

Overview

The Journeys Project – will support the development, creation and staging of a short, youth-based drama piece, exploring modern, diverse identities in the economically and spiritually tough sub-region of Teesside, led by Middlesbrough-based playwright Ishy Din.

TVA will work with Ishy Din, who will be the project's overall creative lead, supported by two experienced drama-workers; the partners will jointly recruit a participant group of local young people of varied ethnic and faith origin, including British Asian, the young people will be supported to achieve Bronze Arts Award through the project. Ishy will be creative lead in the creation of a drama piece or series of short drama pieces, exploring identity, aspiration, ambition, Teesside and Britain today; the drama piece/s will be performed at least twice. Ishy will also receive a programme of high-level mentoring with London based writer Fin Kennedy as his mentor.

Project Aims

For a diverse group of young people from Teesside to contribute to the creation, performance, staging, promotion and evaluation of an artwork.

To support these young people to develop their own voice and place within culture.

Participants

12 – 15 x young people aged 16 to 19

Young people may have an existing interest in drama. The group will consist of young people from varied ethnic and faith origins, including British Asian, various socio-economic backgrounds and levels of drama experience. The group should have a reasonable gender balance.

Performances

It is envisaged that the eventual Journeys 'piece' (which may be one play, or a series of shorts, as emerges as the project takes place), will be staged at least twice – once at the **Custom House Myplace Centre 23rd May 2013** and once elsewhere in the town, possibly at Middlesbrough Town Hall TBC.

Additional support

A visual artist will be brought in to contribute to the staging/ props/ scenery element of the eventual performances; the group will also have access to the Myplace music technology suite and technician to add in to the staging.

Roles and responsibilities

Journeys will employ two drama workers; a Drama Worker (DW) and a Host Drama worker (HDW), both of whom will follow and collaborate with Ishy who will be the creative lead. Both drama workers will direct participants, devise the content and development of the project; it is anticipated that the DW will be more involved in this aspect of the project to enable the HDW to undertake other responsibilities (the DW will support this role.) The HDW will have a pastoral aspect to their role as they will be responsible for recruitment of young participants, ensuring consistent engagement of participants, following up when there are issues of non-attendance or difficult behaviours.

Both the DW and the HDW roles will involve

- liaising with and reporting to TVA throughout the project, which will include additional meetings throughout the project
- being responsible for any health and safety issues in their own art form, and co-operating with any such issues in the project in general

- completing risk assessments for all activities as appropriate and delivering to TVA using the TVA risk assessment pro forma at least one week **BEFORE** each series of workshops starts

The HDW will be responsible for;

- Recruitment & general pastoral care (recruitment of young participants, ensuring consistent engagement of participants, following up when there are issues of non-attendance or difficult behaviours)
- Workshop related administration (register, distributing refreshments funds, permission forms etc.)
- Co-ordination of all Arts Award activity (researching/arranging arts events for visit opportunities and relevant transport, marking diaries, booking & preparing for moderation, registering & submitting young people.) A session has been allocated for an Arts Award visit for the HDW to arrange.

TVA uses the similar role/s of ‘Host Arts Worker’ in many creative interventions with young people, especially where some participants are working towards their Arts Award and/or participants are likely to be challenging or vulnerable; we find that having support worker/s in this sort of role frees the lead artist to concentrate on their creativity, whilst ensuring that the pastoral requirements of the group are carefully managed and that work for Arts Award is coherently maintained and achieved. Overall this support within the group allows for the greatest artistic development and stretch for all concerned.

Recruitment

Recruitment will commence once the HDW & DW are contracted, this should be around mid-September leaving the rest of September and October for recruitment. It is anticipated that a number of young people will be identified through various channels and invited to a taster session, during this period it is expected that the HDW will meet potential participants and follow up with telephone calls; this may be in collaboration with Ishy and or other partners such as Youth Services. The taster will be held by both drama workers for interested young people to explore some engaging drama activities, meet Ishy and discuss the project. This session will provide an opportunity for young people to sign up to the project (literally with participation permission forms!). It is hoped that from a pool of 20 young people a core group of 12 – 15 “regulars” will form.

Session allocation

All workshops will take place 6:00 – 9:00pm on Thursdays at Myplace, Middlesbrough Custom House, North Street, Middlehaven, Middlesbrough, TS2 1JT

Weekly workshops will begin on 1st of November, leading to two performances in May 2013 (see attached schedule).

Sessions are to be broken down into dedicated Arts Award and drama time with scheduled breaks in the Myplace café. This may not take up all of the three hours; but allows ample “overspill” where needed.

Drama Worker Fee -

Drama Worker @ £120ps x 30 sessions (inc performances)	£3600
Drama Worker meetings, prep and post prod @ £150pd x 4days	£600
Total	£4200

TVA recognises and respects that as this project develops, there will be room for varied activities, but requires these to be discussed and agreed with TVA beforehand.

Terms and conditions

All artists **MUST** have an Enhanced CRB disclosure in place prior to commencement (dated within two years of the project start date) and **MUST** provide original documentation to TVA along with evidence of current Public Liability Insurance. They will be responsible for their own taxes and national insurance and will have to comply with any health and safety requirements.