

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

Mortal Fools is recruiting drama facilitators



About Us

Mortal Fools creates fantastic theatre with young people working as co-creators alongside professional artists, in ways and settings which positively change lives.

Our core values are:

Contributing – to make sure everyone we work with can make a positive contribution to the work and ensuring we make a positive and valuable contribution to the wider sector

Growing – to foster a spirit of learning, creativity and innovation in all that we do

With others – to seek out and promote collaborative and supportive practices across all our work

As ourselves – to be authentic, actively foster a culture of belonging and inclusivity and ensure all voices are heard within our wider work

We aim to:

1. Make fantastic theatre

We believe that fantastic theatre can be created by and for young people and it can be achieved in community settings and schools as well as professional venues.

We focus on providing opportunities for those young people for whom there is a lack of provision and those suffering disadvantage.

2. Make sure people keep watching theatre

We work to keep theatre relevant by working with young people to create, programme and take them to theatre which inspires and excites them to build the audiences of the future.

3. Develop the Arts practitioners of the future

Even great arts can be delivered badly, and to disastrous effect. We support artists to develop both their artistic and delivery skills through training, mentoring and feedback.

We focus on supporting those artists in the most challenging, early stages of their career.

4. Champion and lead making great art with children and young people

We believe that work with and for young people should be afforded the same status as work produced by professionals. We demonstrate this by showcasing high quality artistic work to wide audiences as inspiration for others.

5. Keep Learning

We remain clear about the differences we're trying to make and make sure we're really, really good at what we do. To continue to inspire those we work with, we actively seek out input from those who inspire us, and learn from them.

Our Programmes

CREATIVES OF THE FUTURE

We've spent the last two years doing an R&D programme to develop drama and youth theatre provision in Northumberland, supported by Arts Council England through *Grants for the Arts*. This year, we are launching the follow-on project from this work – *Creatives of the Future*.

Through the next two years we will be working with renowned artists and theatre companies from around the UK in residencies, workshops and collaborations to help develop our artistic and participatory practices, and bring dynamic companies into the North East.

This project involves our flagship youth theatre – Tyne Valley Youth Theatre (TVYT www.tvyt.org.uk) in West Northumberland, with c150 members aged 8-19 who take part in an annual programme of workshops, performance projects (mostly devised), trips (e.g. Edinburgh Fringe Festival), creative leadership and special projects (like National Theatre *Connections* Festival).

We are also developing new youth theatre provision in locations across Northumberland with a focus on those with low provision, rural isolation and socio-economic deprivation.

Creatives of the Future also has an additional strand for freelance artist training and development. This involves team training, working with other companies and supported training for early career artists.

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

This programme is designed for children in Key Stage 2 from areas of socio-economic deprivation, especially ex-industrial areas. It involves using drama to support children and teachers develop practice, non-cognitive skills and wellbeing and improve attainment in literacy. It involves producing original plays using the children's writing which are performed and directed by early career artists.

FUTURE READY

This programme uses a theatre production process to support teenagers with special educational needs and disabilities to develop the skills, confidence and self-knowledge required to make a successful transition from education.

DROP THE ACT

This is a programme of practical skills workshops for corporate clients in which we combine artistic practices with social sciences. It is a partnership with Northern Stage, the region's largest producing theatre. To date, we have worked with solicitors, architects, teachers, managers, lecturers, social workers and students.

TEACHER CPD

We also have a programme of CPD sessions for teachers. These are both in artistic practices and general skills.

What we offer you

We want everyone who works with us to feel that they belong, that their efforts and talents are appreciated, and that they are supported both in delivering the work of Mortal Fools and in the development of their practice as artists and facilitators.

Whilst all of us at Mortal Fools work very hard, challenging ourselves and our participants, we also want to create a working environment which is fun. We believe that this gives everyone an opportunity to thrive, which is good for us as individuals, but great for us as an organisation.

We'll support you with one-to-one feedback, group training and development sessions and creating an environment where you're able to bring your ideas, enthusiasm and talents to fruition. We also aim to foster an ethos of support within our team, helping each other out creatively, with get-ins and get-out on shows, and seeing each-other's work.

What we're looking for in you

- ✓ Up for a challenge and to work hard
- ✓ Passionate about inspiring and supporting others to unlock their potential
- ✓ Positive about working with young people aged 8-19
- ✓ Keen to develop your own practice
- ✓ Able to positively contribute to a team and to share your expertise and experience
- ✓ Keen to learn along with everyone else
- ✓ Able to leave your ego at the door

What we'd like you to bring

- ✓ A proven commitment to work in participatory settings
- ✓ A passion for your work and lots of energy
- ✓ Experience of working with young people
- ✓ Experience of facilitating sessions
- ✓ Experience of a devising process
- ✓ A degree in a related subject (or relevant experience)

Practical Requirements

- ✓ Ideally based in or close to Northumberland (but this is not essential)
- ✓ Have availability for evening and weekend sessions during term time and some intensive weekly projects in school holidays
- ✓ Have access to reliable transport and are willing and able to travel. Please be aware that we work across the counties of Northumberland and Tyne and Wear, this means that access to own transport is preferred, and/or ability and willingness to use public transport and travel promptly to venues is essential.
- ✓ Have an enhanced CRB/DBS check dated within the last 24 months, or are willing to undertake one (we will process this for a fee)
- ✓ Have public liability insurance to the value of £5million or higher, or are willing to get it before commencing work with us.

What you need to do next

If you think you can offer what we're looking for, and want to apply to work with us (even if you don't fit every single requirement), please send:

- a covering letter (no more than 2 sides of A4 please) explaining why you are interested in working with us and how your skills and experience suit the role
- Your CV
- Details of two referees

To Kiz Crosbie, Artistic Director at kiz@mortalfools.org.uk no later than 5pm on Monday 6th February

If you have any questions, please see our website www.mortalfools.org.uk or contact Kiz on 07779 579558 or the email address above.

Those people shortlisted will be invited to a recruitment day on: **Friday 24th February from 2-7pm in Riding Mill**

Please do not apply if you are not able to make this date, as we are unable to consider you at this time.