

National Programme Co-Ordinator

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 multi-annual 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 Theatre Ireland is also a Creative Youth partner organisation supported by Creative Ireland.

We are now seeking an experienced and effective arts leader to join the Youth Theatre Ireland team as our National Programme Co-Ordinator.

Job Description

Responsible for: Designing, delivering, and supporting the artistic programme of Youth Theatre Ireland and our members.

Responsible to: The Chief Executive

Role Description:

- Support youth theatres with the development of their artistic programme
- Lead the Young Critics Programme
- Lead the continued development and management of the Playshare resource
- Lead the continued development and deliver the new 'Pathways to Professionalism' programme for senior youth theatre members.
- Assistant Director for the National Youth Theatre programme, including responsibility for auditioning and casting.
- With the National Training Co-Ordinator, develop and project manage the Leading On training programme for youth theatre leaders
- Develop programme and development resources as needed.
- Support the delivery of the National Festival of Youth Theatres

- Support the delivery of the annual Youth Theatre Ireland Symposium
- In collaboration with the Chief Executive, staff, Board, and relevant stakeholders/partners, support the strategic development of Youth Theatre Ireland
- 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
- Any other duties as determined by the Chief Executive, Deputy Director, 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 and have the ability to change, adapt and lead on projects.
- 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.
- Strong leadership and group facilitation skills with a strong awareness of the diverse needs of young people
- Experience and demonstrated competency in designing and delivering drama / theatre programmes with young people and adults
- Demonstrable project management experience
- Ability to think and act strategically / artistically as well as working with day-to-day practicalities
- Ability to interrogate a playscript and an understanding of playwriting in a youth theatre context
- Experience in one or more aspects of contemporary theatre practice, for example, devising, facilitation, dramaturgy or directing. The contexts can include professional, community or youth theatre settings.
- Strong understanding of the theatre landscape in Ireland and abroad
- Minimum of 3 years' experience in the arts / youth arts / youth work sector or minimum 5 years of professional experience directly in youth theatre
- Ability to demonstrate and evidence the personal attributes and skills listed above
- Ability to lead projects from inception to completion
- 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
- Experience of preparing and presenting plans, proposals, budgets, and reports
- Ability to advocate effectively for youth theatre to the theatre/ arts/ education/ youth sector
- Experience and demonstrated competency in leading, managing, and motivating contractors
- Experience of working with a broad range of stakeholders at a national and local level
- A sound understanding of practical issues affecting local/regional youth theatre development in Ireland
- A sound understanding of broader policy issues which influence the arts in Ireland.

Terms and Conditions:

- The position is full-time with 25 days annual leave
- The successful candidate will primarily be based in the Youth Theatre Ireland offices in Dublin city, with a limited amount of hybrid / remote working
- 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 €35,000 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
- This role is subject to Garda Vetting of the successful candidate

How to Apply:

Deadline for receipt of applications is **Monday 7th March at 5pm.**

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 between Monday 14th and Wednesday 16th March in Dublin City, in-person.

Shortlisted candidate must be able to interview on the above date and the successful candidate must be able to take up the position in April 2022.

Please email your application in the strictest confidence to:

recruitment@youththeatre.ie marked for the attention of the Chief Executive.