



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT Youth Theatre Facilitators Panel

County Carlow Youth Theatre seeks a panel of experienced Youth Theatre Facilitators with a proven track record and who are passionate about youth drama as well as having the attributes to balance artistic vision, group work skills and an ability to connect and work with adolescents.

Background Information

County Carlow Youth Theatre was established by Carlow County Council Arts Service in 2001 and currently is made up of 2 very strong groups who meet currently on a Monday evening. The younger group are **aged 11-14 year olds** and meet from **5.30-7pm** and the older group are aged **15-19 year olds** and meet the same evening from **7.30pm-9pm**.

The successful panel of facilitators will be managed by and report to a Youth Theatre Coordinator, contracted as part of the Carlow County Council Arts Office programme.

Our aim is to:

Extend and deepen the range of opportunities for participation in Youth Theatre through accessible high quality programme provision as a means of empowering young people to express themselves creatively, improve their quality of life and bring about positive changes in their physical, mental and social wellbeing

There is potential opportunities for facilitation of young people outside of the core two groups and in the development of the youth theatre we know that in order to make youth theatre more accessible countywide our ambition is to work within the formal and non formal education sector, through a planned programme of **taster workshops, residencies and summer projects** , coordinated by the Youth Theatre Coordinator.

In order to deliver these workshops individuals wishing to be included on the panel must indicate there preferences for working with one or both core established groups and/or an openness to facilitate outside of these core groups in other contexts as required.

We invite you, if you wish also, to submit proposals for short to medium term artistic projects and ideas which could enhance the programme development and offer ambitious opportunities for young people.

Individuals must meet the necessary criteria of experience outlined below, as a shortlisting process will take place by an experienced external panel and essential attributes are required such as Garda Vetting, References and Tax Clearance.

You can follow Carlow Youth Theatre on Facebook.

See full details and submissions process attached below.

For Further information you can contact:

Sinead Dowling
Arts Officer
Carlow County Council
Athy Road
Carlow
(059) 9136204 / 059 9170301

Or email to: sdowling@carlowcoco.ie

**Closing Date for receipt of the above 5pm 29th June 2018.
Apologies Late Expressions of interest will not be accepted**



Detailed Information

Please ensure you read all of the information below before applying or contacting us

Youth Theatre Facilitator(s)

County Carlow Youth Theatre seeks enthusiastic, energetic individual(s) who are passionate about youth drama and has the attributes to balance artistic vision, group work skills and an ability to connect and work with adolescents.

Youth Theatre can represent the heart and energy of a place and its people like few other artforms. As a participative socially inclusive practice, it connects widely with local communities while simultaneously supporting artist development, artform development and audience development. Youth Theatre strives for artistic excellence that is very much process led. It prides itself on quality engagement that responds directly to the needs and stages at which they are at, of the young people who engage with it.

Each of the current youth theatres are now well established groups and the young people who are involved have taken part and learnt many different drama skills. Each group is extremely committed and enthusiastic and offer a wonderful opportunity for the right person to lead them.

An exciting opportunity also exists for facilitation of workshops outside of the two core established groups which could include in/out of school taster workshops residencies and projects.

Individuals expressing an interest on being included on a panel need to indicate which option(s) you are interested in facilitating (you can include all three or just one or two of the below) and will be subject to meeting the necessary criteria of experience and essential attributes required.

1. 11-14 year olds on Monday evenings 5.30-7pm
2. 15-19 year olds on Monday evenings 7.30-9pm
3. Outreach Options (in/out of school taster workshops, residencies, projects)

*Please note if you include options 1 &/or 2 you must be available to facilitate those times and be available on a Monday (currently this is the day the Youth Theatre meets). **If you include option 3 you must indicate your current availability and the timeframe of your project proposals.***

Youth Theatre Facilitator(s)

Will be responsible for: Facilitation of Artistic Workshops for County Carlow Youth Theatre

Functions:

- Facilitate and deliver quality workshops for young people in order for them to gain a variety of skills in all aspects of youth drama practice.
- Identify and develop a series of workshops/programme of work for County Carlow Youth Theatre with the Youth Theatre Coordinator that strives for an artistically ambitious longer-term sustainable vision.
- Ensure at all times a safe environment for young people with full compliance with health and safety policy and best practice in relation to child protection.

Requirements

Youth drama facilitation requires a special balance between artistic vision, group work skills, a deep understanding for the well-being of young people and vitality as well as the ability to communicate and connect with adolescents.

Youth Theatre Facilitators should ideally possess the following attributes:

Essential:

- Passion for and commitment to theatre/youth theatre and the ability to share this with others
- A proven track record, experience, ability and an enthusiasm of being able to work and connect with adolescents in a theatre/drama setting
- Experience of leading drama workshops on a long-term continuing basis, with emphasis on artistic innovation, core skills training; fun and forward development
- A minimum of two years work experience in theatre/drama or a related field
- Knowledge of and literacy in theatre and drama and ongoing developments in contemporary Irish and International theatre practice.
- Ability to work with day-to-day practicalities, showing flexibility and positive attitude in your work ethic. The Youth Theatre Facilitator(s) is required to work outside of normal working hours i.e. evening and weekends as required.
- Knowledge and understanding of the basic values of collective and youth work approaches.
- Have undertaken training and have a thorough proven track record and knowledge of codes of best practice in relation to child protections etc.
- Adhere to all required Health and Safety Requirements associated with holding workshops.

- **Desirable:**

A relevant qualification or 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 devising and directing plays
- Experience of working in a professional theatre setting
- Ability to write creatively or to work collaboratively with playwrights
- Experience of working collaboratively with other theatre artists, production personnel etc.
- Experience of producing theatre or working collaboratively with a producing entity
- Some 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 level, regional and national level

Personal Attributes

- Non-judgmental, empathic approach and attitude.
- Commitment to anti-racism, inter-culturalism and working within an equality framework.
- Understanding of group processes; managing balance between leadership and listening; expression and discipline/respect etc.
- Commitment to team approaches
- Have a strong desire to support and empower young people to develop confidence and where relevant to overcome marginalisation or exclusion.
- Be self-motivated, flexible and able to work on own initiative.

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 and/or devolve to them, decision-making responsibilities.

- Ability to develop positive working relationships with a range of individuals, groups and organisations.
- Ability to work on one's own initiative.
- 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.

Management Structure

County Carlow Youth Theatre is managed by Carlow Town & County Amenity Trust Ltd. on behalf of Carlow County Council. County Carlow Youth Theatre is currently an initiative of Carlow County Council Arts Office.

The Youth Theatre Coordinator is who you would directly report to. In the absence of the Youth Theatre Coordinator you would report to the Arts Officer of Carlow County Council.

Terms of Contract

This is a **Contract for Services** and its duration is based on your availability and suitability and is subject to funding, health and safety/garda vetting with an initial probationary period subject to performance.

As this is a contract for services no leave entitlement will be paid.

The Youth Theatre year is currently made up of 3 terms:

September 2018 - December 2018.

January 2019 – Easter 2019

April 2019 – June 2019

With the potential for project proposals during the summer months.

The Contract for Services requires the Faciliator(s) to prepare for and facilitate a (or both) 1 ½ - 2 hour weekly workshop during the above 3 terms. The Contract for Services will include work outside of normal day-time hours ie nights and if required weekends.

A condition of payment for facilitating workshops is that if a workshop has to be cancelled due to circumstances out of your control such as weather etc you will still be paid for the workshop. However if you have to cancel a workshop yourself please notify the young people and payment will not be made for this workshop.

The terms of this contract is subject to satisfactory references, satisfactory Garda Vetting and Tax Clearance.

Fees

€60 per hour which recognises the importance of the planning time required for each workshop given.

As this is a contract for services, personal taxation is the responsibility of the Contractor and the contract is subject to submission of Tax Clearance Certificate or letter from Accountant stating that all tax affairs are up-to-date and in order prior to take up of contract.

Expenses

Separately a small travel expense will be made available for each workshop if the facilitated is travelling to Carlow from elsewhere. At times, particularly when rehearsals take place, this will require agreed flexibility and potential moving of workshops times; and at this time an hourly rate will not apply, however will be agreed within budgets available.

Expression of Interest Call – you are required to submit:

1. An up to date CV including 2 appropriate referees and contact details.
A cover letter indicating your own interests and experience in youth drama. Please outline why you believe you are suitable for this, as well as which of the above Youth Theatre groups you are interested in facilitating, e.g. (1,2 or all 3 options) with a clear outline of your availability.
2. If you wish to submit a proposal/project outline ideas please do so with a brief overview of your idea, intended timeline (that work within the youth theatre 3 academic terms outlined) and a potential budget outline for this idea.

Hard copies to be sent to :

Sinead Dowling
Arts Officer
Carlow County Council
Athy Road
Carlow
(059) 9136204

Marked: **Confidential (County Carlow Youth Theatre)**

Or you can email to : Kelly Mooney, Carlow Arts Office @ kmooney@carlowcoco.ie.

Closing Date for receipt of the above 5pm 29th June 2018.

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Shortlisting of Expressions of Interest will then take place and all candidates will be contacted by the end of August 2018.

Successful candidate(s) will be subject to Garda Vetting, References being sought and at contract signing subject to producing a Tax Clearance Certificate

Successful candidate(s) will be required to undertake an induction to County Carlow Youth Theatre by the Youth Theatre coordinator and the appropriate health and safety policies as well as required.

