



Creative Commons: Working together to support youth theatre development

Young Critics International Exchange 2017

NAYD are looking for 14 young people, aged 16 – 20, with an interest in learning about and developing skills in creative criticism in theatre.

NAYD is delighted to be partnering with Youth Theatre Arts Scotland to run a 5-day *Young Critics* International Exchange in Dublin. Part of a 3-year joint project called Creative Commons supported by the European Union via its Erasmus+ programme, the exchange will support each young person to develop their individual critical response process, their understanding of theatre and an individual voice.

When?	Monday 10 – Friday 14 April 2017
Where?	Dublin, Ireland
Cost?	FREE except for spending money. All accommodation, meals, theatre tickets and return travel from your home address* are covered by the project. <i>*Excluding taxis</i>
What else?	You will be qualify for a Youthpass on completion of <i>Young Critics</i>

Creative Commons Programme

As a Young Critic, you will join 13 other young people from all over Ireland and 10 young people from Scotland in Dublin from April 10th – 14th.

Over the 5 action-packed days, participants will have fun getting to know each other, attend theatre productions, participate in a series of workshops and discussions as well as exploring the theatres and city of Dublin. Accommodation and workshops will be based at the [Marino Institute of Education](#).

Participants are given the opportunity to see quality productions and develop their critical silks under the mentorship of professional theatre critics Dr. Karen Fricker and Gareth Vile. Workshops will be facilitated by NAYD's Youth Theatre Officer Alan King and YTAG Theatre Practitioner Amy Watt.

In addition, there will be *Young Critics* activities taking place in the months after the International Exchange. Participants will continue the critical conversation on the Young Critics Blog where they will be encouraged to see, and make critical responses to, local productions.

The Irish group will come together in a similar way in October as part of the Dublin Theatre Festival.

The Scottish group will come together again for a weekend in August to take part in a series of workshops and to see productions at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe to build and hone the critical and creative skills developed in April.

At the end of the project, participants will qualify for a [Youthpass](#), which is a European award recognizing non-formal and informal learning in youth work.

No prior experience is necessary, just an enthusiasm for learning and collaborating! We are looking for young people who are comfortable meeting new people, working in a highly focused way and are not afraid to share their thoughts and opinions with each other.

Eligibility

- **Applicants must be aged 16 – 20 on 1 April 2017.**
- **Applicants must be a current member of an NAYD affiliated Youth Theatre.**
- **Selected participants must be fully available from Monday 10 – Friday 14 April 2017 inclusive, willing to continue the critical conversation online and attend a follow up weekend event as part of Dublin Theatre Festival in October (dates tbc).**

How To Apply

In order to offer individual advice and guidance on developing each young person's critical skills, places on the programme are limited to 24 (14 from Ireland and 10 from Scotland)

We are looking for young people who are comfortable meeting new people, working in a highly focused way and are not afraid to share their thoughts and opinions with each other.

Please provide us with the information asked for on the form and post your application no later than **5pm on Monday 6 February 2017**. You can answer the application questions in writing or if you prefer via a video or voice recording (no longer than 2-3 minutes).

Please note: if you choose to apply via video or audio files please do not attach the clip to your application. Instead share the **link as a URL**, for example through

YouTube, Vimeo, Dropbox, or Google Drive only ***NB please label your clips clearly with your full name.**

The most important thing to remember is that we're interested in finding out about **you** and what you feel you could learn through this opportunity. There are no right or wrong answers to the questions and marks will not be deducted for spelling!

If you have any questions, please contact Alan King at alan@nayd.ie or 018781301

NAYD will have welfare officers in place during the Exchange to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all participants.

Young Critics Events for Irish Participants

Following the Exchange, the Irish Young Critics will continue the critical conversation online. They will be encouraged and supported to go and see other local productions, make some critical responses and contribute to the NAYD Young Critics Blog <https://naydyoungcritics.com>

Then in October, the Irish group will meet up for a second weekend in Dublin to see further productions, take part in more workshops and participate in a public panel discussion as part of the Dublin Theatre Festival.

Irish Participants must be fully available for all elements of the programme.



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Application Form

We request that

Of _____ Youth Theatre/Drama

Be given a place at

Young Critics International Exchange 2017

Signed by: _____ (Youth Theatre Leader)

Conditions of Application

- Applicants must be aged 16 – 20 on 1 April 2017.
- Participation is free.
- NAYD will be responsible for accommodation, food and travel costs. This will not include taxis.
- Parental Declaration must be signed. A more detailed Parental Consent Form will be sent out on the offer of a place. Parental Consent Forms must be filled out and returned by all in accordance with NAYD's Welfare and Child Protection Policy. If a nominee is over 18, the form does not have to be signed by a parent *but should be completed and returned to NAYD*.
- Due to the very high number of applications, those received after the deadline may not be considered.
- A timetable and other details will be sent out to participants on confirmation of their place.
- Places will be confirmed by phone one week after the deadline. Full details of the event will be posted to the youth theatre member's home address within one week on confirmation of their place on the programme.



Erasmus+

This project is funded by the European Union.

Full Name: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Youth Theatre Member's Mobile Number: _____

Youth Theatre Member's Address:

E-mail Address _____ (please PRINT
clearly)

Do you have any access requirements that we should know about e.g. mobility issues,
visual impairment etc.?

Youth Theatre Member's Consent

I _____ wish to participate in the *Young Critics International Exchange*. I understand that I will be required to participate fully for the duration of the event and agree to abide by conditions set by NAYD's Welfare Officers during each event.

Signed: _____ Date _____

Parental /Primary Carer Declaration

To be completed by a parent/primary carer of any participant aged less than 18 years of age.

I _____ am aware that my son/ daughter has applied to take part in *The Young Critics International Exchange* from April 10- 15 in Dublin. I am aware that NAYD and YTAS staff may be contacting them directly with information regarding the programme. I will inform NAYD of any medical, dietary or other additional needs of the young person in question should they be successful in obtaining a place.

Name of Participant: _____

To Be Completed By The Youth Theatre Member
Please tell us about your youth theatre experience to date (Max 100 words).

Please tell us what you would like to gain from participating in the Young Critics International Exchange? (Max 100 words)

Tell us about a production you've enjoyed.
Tell us a little about the production, what you liked and didn't like, what elements of the production really stood out for you. (max 300 words – attach on a separate sheet if needed.)
You can write your review, create a video or a voice recording. (2-3 mins max) –
See <https://naydyoungcritics.wordpress.com/> for some Young Critics reviews and video blogs.

Please tell us briefly if you have any interest or skills in making video blogs or clips for YouTube, podcasts or animation.

Please return by post ONLY to The Young Critics Programme, NAYD, 7 North Great George's Street, Dublin 1 by 5pm on Monday 6 February 2017. Due to the high number of applications, late applications may not be considered.



Erasmus+

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ABOUT NAYD

NAYD was established in 1980 to support the development of youth theatre in Ireland.

Since then, NAYD has been supporting youth drama in practice and policy by advocating the benefits of young people's participation, promoting quality youth theatre practice and providing leadership for the sector.

Now representing a membership of 60 affiliated youth theatres, the organisation has seen thousands of young lives enhanced and transformed by the experience of youth drama. Today, NAYD continues to work towards the sustained development of youth theatres in partnership with local authorities, youth services, theatres, arts centres, organisations and individuals.

A commitment to young people and theatre is at the core of the work of NAYD. The value we place on this unique relationship will continue to shape the work of the organisation into the future.

NAYD PROMOTES:

- Drama as a medium for learning and as a means of expression for young people
- The advancement of the artistic, personal and social development of young people through drama and performance related skills
- Youth theatre as a medium to extend and enhance young people's understanding of theatre as an artform
- The emergence and development of youth theatres in Ireland

WE ARE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING CORE VALUES:

- Commitment to quality in provision and experience for all young people
- Commitment to equality of participation for all young people
- We ensure our work is young person-centred and that the voice of young people is represented in all aspects of the work of the organisation
- We ensure a balance between the values of artistic quality and youth participation

For more information please visit www.nayd.ie