

National Youth Theatre: **AUDITIONS**

Am I eligible To apply For the National Youth Theatre?

All applicants should be:

- UK residents
- Age 14 by August 2017*
- Under the age of 26**

*You can apply to join as a Company Member of National Youth Theatre at the age of 13 providing you will be 14 at the start of the summer course.

** You can apply to be a National Youth Theatre Member any time before your 26th Birthday. You can continue to be an active member in your 26th year. You can take part in a production at the age of 26, however you cannot apply to be in a production if you turn 27 within the performance dates.

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

If you are unsure about your eligibility to apply please call us on 020 3696 7066

Where can I audition?

We're on the road! Next February and March we'll be visiting some of the UK's top theatres and arts venues. Find your nearest venue from the list below:

Aberystwyth
Belfast
Birmingham
Bradford
Brighton
Bristol
Canterbury
Cardiff
Edinburgh
Glasgow
Guildford
Lancaster
Leeds
Leicester
Liverpool
London
Manchester
Newcastle
Northampton
Norwich
Plymouth
Sheffield
Truro
York

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What should I prepare?

- Pick an appropriate speech from a published play (1-3 minutes)
- Try to avoid accents
- Pick something you like and enjoy performing
- Practice your speech ahead of time and learn your lines
- Singing is optional but if you choose a song make it something you love
- Get plenty of sleep the night before your audition
- Find out where you are going ahead of time and be punctual
- Wear comfortable clothing, costumes are a no-no
- Try not to wear too much makeup
- Bring a bottle of water, and make sure you've eaten and had plenty of fluids
- Don't use or bring props
- Listen, be open to suggestions and direction
- Respect other people's opinions, don't idea bash
- Unless asked, don't share unnecessary personal details
- Be yourself and enjoy the day

If you have any questions about your audition or are experiencing difficulties booking, get in touch: info@nyt.org.uk

What can I expect on the day?

- Your Acting Company Membership audition will involve a workshop in the morning from 10am – 1pm. This workshop is designed to relieve any nerves and is an opportunity for us to see how you work in a group
- You'll receive an individual time slot in the afternoon, at which you'll return and perform your prepared monologue to the auditioner. After the main workshop there will be at least an hours break for you to go out and get lunch, or bring your own. Once you have finished your audition you are free to leave
- Our audition days can get very busy, so it's good to allow plenty of time to get to the venue
- 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!

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 after my audition?

Your results will be emailed to you by mid-May.

What happens if I'm unsuccessful?

We meet nearly 5,000 young people every year and can only offer around 500 places on the acting courses making the programme highly competitive. However, if you're not successful this time there are still so many ways to be involved with the organisation. These include our **Masterclass Courses**, offered during academic holidays throughout the year and our **Club Membership** which is the perfect way to gain valuable audition advice. Many of our members auditioned several times before gaining a place, so it's important to not give up and peruse other ways you can develop your talent and stay in touch. You may also want to consider our **backstage opportunities** to gain further knowledge in costume, light and sound, scenic construction or stage management.

What happens if I'm successful?

Depending on your age you will be invited to attend one of our acting courses held annually during the summer holidays.

Fees and funding

If you gain a space on a Membership Course, you will receive a Fundraising Pack with tips and ideas on how you can raise the costs of course fees yourself. Many members have had huge success with this in the past and have enjoyed their fundraising challenge.

It is hugely important to us that applicants are not deterred from getting involved with the National Youth Theatre due to financial restrictions. We have a bursary fund to help those in the greatest need to contribute towards the cost of auditions, membership course fees, accommodation and living costs. Last year we gave over £100,000 worth of bursaries to help applicants and members with fees and costs. To request an application pack, email info@nyt.org.uk.

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

Due to the high volume of young people we meet we are unable to arrange refunds or exchanges on audition slots. If you missed an audition or are no longer able to attend a previously booked audition you are welcome to book an alternative day.

Can I change the time of my audition?

All participants need to attend the three hour morning workshop. During the afternoon each participant is allocated an audition time. Once you have auditioned you are free to go

Unfortunately we cannot change your time once it is booked prior to the audition day itself. If you need to change your audition time you will need to speak to a member of staff on the day who may be able to help if your situation is unavoidable.