

# Young Vic

## **Directors Program FAQs** **Published 09 September 2019**

### **What is a Welcome Meeting?**

This is an opportunity to meet with the Associate Artistic Director and the Directors Program Administrator as well as other directors joining the network at that time. This group meeting is a chance to find out more about what is on offer, ask any questions and get a clear sense of how the network operates. The meetings take place once a month at the Young Vic usually at 5.30pm – 6.30pm. If you live outside of London and are unable to attend the meeting we can arrange an alternative way to find out the information and become an active member of the network.

### **Equal opportunities data collection?**

The Young Vic has a deep commitment to representation, in the shows we create and present as well as in the people we work with. Your equal opportunities data is being collected so that we can do our part to change UK theatre. We will use your data so that we have an understanding of the breadth of creatives on our network and to develop new initiatives, activities and events.

### **Why are you asking about artistic identity?**

This is a voluntary option. Individual artists, producers, organisations and companies often get in touch with us asking to contact artists with specific background. If you identify as an artist of colour, D/deaf artist, diasporic artist, disabled artist, female artist, queer artist, trans artist, and/or working class artist, highlighting this information to the Young Vic in your profile will help us to direct opportunities your way. This information is not available to anyone other than the Young Vic. We also organise events and opportunities that are specifically aimed at artists whose work identifies with specific characteristics and will use this information to direct opportunities your way.

### **Why are you asking to share my data?**

There will be some opportunities and events where our industry partners have asked for recommendations based on location, skills and specialism. By giving us permission we are able to put you forward for these opportunities or events. Your data will only be shared for opportunities, jobs and events and your data will not be supplied for marketing emails.

## **Why do you want a photo?**

There are over 1,000 directors on the Genesis Network and in a busy industry it is a useful way to be identified. Often people meet in social work situations and might remember one part of the name but not your full name. The photo is a way of ensuring that the correct person is identified and then contacted. As such, please make sure the photo you provide is a clear, simple headshot that identifies you. The Young Vic is in contact with a wide range of directors and theatre makers and it helps us make and keep connections with the directors on the Genesis Network.

If you are uncomfortable with having a photo as part of your profile, please upload an image of something relating to your work instead.

## **Can I sign up without having a public profile?**

Yes. If you would like to be a member of the network and receive all the notifications but do not want a public profile please let us know as part of your cover letter or by emailing [directorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:directorsprogram@youngvic.org) when you sign up.

## **Dimensions and size of photos – my photo won't upload ...**

If you're struggling to upload a profile photo, please check that it fits our minimum dimensions: width 400px / height: 600px and our maximum file size is 1mb. If you need to resize or reduce the file size, we would recommend you look at free websites such as [bulk resize photos](#) or [pixlr](#).

## **How do I contact other people on the network?**

If you are a member of the network, other members who are happy to be contacted directly via email will have a contact button appear on their profile page. You are also able to start conversations about topics through the network forum.

If you are not a member of the network, you will only be able to contact member through the social channels they provide.

## **What is the difference between an event and opportunity?**

An event is a workshop, discussion, debate etc and an opportunity will relate to employment and jobs. There will be events submitted by Young Vic and those across the industry.

## **How do I apply for events and/or opportunities?**

All events and opportunities will have information about how to apply, deadlines and where to send applications and expressions of interest to. This will be a button with a clear action i.e. book tickets or apply. Please note that events are only open to members of the Genesis Network and are not to be passed on to non-members.

## **Who can submit an event and/or opportunity?**

Any individual or organisation that is running an event or has a job opportunity for directors, designers or producers. If you are a member of the Genesis Network, you will be able to post any opportunities or events you may have directly to the website. If you are an individual or organisation who is not a member of the Genesis Network, email either [opportunitiesdirectorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:opportunitiesdirectorsprogram@youngvic.org) or [eventsdirectorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:eventsdirectorsprogram@youngvic.org) with details on your opportunity or event and we will get back to you on how to submit.

The network is not a means to market shows unless there are ticket discounts on offer. This does not include 2 for 1 offers.

## **Do I have to pay to be part of the network?**

Any Young Vic opportunities or events offered through the Directors Program are free. This includes tickets to see Young Vic shows, workshops, discussions etc. All Young Vic work opportunities through Jerwood Assistant Director, Boris Karloff Trainee Assistant Director, Genesis Future Directors Award are all paid.

Through our Reach Out programme we provide directors who live and work outside of London expenses for travel and accommodation so that they can access the events and also the opportunities. [link to reach out]

Some events that are organised by other companies may have costs attached but these will always be clearly indicated.

## **How do I start a conversation on the forum?**

When you access the forum on the Directors Program website, you will see the forum topics which are all focused on what you need or may need advice on. To start a conversation please click into a topic thread and add a reply, if there are no forums currently answering your need, feel free to begin your own. [sense check once we get the forum]

### **Who is part of the Directors Program team?**

The Directors Program is led by Sue Emmas, Associate Artistic Director who is supported by Tia Begum as Directors Program Administrator. Nadia Latif, Genesis Fellow/Associate Director also runs workshops, provides mentorship to some schemes.

We are a very small department to support over 1,000 artists on the Genesis Network.

### **Do you provide feedback for opportunities?**

We realise that it can be dispiriting to write letters, applications and proposals and not get a sense of why decisions were made. Consequently where possible we will provide opportunities to receive feedback and this will be clearly indicated in the application process. Please note, we do not provide written feedback – it will always be given in person or over the phone.

### **How do I get to see Young Vic shows?**

Through funded ticket scheme we provide opportunities to see all our main house shows and where possible shows in our other spaces. We will choose one or two evenings during the run and invite members to sign up for a ticket.

Please only sign up if you are fully committed to attending. The tickets are free to members, but as most of our shows sell out they are not free to us. We choose to offer complimentary tickets because we want our work accessible to emerging artists on the Genesis Network.

The tickets are free but if a ticket is cancelled within three working days or not taken up on the night we will charge the full face value of the ticket. We also keep a record of who requests a ticket and then does not make use of it. This is because we are always over-subscribed and we want to make sure all tickets are used.

We are unable to run waiting lists as with so many events and offers and such a small team it is too time consuming.

### **Can I forward on information about Young Vic funded tickets to other people?**

The funded tickets we provide are only for members on the Genesis Network. Please do not forward to non-members. There are a limited number of tickets available and we want to make best use of them. We are also only able to offer one per person.

### **Can I use Young Vic spaces for rehearsals or R&D?**

The Young Vic does not have the space to offer other companies space to rehearse or R&D.

When we do have space we send out email to the full Genesis Network to provide R&D opportunities. This is usually for a day or half day. We will always notify the full network when these opportunities arise.

### **How do I get my work programmed at the Young Vic?**

At present we are not able to receive proposals for shows to be performed in the Clare or the Maria. We are using those spaces for our own work we make as part of Taking Part, the Directors Program such as Genesis Future Directors Award, or our series of debates and events such as YV:ID.

Generally we rarely programme work that we have not originated ourselves. We also have a range of work we are developing ourselves and there are limited opportunities for us to programme already made work.

However, if you have an idea or play you would like to suggest as part of our main house programme please email [programme@youngvic.org](mailto:programme@youngvic.org).

However, we are very keen to get to know the work of artists and the best way for us to do this is to see work. If you would like us to see your work please email Kwame Kwei-Armah on [programme@youngvic.org](mailto:programme@youngvic.org) and Sue Emmas on [directorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:directorsprogram@youngvic.org).

### **Does the Young Vic host rehearsed readings?**

We very rarely host rehearsed readings. When we do it tends to be for invited audience and is for shows or ideas we are in the process of programming.

We have very limited opportunities to support rehearsed readings of plays we do not have a direct link to.

### **How do I get cast at the Young Vic?**

We do not have a casting director on the Young Vic's staff and therefore we always use freelance casting directors for all our work. If you are interested in working at the Young Vic it is best to get in contact with the casting director working on the specific show you would like to be considered for. To find out who is casting which show please contact our Welcome Team on 020 7922 2922.

### **How do I assist on a show at the Young Vic?**

Any opportunity we have to assist on a Young Vic show will be advertised through our Directors Program website. Please join the Genesis Network to ensure you receive notifications when we are recruiting assistants as part of our Jerwood Assistant Director scheme.

### **How do I do work experience/internships at the Young Vic**

If you're interested in work experience, we have a number of placements available through our Taking Part department. If you live or study in Lambeth or Southwark please email [schools@youngvic.org](mailto:schools@youngvic.org) to submit your request. We'd love to hear what you hope to experience during your time with us and please be sure to include specific dates that work for you.

The Taking Part department runs our Young Associates scheme for young adults between the ages of 18 – 25 who are based in Southwark. When we are recruiting for this scheme it will be posted on <https://www.youngvic.org/about-us/jobs>

We don't run an internship programme but we do provide placements through Reach Out and the Jerwood Assistant Directors scheme to spend time at the Young Vic finding out more about how the theatre works. These opportunities are always advertised through the Genesis Network.

If you are interested in gaining work experience on the technical side of theatre please send a current CV and cover letter to [rachelsalenius@youngvic.org](mailto:rachelsalenius@youngvic.org) to express your interest in a placement with one of our production teams.

Please note that you should be in full time education in order to do work experience at the Young Vic.

### **Can I observe rehearsals?**

We offer paid opportunities to be in rehearsals through Jerwood Assistant Director and the Boris Karloff Trainee Assistant Director schemes. These will always be advertised through the Genesis Network. We recognise that access to rehearsals is limited and so for some shows we have open rehearsals where we have an empty chair in the rehearsal room, and invite directors from the network to observe a day of rehearsals. These opportunities will always be advertised when they are available.

### **If I live and work outside of London how can I take part?**

We run a range of activities for directors across England who live and work outside London. Some take place at the Young Vic and others are run in association with theatres we are either touring work to or have ongoing relationships with. Through

Reach Out project we have a Go See fund so that if you live outside of London (in England) we can provide a small amount of money to help with travel and accommodation expenses so you can take part in Young Vic activities and projects.

When you sign up to the Genesis Network please clearly indicate that you live and work outside of London.

### **If I live and work outside of England how can I take part?**

If you live and work in Scotland, Wales, Ireland or Northern Ireland you can join the network and have access to all opportunities through Reach Out. Please note, due to limited resources we are not able to provide the Go See fund to anyone outside of England.

### **If I live and work outside the UK how can I take part?**

All activities take place in England and in order to apply for some opportunities you have to be resident in the UK at the point of application. At present we do not have specific opportunities for international directors who are not resident in the UK.

### **If I have an idea for an event, such as a workshop or discussion what should I do?**

We encourage members of the Genesis Network to come up with ideas for workshops and initiatives. This should be an activity that would benefit no less than 10 – 15 directors. Our series of peer-led projects are opportunities for members on the network to suggest workshops they would find useful. It is not expected that the member who suggests the session will run it – instead they will work with the Young Vic to initiate and develop the idea. This might be asking a specific practitioner to share their craft, running a discussion, bringing together a group of directors with shared interests. Recent examples include regular opportunities to watch recording of international work, workshops for LGBTQ theatre makers, networking event for writers and directors.

If you have an idea send an email to Sue Emmas, Associate Artistic Director on [directorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:directorsprogram@youngvic.org).

### **I've forgotten my password... help**

Please visit the member login section, click Forgot Password. You will then be taken to a screen to enter your email address you signed up using. Once you submit, you will be

given a one-time use password reset link where you will be able to update to a new password. If this expires or you cannot use the link, follow the above instructions to receive another password reset.

### **I want to change my email address, how do I do this?**

If you'd like to change your email address, please email [directorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:directorsprogram@youngvic.org) with your current email address and what you would like this to be changed to and this can be amended for you. [test this process]

### **How often do Genesis Future Directors Award happen?**

Each year we support two directors through the Genesis Future Directors Award. The selection process usually happens in either the spring or the autumn and will be advertised through the Genesis Network and our social media channels.

### **Are the workshops accredited?**

The opportunities offered through the Directors Programme are for directors who are presently working in the industry and are part of their continued professional development. Consequently the opportunities are not part of a course and there is no accreditation.

### **Who is the Boris Karloff Trainee Assistant Director aimed at?**

The Boris Karloff Foundation Trainee Assistant Director scheme provides an opportunity for a director to gain experience working on a show presented at or produced by the Young Vic.

We accept that it is hard for all directors to secure paid high quality assisting work however, this scheme is particularly aimed at new directors who might not follow the usual pathways into theatre and directing or are presently under-represented in the industry.

We are particularly keen to hear from people of colour, people who are D/deaf or disabled, people experiencing mental health issues, those who identify as working class and those who have not studied to degree level. As part of our commitment as Disability Confident employer all D/deaf and disabled candidates who demonstrate that they meet the essential criteria will be invited for interview.

The directors should have limited experience of directing but be able to demonstrate a commitment to a career in theatre directing. To apply you should have seen work at the Young Vic, have less than two years' experience of working professionally in theatre as



a director, have not studied to MA level or above. You should be over 18 and resident in the UK at point of application.

### **What is Introduction to Directing?**

This initiative is run in partnership with our Taking Part department and is designed to address the lack of diversity amongst the theatre community. This scheme encourages young adults from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds or who identify as working class to consider directing as a viable career choice. Each year we run a three phase project that provides up to 20 potential directors with practical skills, mentorship and support over a year. To find out more information, email [participation@youngvic.org](mailto:participation@youngvic.org)

### **What is Springboard?**

This week long workshop is specifically aimed at directors with less than 18 months' experience and offers a broad overview of the director's craft. Our workshops cover a variety of topics such as devising, working with actors, dramaturgy, textual analysis and Shakespeare's verse. Springboard happens once a year and is advertised through the Directors Program website.

### **What is Fresh Direction?**

This initiative provides ongoing support for directors who have taken part in Introduction to Directing, the Boris Karloff Trainee Assistant Director scheme and others we meet through the opportunities offered through the wider Directors Program. It is specifically for directors who are presently under-represented in the industry. The Directors Program is there to support all directors at the early stages of their career but we recognise that there are greater barriers for working class, Black artists, artists of colour and artists who are D/deaf and disabled. It provides regular ongoing support to develop their craft, practice and navigate through the industry. Taking part in Fresh Direction is mainly through participation in one of the above initiatives but if you would like to find out more please contact [directorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:directorsprogram@youngvic.org).

### **How do I invite you to see my show?**

Please send invitations to Sue Emmas at [directorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:directorsprogram@youngvic.org). For Kwame Kwei-Armah, Genesis Fellow, Creative Associate and the producing team please email [programming@youngvic.org](mailto:programming@youngvic.org)

## **Designers**

### **What do you offer for designers?**

The Directors Program primarily focuses on opportunities for directors but we recognise that designers are a vital collaborator when making work. We have expanded our support for designers and from the website you will hear about events we are running, offers to see Young Vic shows and be able to connect with directors and producers that are looking for designers. You can also be a part of discussions on the forum and connect with other designers through our Genesis Network Directory.

### **What kind of designers can sign up?**

We want to be open and accessible to all designers. In the past we predominantly run events for set and costume designers, however, we are now broadening our offer, so please do sign up if you are a designer of any specialism.

## **Producers**

### **Can I be contacted by directors?**

As a producer member on the Genesis Network, you will sign up and become a member in the same way that designers and directors do. Therefore you will be visible as a member and contactable if you so desire. You can choose for your email address to be visible to those on the network or choose to only be contactable through social media links you provide.

### **Is my profile seen by the public?**

As a member of the network, your profile will be visible to the public. However we want this website to be available and accessible to all creatives no matter what their needs. If you have specific needs around your profile, please contact [directorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:directorsprogram@youngvic.org)

### **What do you offer for producers?**

We started out as a directors network but are now seeing the need to support producers with a platform where they can build a network, attend events and find out about latest opportunities. From the website you will be able to connect with directors and designers that are looking for producers, be a part of the discussions and connect with other producers through our Genesis Network Directory.

