

DIVERSITY SCHOOL INITIATIVE OUTREACH WORKSHOPS

Funded by Andrew Lloyd Webber

The Diversity School Initiative (DSI) has been given a sum of money by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation to deliver workshops to those in Sheffield, Birmingham and Leicester. These workshops aim to connect young people with organisations, drama schools students and alumni, and professionals who can provide in-depth information about training for theatre via drama school and or other avenues of training.



Image of Diversity School Initiative founders

The Diversity School was founded by Maame Atuah, Mumba Dodwell and Steven Kavuma and was set up to address under-representation, inclusivity and diversity in UK drama schools as well as to hold them accountable. We are currently partnered with some of the leading drama schools in the UK who are committed to improving the diversity of all kinds (including, but not limited to, race, gender, social class/socio-economic status, disability) in their institutions.

With our connections to these institutions and organisations we aim to hold a space with real information on how drama institutions work as well as bring those with lived experience to talk about their journey. We particularly want to engage with those Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic groups.

WORKSHOPS AND TALKS

Introduction to Formal School Training Workshop

- Introduction to Drama School Training
- What is a drama school?
- How does one apply?
- What is alternative training?
- 3 X 10 Mins talk with drama school students from different departments of study
 - Acting
 - Applied Theatre
 - Production
- Q&A with current drama school students and Diversity School Founders and Directors

Dates: **1st February and 15th March**

Supporting Talks:

Audition Workshop - 90mins Hour on Audition Process and Auditioning Digitally + Q&A with teachers and alumni / students.

Date: **Monday 8th Feb**

Accessibility in Training and Audition Workshop - Q&A Representatives from a leading theatre that is putting accessibility at the front.

Date: TBC

Key Dates:

Introductory Workshop

Monday 1st February 5:30pm - 7pm

Monday 15th March 5:30pm - 7pm

Audition Workshop

Monday 8th February 5:30pm - 7pm

Accessible Training and Auditions

TBC

To sign up to any of these workshops please fill out this form: [Outreach Workshop Sign up Form](#)



Image of Diversity School Initiative with students from leading UK Drama School

PARTNER DRAMA SCHOOLS

The Diversity School has partnered with six drama schools who have committed to make training more inclusive for all. With our partnership these drama schools have signed up to pay a fee for our services, where we consult on diversity and inclusivity as well as meet with their students to talk about their lived experience at said institution.

We are currently partnered with:

Arts Educational Schools

Website: <https://artsed.co.uk/>

Bristol Old Vic

Website: <https://bristololdvic.org.uk/>

Guildhall School Of Music And Drama (Drama)

Website: <https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/>

Lamda (Drama)

Website: <https://www.lamda.ac.uk/>

Liverpool Institute Of Performing Arts (Lipa)

Website: <https://www.lipa.ac.uk/>

Mountview Academy

Website: <https://www.mountview.org.uk/>

ALTERNATIVE PATHWAY TRAINING

Alternative training is training offered by organisations that is on the whole more affordable and over a shorter period of time. These institutions offer very vigorous training and are spaces in which students can top - up or develop skills in their own time.

Access all Areas - www.accessallareastheatre.org

Access All Areas make disruptive theatre and performance by learning disabled and autistic artists. Our interactive performance events create intimate moments of interaction between performers and public, occupying unexpected spaces in venues, on the streets, and in public buildings.

CompanyThree - www.companythree.co.uk

A theatre company led by the ideas of our 75 members aged 11-19. They are based in Islington and North London and make transformative theatre through long-term, intensive collaboration between young people and professional theatre-makers.

Deafinitely Theatre - www.deafinitelytheatre.co.uk/Pages/Category/adult-programmes

Deafinitely Theatre's HUB is the go-to for accessible theatre training. The Hub is a new theatre training course for emerging deaf, hard of hearing and hearing artists to gain structured, accessible, professional theatre training, with the aim of equipping participants for mainstream arts employment.

Face Front - www.facefront.org/training/

We create accessible theatre for schools and the public, with disabled and non-disabled performers. Our shows and activities transform the lives of disadvantaged people, improving emotional well-being and addressing social injustice.

Extant Pathways Programme - www.extant.org.uk/pathways_press_release/

Pathways—a bespoke training programme for visually impaired theatre-makers.

Graeae - graeae.org

Graeae is a force for change in world-class theatre, boldly placing D/deaf and disabled actors centre stage and challenging preconceptions. Graeae offer support to those in need in providing support when applying and attending drama school.

Iampro - www.iampro.com

The online drama school, where you can take classes from professionals who are working in the industry.

Mind the Gap - www.mind-the-gap.org.uk

Mind the Gap is one of Europe's leading learning disability theatre companies that creates work for UK and international audiences. Their vision is to work in an arts sector where there is equal opportunity for performers with learning disabilities: a world where performers are trained, respected and employed equally, and feature every day on our stages and screens.

The Mono Box - www.themonobox.co.uk

A creative training hub and support network for emerging theatre talent. It provides access to unique affordable, ongoing training, writing and performing opportunities.

National Youth Theatre - www.nyt.org.uk

A national organisation for those aged 15-25 that produces shows for young people with young people. They also offer acting workshops, backstage courses and other development programmes for young people.

New Earth Academy - www.yellowearth.org/about-yellow-earth/we-nurture/yellow-earth-academy/

New Earth Academy is a FREE short summer course of either drama school training or writing for theatre conducted with theatre professionals. They welcome young British East/Southeast Asians*(16+) who have had little or no drama training but might be already working as an actor or writer, people who are keen to get into the theatre industry and those who feel they will benefit from being connected into a growing nationwide BESEA network of young artists and theatremakers.

Orange Tree Theatre - www.orangetreetheatre.co.uk/opportunities/artists

The Orange Tree aims to challenge, move and amaze with a bold and continually evolving mix of new and re-discovered plays in our unique in-the-round space. They provide a Writers programme and Artist Development programme as well as home to the JMK Award.

Tamasha - www.tamasha.org.uk/developing-artists

Originally founded to take positive action to develop British South Asian theatre artists, its focus has since moved to champion and nurture voices and stories from all cultures – cultures that are otherwise left in the shadows.

Uproot Productions - www.uprootprod.co.uk

Uproot is a production company that supports Black artists in developing experimental and political stories that represent the breadth of our lived experiences.

WoLab - www.wolab.co.uk

They offer various types of workshops, new writing nights, script development sessions, by commissioning new work, connecting artists together, providing mentoring support, and also by staging fully realised productions.

Young Vic Taking Part - www.youngvic.org/taking-part

The Taking Part team engages with over 15,000 people a year. They offer young people and their neighbours free tickets to all their shows. As well also run a wide range of projects, from skills based workshops to a chance to perform on one of their stages.

USEFUL LINKS

Missing Link Arts: www.missinglinkarts.org

A non-profit organisation, initially based in Yorkshire and London, providing support and information for those who may not ordinarily have access to the Acting Industry. Missing Link has lots of information on what drama schools offer fee waivers and bursaries, from auditions to acceptance.

Black Ticket Project: [BTP Twitter](#)

They work to help build relationships between artistic institutions and communities that are often racially and socio-economically marginalised. We achieve this in a multitude of ways, by supplying offering free, theatre tickets, creative shows tickets, opportunities to go to talks, exhibitions, development opportunities, resources and more

Open Door - www.opendoor.org.uk

Open Door is an organisation that helps talented young people who do not have the financial support or resources to gain a place at one of the UK's leading drama schools.

Pappy Show - www.thepappyshow.co.uk/home/

The PappyShow, specialising in movement, physical theatre and training. They offer online workshops and are a great community to develop your movement and physical theatre skills.

DANC - www.tripleczone.org

The Disabled Artists Networking Community is a regular networking event for established/professional artists and performers (of any art form) that have a disability. Each event is hosted by a different theatre or arts venues.

To sign up to any of these workshops please fill out this form: [Outreach Workshop Sign up Form](#)

For any questions or further information please email: diversityschoolinitiative@gmail.com