send results via email, so make sure your account is up to date with your correct contact details. NYT will never give results of first round self-tapes or live digital recalls over the phone, so keep an eye on your email account including your junk-mail.

**I have access needs, who should I contact?**

If you require any additional support on your interview day or course, or have any access needs please don't hesitate to contact us on [auditionsandcourses@nyt.org.uk](mailto:auditionsandcourses@nyt.org.uk).

**I am under 18, can I have a parent or a guardian with me during my Interview?**

We advise that you undertake your interview in a private place. However, if you would be more comfortable having an adult or friend present, you are welcome to do so. They cannot be involved in your interview in any way. NYT may also record interviews for safeguarding purposes. Any recordings made will be stored in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

**Can I get feedback on my interview?**

NYT is not able to provide specific feedback for interviewees.



**Can I cancel my subscription and get a refund?**

Please see the [terms and conditions](#) for information regarding transfers and refunds.

**Can I change the date of my interview or get a refund?**

Please see the [terms and conditions](#) for information regarding transfers and refunds.

**Can I change the time of my interview?**

Unfortunately, we cannot change your allocated time. Please ensure you are available all day on your chosen interview date.

**How do you choose who gets a place on a summer course?**

All interview information is sent to NYT where the cohort for that year is selected by a dedicated selection panel. We are looking for a company who represent the diversity of Britain's Youth. We celebrate individuals and do not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, gender, sexuality or disability. We do not accept bullying or harassment of any kind.

**What happens if I don't get a place on a Summer Course?**

We meet nearly 400 young people every year and can only offer around 100 places on the backstage courses making the programme highly competitive.

If you're not invited to join the company this time there are still so many ways to be involved with the organisation. As HUB Subscribers you get access to all the online programming, masterclasses and workshops for the year as well as other opportunities listed on the HUB board on your profile.

Our Digital Masterclasses are also offered throughout the year. Many of our members auditioned/interviewed several times before gaining a place, so it's important to not give up and to utilize all the opportunities provided to subscribers as part of the HUB.

**Bursaries, Fees and funding**

We offer bursaries to help those facing financial hardship take part in our auditions, courses and productions. Find out more and how to apply via <https://www.nyt.org.uk/accessibility-and-bursaries>

**I have more questions, who should I contact?**

If you have any further questions you can contact NYT at [info@nyt.org.uk](mailto:info@nyt.org.uk)