

Horizons

The aim of Horizons is to give young people at risk an opportunity to explore a potential career in theatre, through work placements and workshops at The Watermill.



*The Watermill Youth Theatre
 (Photo by Philip Tull)*

'If I have had a bad day or week it was great to know I could go to The Watermill and meet new people who could help me escape from the stress.'

Sam, 15 yrs

Who is 'at risk'?

We are interested in working with people aged 15 – 25 who are experiencing problems that profoundly affect their lives. This could mean someone with a mental or physical health problem, a disability, someone struggling in education, affected by adverse family circumstances, or vulnerable to neglect or abuse in some way.

How does the programme work?

First of all, we meet with the young person to show them round the theatre and listen to their needs and hopes for the future. If we accept him or her onto the programme, we will then tailor their experience according to their individual needs and to how we think we can best help.

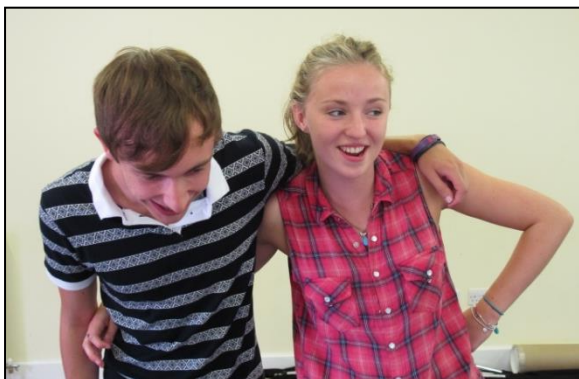
We can only take a very small number of young people on the programme.

I got myself a theatre related job and I wouldn't be able to get it without your help in organising the work experience for me.

*So thank you
 Michael, 18*

The opportunities we might be able to offer are:

- **Ushering:** the chance to be an usher (someone who greets the audience and shows them to their seats) and to see our shows for free.
- **Supporting workshops:** joining one of our regular groups to help teach drama skills to local young people or adults.
- **Free Tuition:** a free place on the Associate Youth Theatre (acting workshops one evening a week during term time) for a term, if there is space.
- **Mentoring:** an opportunity to chat to a theatre professional about the industry and possible career paths.



The Academy – an intensive course for people considering an acting career

Financial Assistance

Places on the Associate Youth Theatre (if offered) are free.

Ushers are paid travel expenses (£6 per show).

The Watermill is only really reached safely by car. If this prevents someone from attending we are able to offer taxi journeys to and from the placement.

Where possible we arrange for a pair of tickets for the person on Horizons placement to experience live theatre.



Youth Theatre Production
(Photo by Philip Tull)

How to apply

Please get in touch with the Outreach team and we will arrange to meet you.

You get in touch either yourself or someone else can contact us on your behalf. Please call Lixi Chivas on 01635 570918 for an informal chat, or email lix@watermill.org.uk

'These first days I have spent here have confirmed two things in my mind – that a career in the arts would be immensely fulfilling, and that I still have so much to learn.'
Katrin, 17yrs

Who will be accepted onto the programme?



Anyone who lives near to The Watermill, is aged 15 – 25yrs, and who is 'at risk' (as described on the previous page) can apply. Places on the programme are very limited so applicants will only be accepted if we really feel we can work with them.

We do not expect applicants to be expert interviewees; we are just looking for enthusiasm and a passion for theatre.

The programme is designed to reward young people for making a commitment and to enable them to leave us armed with ideas about the contribution they can make to the world.

'My time at the theatre has come to an end. I have gained so much experience and skills that I will be able to use in future life. The theatre is a beautiful place and I will most definitely visit again.'
Ruby, 20yrs

The Horizons Programme is kindly
supported by du Pré PLC

