

Deputy Director

With responsibility for youth theatre research and development

Youth Theatre Ireland is the national development organisation for youth theatre. We support a network of youth theatres that deliver year-round programmes of drama workshops and performance opportunities to young people aged 12+ in cities, towns and villages across Ireland.

We are unique in our commitment to youth-centred drama practice, and we promote youth drama opportunities that focus on the artistic, personal and social development of young people.

Youth Theatre Ireland is funded through strategic funding from the Arts Council of Ireland and as a national youth work organisation by the Department of Children, Equality, Diversity Integration and Youth. Youth Theatre Ireland is also a Creative Youth partner organisation supported by Creative Ireland.

We are now seeking an experienced and effective arts leader to support the strategic goals of Youth Theatre Ireland as **Deputy Director** with responsibility for youth theatre research and development

Job Description

Responsible for: Supporting the strategic development of Youth Theatre Ireland and leading on youth theatre research and development.

Responsible to: The Director / CEO

Role Description:

- Be responsible, in collaboration with the Director, staff, Board and relevant stakeholders/partners, for the strategic development of Youth Theatre Ireland
- Be responsible for the baseline development for research and development of the youth theatre sector in Ireland, including sourcing grants and funding to support this work
- Be responsible for the development of new and existing youth theatres
- Be responsible for the development of new youth theatre groups with youth theatre structures, child protection policies, funding options, staff / volunteers, local networks and supports

- Be responsible for the National Quality Standards for Voluntary Youth Clubs within Youth Theatre Ireland
- Design and implement Youth Theatre Ireland's annual Symposium
- Oversee the delivery of Youth Drama Ireland, Youth Theatre Ireland's annual magazine
- Oversee the youth theatre affiliation process.
- Support existing youth theatres with structures, child protection policies, funding options, staffing and compliance
- Create development resources, run training, events or host meetings to support youth theatre development
- Be responsible, with the Director / CEO, for the development and delivery of partnership projects that promote the development of youth theatre or mentorship of leaders.
- Support, with the Director / CEO, local agencies / bodies in the development of their youth theatre provision.
- Support the Director / CEO to manage and maintain relationships with key funding partners and their personnel
- Develop effective working relationships with significant partners and stakeholders at local, regional, national and international level
- Participate in appropriate national and international fora to ensure that Youth Theatre Ireland and the youth theatre sector is informed by and contributes to best practice nationally and internationally
- Promote and advocate on behalf of Youth Theatre Ireland and the youth theatre sector
- Deputise for the Director / CEO as required
- Any other duties as determined by the Director / CEO or the Board

Requirements of the Post

Youth Theatre Ireland is seeking to employ a candidate who possesses the following attributes.

Personal Attributes and Skills:

- You are committed to the values of Youth Theatre Ireland and believe in the importance of youth arts
- You see young people as important members of society; you are motivated to uphold their rights and ensure that they are supported to develop to their full potential, personally and socially
- You are a collaborative team player with excellent interpersonal skills and a positive attitude
- You have excellent organisational and project management skills
- You are a problem solver, able to work under pressure and prioritise between conflicting demands
- You have a high degree of personal and professional integrity and can be placed in positions of trust and responsibility including access to sensitive and confidential data.

Professional Experience:

Essential:

- Passion for and commitment to youth theatre / theatre
- Minimum of 3 years' senior management experience in the arts, a similar position, or minimum 5 years of professional experience directly in youth theatre
- Demonstrated ability to evidence the personal attributes and skills listed above
- Demonstrated experience of overseeing/implementing research projects
- Knowledge of the youth theatre and youth arts sector in Ireland, including key funding agencies, policies, stakeholders and networks.
- Demonstrated experience of implementing monitoring and evaluation tools and projects
- Demonstrated experience of producing reports, articles and other written material to a high standard with appropriate citation etc.
- Demonstrated knowledge of policies, regulation and procedures relevant to youth theatre

- Demonstrated experience of communicating/supporting organisations or individuals with information and guidance and for advocating a position to relevant stakeholders
- Demonstrated ability to work well in team and partnership settings
- Demonstrated ability to prioritise actions and take decisions based on strategic goals
- Strong oral and written communication skills with an ability to communicate persuasively to diverse audiences
- Digital fluency and a strong understanding of all communications platforms including social media

Desirable:

- Third level qualification in drama/theatre or related fields
- Demonstrated experience of identifying, initiating and managing partnerships with multiple stakeholders
- Demonstrated experience of sourcing funding opportunities and submitting applications
- Ability to advocate effectively for youth theatre to the theatre/ arts/ education/ youth sector
- Experience of working with a broad range of stakeholders at a national and local level
- A strong understanding of practical issues affecting local/regional youth theatre development in Ireland
- Knowledge and understanding of theatre practice in Ireland
- A strong understanding of broader policy issues which influence the arts in Ireland.
- Experience in developing and implementing strategy
- Experience in leading, managing and motivating staff / contractors

Terms and Conditions:

- This is a full-time permanent position with 25 days annual leave
- The post holder will be expected to work a 35-hour week and be willing to undertake evening and weekend work as necessitated by the work programme
- A gross salary of €45,000 per annum will be paid.
- The post will require a certain amount of travel nationally and a holder of a current driver's licence and own transport would be an advantage though not essential

- A pension contribution of 5% of gross salary per month will commence upon completion of a six-month probationary period
- Important: The holder of this post is a Mandated Person under the definition within the Children First Act (2015). The post-holder will be subject to a number of legal responsibilities including a legal obligation to report suspicion of harm to a child above a certain threshold. The successful candidate will be fully inducted in their responsibilities before taking up the role. More information on Mandated Persons can be found via Tusla, the Child and Family Agency
- This role is subject to Garda Vetting of the successful candidate

How to Apply:

Deadline for receipt of applications is **Friday 27th August at 12pm.**

Shortlisting will apply.

Please provide a letter of application detailing your suitability for the role and complete the accompanying application form.

Interviews will take place on Monday **13th September 2021.**

Shortlisted candidate must be able to interview on the above date and the successful candidate must be able to take up the position in **October 2021.**

Please email your application in the strictest confidence to:

recruitment@youththeatre.ie marked for the attention of the Director / CEO.