



Dublin Youth Theatre - Artistic Director Role Description

Reporting to the Board of Directors and forming part of DYT's Executive, the Artistic Director will be jointly responsible with the Executive Director in delivering DYT's strategic vision and mission. The Artistic Director will programme and implement 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 and preparing funding applications and liaising with stakeholders.

DYT is a youth arts organisation working with young people aged 14-22, whose operating hours involve evenings and weekends. You will be the primary point of contact for our youth theatre members, partner organisations and visiting artists; this role requires adaptability and the understanding that at times you will have to work flexible hours.

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

Specification

Title: Artistic Director of Dublin Youth Theatre

Responsible for: Strategic Leadership and Artistic Programming of Dublin Youth Theatre

Reporting to: Board of Dublin Youth Theatre

Responsibilities

Artistic

- Programming and resourcing all artistic activities relating to Dublin Youth Theatre. These include, but are not limited to, one large scale production in a professional venue or other suitable space, DOAF (Debut One Act Festival), MOAF (Members One Act Festival),
- Identify and develop an annual workshop programme for Dublin Youth Theatre based on the developmental and artistic needs of its members. This includes programming and facilitating a 10 week, First Year Introduction to Drama workshop programme and delivering a Second Year workshop programme (approximately 50 workshops per year). These programmes of workshops for young people should facilitate them towards developing a variety of skills in all aspects of youth drama practice, theatre and the related arts.
- Manage relationships with visiting artists/facilitators.

- Work with the wider DYT Team to implement the artistic programme.

Strategic and Financial

- Prepare and manage production and organisational budgets in collaboration with the Executive Director.
- Build on the excellent reputation of Dublin Youth Theatre and develop an ambitious yet sustainable annual artistic plan for the organisation.
- Working with the Board and Executive Director to develop and deliver the organisational strategic plan
- Income generation, including funding applications and actively seeking new income streams. Fundraising - strategy and execution.
- Maintaining good relationships with stakeholders and working relationships with suitable national and international partners.
- Represent Dublin Youth Theatre on relevant external bodies, where appropriate.
- Advocate on behalf of Dublin Youth Theatre

Child Protection

- Acting as Deputy Designated Liaison Person
- This position is a Mandated Reporter under Children First Act 2015

Building Management & Health & Safety

- Ensuring that risk assessments are completed for DYT activities and that adequate measures are taken to reduce risks
- Managing and maintaining lease agreements and relationships with landlord, city council and service providers.

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 and 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 highly flexible hours at key times such as festivals, productions, network events etc
- 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).
- Have a working knowledge of MS Office Suite and Google Drive.
- Financial and budgetary skills, including the ability to read, manage and present on budgets and annual returns

Desirable:

- Experience of working collaboratively with other theatre artists, production personnel etc.
- Experience of leadership and management
- A qualification in a relevant discipline in what?
- 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

Salary	€45,000 per annum 3 year fixed term contract with a 6 month probationary period
Hours of work	Full time position for 35 hours per week. The post holder will be expected to carry out any reasonable duties as requested and be available to work flexible hours (evenings and weekends when needed to facilitate the artistic programme). Time in lieu offered for any hours worked overtime.
Holidays	20 days annual leave in addition to office closure for 2 weeks at Christmas
Reporting To	Dublin Youth Theatre Board of Directors

Apply Please send your CV and a cover letter outlining any relevant experience, detailing why you are the best fit for the job to chair@dublinyouththeatre.com

Application Deadline 5pm on 2 February 2026

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

- Attend an interview the week of 9 February
- Each candidate will be asked to prepare a sample annual workshop plan for 1 year to demonstrate their vision for youth theatre

The 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/>