



## **Dublin Youth Theatre - Artistic Director**

*Dublin Youth Theatre (DYT) are looking for their next Artistic Director to programme and implement our year-round programme of activities.*

This is a part time position and will be offered on a fixed-term contract. The renewal of the contract is dependent on the continued availability of funding.

DYT is the country's leading centre for young theatre artists, providing a safe and welcoming place where members can meet other young people from all parts of Dublin in a fun, artistic and social environment. For 44 years, we have helped to shape the artistic, cultural, and personal lives of our numerous members. Central to this success is the part played by our dedicated team of administrators, executives and volunteers, whose expertise, enthusiasm, and can-do spirit serve to make the experiences of our young artists rewarding and memorable.

We are looking for someone with a track-record in the arts or youth arts, who has a passion for youth development and seeing young people achieve and grow.

We are drawn to people who are optimistic, with a can-do attitude, embrace the team environment, and thrive in seeing artistic programmes through from start to finish.

### **How will you help DYT?**

Reporting to the Board of Directors and working alongside our General Manager, you as Artistic Director will help deliver DYT's vision by programming and implementing a year round programme of activities for DYT's members. This will include designing a workshop programme, programming 6-12 plays for production, assisting with marketing, preparing funding applications, and liaising with stakeholders. You will work closely with our youth theatre members.

We are the arts! That means the role appeals to people who are flexible and adaptable and understand that at times you may have to work unsociable hours.

As this post involves working directly with young people, any offer of employment is contingent on the successful candidate being Garda vetted and receiving child protection training.

### **Specification**

#### *Duties and Responsibilities*

- Programming all artistic activities relating to Dublin Youth Theatre. These include, but are not limited to, one large scale production in a professional venue or suitable space and 2 one-act festivals
- Identify and plan an annual workshop programme based on the developmental and



artistic needs of DYT's members. This includes programming and coordinating a 10 week Induction to DYT and Introduction to Drama series for new members, a 36 week General Workshop series as well as specialist intensive workshops. These programmes of workshops should enable young people to develop a variety of skills in all aspects of youth drama practice, theatre and the related arts

- Build on the excellent reputation of Dublin Youth Theatre and develop an ambitious yet sustainable three year artistic plan for the organisation
- Continue to develop working relationships with suitable national and international partners
- Advocate on behalf of Dublin Youth Theatre and represent Dublin Youth Theatre on relevant external bodies, when appropriate
- Prepare quarterly reports on the artistic programme for the Board and assist in funding applications and reporting

#### *Requirements of the Post*

Youth drama leadership requires a special balance between artistic vision, a commitment to team approaches, and ability to communicate with young people.

#### Essential:

- Passion for and commitment to theatre/youth theatre and the ability to share this with others
- Have a background in at least one of the following:
  - Professional Theatre
  - Youth Arts
  - Youth Work with Arts dimension
  - Community Arts
  - Educational drama or a related field
- Experience of programming drama workshops on a long-term continuing basis, with emphasis on artistic innovation, core skills training, fun and forward development.
- A minimum of five years professional work experience in theatre/drama or a related field
- Experience, ability and an enthusiasm for working with young people in a drama setting
- Commitment to anti-racism, interculturalism and working within an equality framework
- Knowledge of and literacy in theatre and drama and ongoing developments in contemporary Irish and International theatre practice
- Ability to think and act strategically as well as working with day-to-day practicalities
- Be self-motivated, flexible and able to work on own initiative
- Demonstrated ability and desire to support and empower young people using a non-judgmental and empathic approach to develop confidence and where relevant to overcome marginalisation or exclusion
- Understanding of group processes; managing balance between leadership and listening; expression and discipline/respect etc.



- To be willing to work outside normal office hours, including highly flexible hours at key times such as festivals, productions, network events etc

Desirable:

- Experience of working collaboratively with other theatre artists, production personnel etc.
- A relevant qualification
- Ability to work collaboratively with playwrights
- Experience of devising and directing plays
- Experience of producing theatre or working collaboratively with a producing entity
- Experience and knowledge of sourcing funds, and making funding applications.
- Knowledge and understanding of the particular developmental stages, needs and values of adolescence
- 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
- Ability to advocate effectively for youth theatre to theatre/ arts/ education / youth sector on a local, regional and national level
- Knowledge and understanding of the basic values of collective and youth work approaches, including codes of best practice and responsibilities in relation to Child Protection and Welfare and the National Quality Standards Framework

*Skills and Abilities:*

- Excellent communication skills (written and interpersonal) in relation to a range of groups and individuals.
- Ability to engage with young people and to involve them in decision-making.
- Ability to develop positive working relationships with a range of individuals, groups and organisations.
- Good organisational and administrative skills. (E.g. basic report writing, record keeping and ability to work to deadlines).
- Good networking skills.
- Have a good basic level of I.T. skills with knowledge of MS Office Suite, and Google Drive.
- Basic financial and budgetary skills.

**How we'll help you?**

You'll be part of an organisation that backs you 100% and takes pleasure in seeing your artistic vision soar. You'll experience variety and diversity by working with young people from a range of interesting backgrounds, have the support you need to implement and advance our programme of activities, and collaborate with leading theatre practitioners.



Our benefits package for this quarter-time role includes an annual salary of €12,500 (equates to €50,00 on a full-time basis), statutory leave pro rata and you have Christmas off without being included in your annual leave.

<b>Salary</b>	€12,500 per annum Initially 1 year fixed term contract with a 2 month probationary period
<b>Hours of work</b>	520 hours, on average 10 hours per week including weekly meetings with GM and quarterly board meetings. The post holder will be expected to carry out any reasonable duties as requested and be available to work unsociable and flexible hours (evenings and weekends when needed to facilitate the artistic programme).
<b>Holidays</b>	Statutory leave pro rata in addition to office closure at Christmas
<b>Reporting To</b>	Dublin Youth Theatre Board of Directors
<b>Apply</b>	Please send your CV and a cover letter outlining any relevant experience, detailing why you are the best fit for the job to <a href="mailto:chair@dublinyouththeatre.com">chair@dublinyouththeatre.com</a>

**Application Deadline** 5pm on Monday 8 November 2021.

Shortlisting of applicants will then take place. All shortlisted applicants will then be asked to:

1. Attend a formal interview that will be held in the second half of November
2. Each candidate will be asked to prepare a sample annual workshop plan for 1 year to demonstrate their vision for youth theatre

Successful candidate will be subject to Garda Vetting and references will be sought.

**Dublin Youth Theatre is funded by The Arts Council, Dublin City Council and the City of Dublin Youth Services Board.**

*Dublin Youth Theatre is an equal opportunities employer.*

<https://dublinyouththeatre.com/about/>