

OPENING DOORS

2023-24

A series of professional development workshops,
based on the requests from creatives based in and
around York





Opening Doors will run from November 2023 - February 2024

Workshop	Date	Time	Place
Casting 101 with Jim Arnold	Tuesday 7th November	6.30pm-8.00pm	Online - Zoom
Investigating Structure and Character via Dramaturgy with Mingyu Lin	Saturday 11th November	11.30am-1.00pm	York Theatre Royal
No Fear Fundraising with Matt Harper-Hardcastle	Monday 20th November	5.30pm-7.00pm	Online - Zoom
Project Development and Networking with Kate Veysey	Saturday 25th November	2.00pm-4.00pm	York Theatre Royal
Writing for the Stage with Misha Duncan-Barry	Friday 8th December	7.15pm-9.15pm	York Theatre Royal
Awesome Applications with Matt Harper-Hardcastle	Thursday 11th January	7.00pm-9.00pm	York Theatre Royal
The Ethical Director with Kate Veysey	Saturday 13th January	2.00pm-4.00pm	York Theatre Royal
A Panel of Producers with Joshua Goodman, Nick Stephenson and York Theatre Royal	Wednesday 7th February	6.30pm-8.00pm	Online - Zoom
Rehearsal Room Ready with Juliet Forster	Thursday 22nd February	7.00pm-9.00pm	York Theatre Royal
DIY Dramaturgy: Some useful tools and things to think about with Emma Adams	Sunday 25th February	2.00pm-3.30pm	Online - Zoom
Creative Coaching with Lisa Shaw	Thursday 7th March	7.00pm-9.00pm	York Theatre Royal





Workshops

Casting 101 with Jim Arnold

Bringing his extensive experience from casting *Matilda*, *the Musical* at the RSC, *Wicked*, *Pretty Woman-The Musical*; *The Great British Bake Off Musical*, *Bonnie & Clyde*, *Shrek-The Musical*, and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, Jim will host a discussion about how casting works, how to prepare for auditions, and an opportunity to ask any questions about the casting process.

Investigating Structure and Character via Dramaturgy with Mingyu Lin

An introduction to the work of a dramaturg, followed by a look at analysing a play's structure and character journeys, and how to apply this in other creative roles (eg directing, performing, designing, writing etc).

No Fear Fundraising with Matt Harper-Hardcastle

Writing grant applications can feel daunting - how to start, where to look, what to write! Running *Next Door But One* for 10 years, our CEO and Artistic Director Matt Harper-Hardcastle has learned a lot about this very tricky process. In this workshop he will highlight his top tips for writing a successful funding application, so you'll walk away with some useful tools and with a bit less fear!

Project Development and Networking with Kate Veysey

This is an opportunity to network with other local practitioners- writers, directors, actors, designers, dancers, facilitators, producers and stage managers, to share your ideas and contacts. During this two hour live session in the York Theatre Royal studio, there will be structured exercises aimed at helping you shape or progress your individual projects, with input from the other expertise in the room. A similar session in our previous *Opening Doors* program received feedback that 'It was a really beautiful session, and a perfect opportunity to share a space with fellow creatives and get our creative juices flowing. It was a reminder that being creative doesn't have to mean on my own, and showed me that I have such a big creative support with NDB1 and it's associates.'

Writing for the Stage with Misha Duncan-Barry

Interested in creating characters for stage? Wanting to understand structure? How does one begin to write for stage? We will look at the how playwrights use exercises and ideas to develop character and write plays. Whether you're an experienced writer, a student or just interested in the concept of creating stories for the stage this workshop will be for you. This session is open to writers of all levels of experience. This session will be led by playwright and York Theatre Royal's Resident Artist Misha Duncan-Barry. Pen and paper will be provided but please feel free to bring you own writing equipment if preferred





Awesome Applications with Matt Harper-Hardcastle

This is a follow on from No Fear Fundraising. Using a mix of sample questions from different grant applications you will build a bank of core answers to support the development of your own projects. This workshop will also encourage us to share our application writing with one another, so that we can address the 'fear of clicking submit' whilst also learning from how other people phrase answers.

The Ethical Director with Kate Veysey

What considerations do we have when working with real life testimonies?

When working with triggering subject matter, what can we do to safeguard our audience and our team? How do I also protect myself as the director?

Drawing from her experience of working on productions She Was Walking Home with NDB1 (subject matter: harassment and abuse), Kingdom with Buglight (subject matter: homelessness and PTSD) and Catch with Clean Break (subject matter: women's experience in and after the criminal justice system)), Kate will facilitate a session that enables us to consider our role as a director in managing challenging subject matter.

Creative Coaching with Lisa Shaw

Do you ever get stuck on where to go next, which project to start, what direction your work should take? Then this session is for you. Working together facilitated by a professional coach to understand common problems, and ways to challenge your own thinking in order to do the work that is right for you.

Rehearsal Room Ready with Juliet Forster

A practical session that covers how to run a happy, creative rehearsal room, including techniques and tips for bringing out the best in your team and how to deal with potential challenges.

A panel of Producers with Joshua Goodman, Nick

Stephenson and York Theatre Royal

Are you an emerging producer and want some insight for your career development, or are you self-producing your work and want some support with challenges you are facing? Then come to this panel discussion of producers and programmers from large theatres, touring companies and community-based organisations to get some top tips and ask your burning questions about producing.

DIY Dramaturgy: Some useful tools and things to think about with Emma Adams

A tool kit of ideas and processes to help you develop and troubleshoot your projects with a bit of space to think and talk about what dramaturgy is, what we do and how we work with artists.





Workshops Leaders



Jim Arnold - he/him

Jim is a freelance Casting Director of musicals and plays for West End and regional theatres, and for UK and International tours. He established Jim Arnold Casting in 2018, having previously worked alongside many leading Casting Directors in TV, film and theatre. He is a full member of the Casting Director's Guild of Great Britain and Ireland and was Associate Casting Director for Pippa Ailion Casting from 2012-2018. Credits include Wicked; Pretty Woman - The Musical; The Great British Bake Off Musical; Bonnie & Clyde; Shrek - The Musical; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - The Musical.



Mingyu Lin - she/her

Ming is an award-winning director for Stage and Screen. For stage, she's a Resident Artist with York Theatre Royal and a reader for the Bruntwood Prize and Traverse Theatre. She was previously a Creative Associate at Headlong Theatre and is a co-founder of BESEA advocacy group BEATS and recipient of the Living Pics Directors' Bursary 2021 as well as an alumna of the Royal Court Writers' Program. For screen, she directs for Channel 4's HOLLYOAKS and has won finalist awards for Sundance Shorts, Scifi London and Enter the Pitch.



Matt Harper-Hardcastle - he/him

Matt is the CEO and Artistic Director of Next Door But One. Matt is an award-winning, gay, disabled, theatre director, writer and facilitator. Having worked for regional theatres, universities, national campaigns and local charities, Matt founded NDB1 in 2013 to create a home for all those who shared in his passion for theatre, community and co-production. Matt is also a trustee for Tutti Frutti Productions and Vice Chair of Out of Character, a theatre company comprising of actors with lived experience of mental ill health.



Kate Veysey - she/her

Kate is the Associate Director for Next Door But One, leading on Opening Doors and Yorkshire Trios, and has just directed the tour of She Was Walking Home. Kate is the Artistic Director for Out of Character Theatre Company, with recent credits including Disability and Autonomy, and Shattered by Paul Birch. Kate is a Lecturer at York St John and freelance director. Credits include: Catch for Clean Break, Kingdom for Buglight and Five Children and It for Strawberry Lion, which has recently toured across the UK including Glastonbury festival, Sheffield Crucible and Latitude festival.



Workshops Leaders



Juliet Forster - she/her

Creative Director at York Theatre Royal, leading on all the work we make inhouse. Over 30 years as a director, writer and educator, with experience of large scale productions, site specific, small scale touring and much more in between.



Misha Duncan-Barry - she/her

Misha is a West Yorkshire based Actor, Director and Playwright working across stage and screen. Currently a Playwright in Residence at York Theatre Royal. Misha has previously assistant directed on Sovereign and The Coppergate Woman with York Theatre Royal. This Autumn Misha will be sharing her current work in progress 'Afternoon Tea' at York Theatre Royal.



Joshua Goodman - he/him

Joshua is an experienced creative producer, with 15 years' experience producing performance & participation projects on every scale. With a particular interest in disability-led & queer work, & work that is co-produced with communities, Joshua is Producer at Next Door But One, Zoo Co and Tiny Window. Joshua specialises in producing shows/projects that transition companies & artists into new spaces or reach new audiences, and works as a consultant for artists looking to move from small to mid scale. He is an Arts Council England peer reviewer and holds a doctorate in British and American theatre practices.



Nick Stevenson - he/him

Nick joined Sheffield Theatres in Sep '23 as Producer. He was previously Producer at the Royal Shakespeare Company, where he produced a variety of work including new writing in The Other Place, Shakespeare plays in the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and on national tour. Before joining the RSC, Nick was Producer at Theatr Clwyd, where he led the Producing and Programming team. Nick was co-founder and Executive Producer of Junction 8 Theatre, which he set up with his sister Liz Stevenson to make exciting and bespoke theatre rooted in their hometown of Chorley. In addition, Nick is a trustee and sustainability champion for tutti frutti productions.



Workshops Leaders



Lisa Shaw - she/her

Lisa is a professional coach and mentor, a transformational change professional who is probably best described as a professional problem solver. Helping people find what's right for them is her passion. She is a ICF ACC coach, experienced professional mentor, Senior Leader in change and programme management, Diversity Equity and Inclusion Leader, People Leader with extensive expertise in developing colleagues into senior roles, and currently an MBA student



Emma Adams - she/her

Emma is a queer/neurodiverse writer & dramaturg from Bradford. She's written plays to be performed on stage & in houses, libraries, swimming pools & graveyards. Previous collaborators: Opera North, Red Ladder, Slung Low, WYP, Theatre 503, Freedom Studios, Ovalhouse, Longboat Pictures, CBBC & Shiny Button + ITV. 3 of her plays have toured nationally, 2 are published. Present work: Developing Hoax, for Leeds Playhouse. Dramaturgical work includes: Woke by Testament + Dancing Bear for Jamie Fletcher & Co.

York Theatre Royal are hosting the in-person workshops and other members of their creative team and production team will be joining for some of these workshops too.





Booking Your Place

With funding from Arts Council England, places on any of the Opening Doors workshops are free! However, some of the in-person workshops have limited capacity, so it is important that you sign up for those you wish to attend. This also means we will be able to send you reminders and any follow up resources.

To sign up, look through the workshops on offer and fill out this form to book your place:



Questions

If you have any questions about the workshops or want to discuss anything about the program or your engagement in it, please contact kate.ndb1@gmail.com

In-Person And Online

Some of the workshops will be on Zoom and others at York Theatre Royal.

- Workshops at York Theatre Royal - These will either take place in the Studio or Billiard Room. A member of the NDB1 team will be there to meet you, but it is important that you register for the workshops so we can confirm with you which room it will take place in.
- Workshops on Zoom - We will use the same link for all Zoom workshops throughout Opening Doors, which can be found below:

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82740039211?
pwd=a2FDbHNndVZhbTN1NER2Q0UzYW81QT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82740039211?pwd=a2FDbHNndVZhbTN1NER2Q0UzYW81QT09)

Meeting ID: 827 4003 9211

Passcode: knockknock

