

What are the National Youth Theatre Backstage Courses & How do I apply?

The National Youth Theatre Backstage Courses are three week industry led courses for young people age **16 – 23*** who have successfully interviewed to join the National Youth Theatre as a Backstage Member. You can choose to specialise in one of the following faculties:

- Stage Management
- Lighting
- Sound
- Costume
- Scenery & Construction

*You will need to be ages 16-23 on the commencement date of the course.

Date: Monday 5th August 2019 – Saturday 24th August 2019

Location: Rose Bruford College, Burnt Oak Ln, Kent DA15 9DF

We interview in several major cities across the UK to meet young people who would like to take part. **To find your nearest backstage interview visit www.nyt.org.uk/apply**

What should I expect during a Backstage Course?

These courses will be hands-on, intensive, and taught by top industry professionals. During your time at the National Youth Theatre you will experience:

In week 1

You will get an introduction to your technical department as well as a taster of all of the technical disciplines. Reflecting on the multi-disciplinary nature of the industry, it's an opportunity to learn how all departments relate to and collaborate with one another.

In week 2

You will delve deeper into your chosen specialism. You will have a hands on chance to learn and experience the roles from a first entry level job to a top designer or producer. You will also find how the skills from technical theatre can be transferred to an enormous range of jobs, including; stadium events, television, music tours and many more.

In week 3

You will have the chance to put all of your new skills into practice and work towards a production, which will be showcased in a 300 seat theatre at the end of the week. Collaborating with your peers, you will experience what life is like on a show and get a chance to operate in a real live environment.

During the course you will also have the opportunity to:

- Go on trips and tours to theatres and other facilities to see how the knowledge you have learned is applied in a range of different environments*.

*Past course trips included Tour of Angel's (The largest collection of costumes in the world), backstage tour of Hackney Empire theatre, backstage tour of Charlie and The Chocolate

Factory, trip to Orbital Sound, backstage tour of the National Theatre, stage management shadowing opportunities at the National Theatre, trip to the proms lighting department and a visit to Royal Opera House Workshop

- Receive advice on your next steps into work or training through Q and As with top industry professionals.

When and where is the course?

This course will run during the summer holidays for three weeks. Conveniently located accommodation is available. Exact dates, times and locations are confirmed nearer the time to successful applicants.

The accommodation includes pastoral care, your own en suite room and a shared kitchen. Our National Youth Theatre pastoral team also reside on site during the course to offer you support and help you get the most enjoyment out of your time with the National Youth Theatre.

How many people take part?

A total of around 100 young people take part in our Backstage Courses every year. There are approximately 20 participants on each course.

How much is it?

Three week course fee: £730

Accommodation fees are not included in the course fees but can be offered upon request

Fees and funding

Every year young people fundraise the full amount in order to attend a course. If you would like a fundraising guide pack to help fund your interview or course experience please email info@nyt.org.uk

We strongly believe in offering equal opportunities and pride ourselves on accessibility. Bursaries are available on request for those most in need. The NYT Bursary Fund is high in demand so we ask you only to apply for a bursary if you are experiencing financial hardship. They are means tested and will be offered to part cover transport, course fees or accommodation costs.

What will happen after I have finished a Backstage Course?

After successfully completing your course you will be a **Backstage Member** of the National Youth Theatre, and will have the opportunity to work on all of our season shows. In recent years members have had the opportunity to build up their CVs by working on shows including our REP Seasons in the West End, the Team Welcome Ceremonies at the Commonwealth Games, and overseas projects in countries including Saudi Arabia and China!

Backstage Members can also access exclusive nationwide industry opportunities via our member's board, such as mentoring, placements and entry level roles. For many people, an NYT Backstage Course is the first step to a long and successful theatre career.

National Youth Theatre: **BACKSTAGE COURSE GUIDE**

Backstage Alumni of NYT's Backstage Courses include:

Technical Director of London 2012 Olympic Ceremonies – Piers Shepperd

Artistic Director, Unicorn Theatre – Purni Morell

Fashion Designer – Gareth Pugh

Multi Olivier Award Winning Lighting Designer – Howard Harrison

Head of Construction at The National Theatre – Darren Joyce

Cameron Mackintosh Ltd Production Manager – Anna Anderson

Multi Olivier Award Winning Set and Costume Designer – Rob Howell

We are proud to be a recognised Bronze Member of The Association of British Theatre Technicians

