

## The Bryan Forbes NYT REP Assistant Director

### Opportunity Description and Terms and Conditions

*“The NYT REP has pioneered a new way of training actors and the quality is extraordinary”* The Stage

**Title:** The Bryan Forbes NYT REP Assistant Director

**Hours:** Full Time, 8 Months opportunity (End of Sept 2022 to mid May 2023)

**Remuneration:** £10,000 bursary

### About National Youth Theatre

The National Youth Theatre is a pioneering 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 empowered hundreds of thousands of young people over 65 years.

We seek out, support and champion performers, theatre technicians and young creative leaders 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 in creative activities designed to help them learn new skills, find their voices and connect to a national creative community of people and opportunities. Our free creative leadership, safeguarding, intersectionality and inclusive practice training underpin our work with hundreds of creative freelance professionals each year. We produce ambitious theatrical productions in local communities, on leading global stages and in unusual spaces across the UK and beyond.

In recent years this has ranged from London Fashion Week and COP26 in the west end of Glasgow to libraries in Liverpool, an earth amphitheatre in Shropshire and theatres in the heart of London’s West End. We empowering young diverse voices and foregrounds the issues that matter most to young people. In the coming years work will include a major partnership with Leeds 2023, productions at leading theatres around the UK and in the West End, an expanding inclusive practice programme, new commissions and youth-led work in our Workshop Theatre, an ever-growing digital offer driven by the NYT Hub and new opportunities to collaborate with NYT Associate Companies and industry leaders.

### Our Culture

At the National Youth Theatre work for 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 NYT REP Company**

The NYT REP Company is a free, industry-based alternative to formal training, offered over nine months to 16 exceptionally talented young people to give them an industry head start. The programme includes seven months of workshops, vocal training and performance opportunities with NYT and industry leaders including National Theatre, RSC, BBC Radio, Urban Myth Films and The Royal Court. The initiative then culminates in a 5-8-week tour around the UK culminating in a season in a London Theatre, with the REP performing three productions in repertory. Each NYT REP member receives additional support through an industry mentor and The Bryan Forbes NYT REP Assistant Director will be mentored by a leading industry Theatre Director (yet to be announced).

## **About the Creative Leadership Programme**

Creative Leadership is a series of opportunities offered by the NYT to develop emerging theatre practitioners and facilitators. These opportunities include audition ambassadors, peer mentors and course assistants and are all offered alongside training from NYT Associates. They are designed to nurture the ambition of young theatre makers and to prepare them for employment in the arts as creative practitioners. The Bryan Forbes NYT REP Assistant Director role represents the pinnacle of the Creative Leadership Programme.

The purpose of the role is to learn the skills of a Director through practical experience and learning. The Assistant Director will support the work of The NYT REP Company. In order to do this they are expected to attend all relevant meetings and to assist on several productions over the course of the 7 month period. The Assistant Director will also train alongside the actors in the REP Company developing knowledge and understanding of the performer.

## **The Bryan Forbes NYT REP Assistant Director**

**Hours:** This is not an employment contract. The length of the role is 8 months full time, including evenings and weekends when appropriate and as required.

**Remuneration:** The Bryan Forbes NYT REP Assistant Director £10,000 bursary to support their training and development

## **Expectations of the Assistant Director**

- To work with the National Youth Theatre team and to take on any duties in support of the work of The National Youth Theatre as required by them.
- To attend weekly meetings with NYT's Associate Director to support the training programme and assess progress.
- To attend production meetings for the REP shows.
- To train alongside the fellow REP company members
- Where appropriate, to support the work of the following areas: casting, literary and Playing Up Final Plays
- To see all National Youth Theatre productions at preview stage, offering constructive feedback via the Associate Director.
- To be Assistant Director on a number of National Youth Theatre REP productions, and, in doing so to satisfy the demands of the Director of the production, which may include:
- To provide research material for rehearsals as instructed by the Director.

- To arrange visiting experts for the rehearsals.
- To support the Director in rehearsals - this may involve contributing to rehearsal discussions, taking note of rehearsal progress, supervising second rehearsals (e.g. dance calls, music calls), assisting with scheduling rehearsal calls, and on rare occasions leading rehearsals in Director's absence.
- To support the REP actors in rehearsals, such as assisting with line learning.
- To support the Stage Management and technical team in rehearsals and during technical rehearsals, such as standing in for actors during lighting sessions.
- To support the Director during technical rehearsals and previews; checking sight-lines, taking performance notes, rehearsing scene changes
- To monitor the productions during the run. This involves watching each performance, taking note of any corrections that need to be made, feeding back a report to the Director, and where instructed by the Director, offering feedback to the performers.
- To adhere to and promote the company's policies in relation to equal opportunities, health and safety, diversity, environment.
- To direct a piece of theatre with the REP Company as agreed with the Associate Director.

### **What we're looking for**

- Proven experience as a theatre director/assistant director - at least one professional, reviewed show, and previous assisting experience highly preferable
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Passionate about inclusion and work with young people
- Ability to give strong notes and to be observant and constructive when watching rehearsals and performances
- An ability to multi-task and respond reliably to tasks as required by the artistic team
- Be positive and approachable when dealing with a wide range of artists at all levels
- Highly organised and self-motivated, and meticulous about detail
- Computer literate

### **Terms and Conditions**

- The Assistant Director will have an updated DBS check and on line training safeguarding (NYT will provide this)
- The Assistant Director will receive a £10,000 bursary award for the 8-month period
- An initial payment of £500 will be made by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- Then payment will be made in 8 monthly instalments, starting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022 to the amount of £1187.50 per month.
- Should the Assistant Director leave before the end date the allocated bursary for the time missed should be returned to NYT. The progress of the Assistant Director will be monitored by the Associate Director