



Criteria for Youth Theatre Affiliation

Youth Theatre Ireland supports a large and evolving network of youth theatres who deliver year-round programmes which include drama workshops and performance opportunities for young people aged from 12 to 21 in cities, towns, and villages across Ireland.

To become fully affiliated, Youth Theatres should meet the membership criteria (as agreed by the Youth Theatre Ireland Board).

An affiliated Youth Theatre should:

- Have aims and objectives;
- Have an artistic vision;
- Demonstrate a commitment to aiding and enhancing the personal and social development of young people;
- Have a welfare / child protection policy;
- Be not for profit;
- Exist outside of formal education;
- Have a non-competitive policy;
- Have an inclusive ethos that encourages the participation of all young people;
- Have recruited a group of committed young people and have plans to recruit more;
- Have youth theatre members aged 12 and over;
- Have a group of interested adults to run the youth theatre;
- Have suitable space(s) and public liability insurance cover;
- Intends to/have already started to run an annual programme including regular drama workshops and performance opportunities for its members.

Youth Theatre Ireland Deputy Director Alan King works very closely with developing youth theatre groups to ensure they meet these criteria and he supports them to achieve these goals.

This process guides leaders and committee member's thinking to enable a shared ethos within our affiliated youth theatres.

All affiliated youth theatres remain fully independent and operate under their own Governance structures and artistic programming as they see fit.