

## **Job Description: Community Associate**

JOB TITLE: Community Associate  
DEPARTMENT: Outreach  
REPORTING TO: The Outreach Director

### **Background**

The Watermill's purpose is to create great shows that audiences love. From our home in a converted Watermill in rural West Berkshire, which seats just 220 people, we have produced award-winning work that has been recognised throughout the UK and abroad. The very best artists and creative teams, both established and at early stages of their careers, are our lifeblood, earning The Watermill a reputation as one of the very best producing theatres in the country.

Our artistic ambition is shown in our choice of work, from Shakespeare and classic plays to new writing. Our bold approach has led to the reimagining of large-scale musicals using actor-musicians, which has been widely viewed as breathing fresh life into familiar shows.

### **Outreach at The Watermill**

Alongside West End transfers and national and international tours of our work, we create productions for small-scale touring, ensuring that those living in rural isolation are able to enjoy high quality theatre on their doorstep. We also tour to schools taking scaled-down, vibrant productions of classic texts in to the classroom to support students' learning.

Our belief that everyone deserves a chance to take part has led to a thriving education and participation programme, which works with around 13,000 people every year at The Watermill and in the wider community. We have a large youth theatre (around 150 children) with an extensive waiting list and run many projects with schools and other organisations in the local area.

The Outreach department currently consists of two full time staff, the Outreach Director and Assistant Outreach Director, and a team of up to 30 freelance artists – actors, directors and teachers, that deliver our work for us.

## The Role

The Community Associate is a new fixed-term post, running for three years, created thanks to funding from Greenham Common Trust.

The successful applicant will set up and manage a series of drama projects working with vulnerable and disadvantaged people in our community, using the arts as a tool to improve inclusion, a sense of wellbeing, and social cohesion.

Our Community Associate will enormously increase our benefit to the local community, building on those relationships we already have and instigating new ones. He/she would be dedicated to ensuring that greater opportunities are available to vulnerable people in our community to take part in the arts. He/she will work with The Greenham Common Trust to identify and meet with potential partners, before setting up and managing a series of projects, delivering the work him/herself or engaging a specialist practitioner. There is a budget in place to support the work.

The ideal applicant will be a drama graduate with experience of running workshops with vulnerable people and a passion for theatre. He/she would have experience working with people from backgrounds that might not normally have access to theatre, such as

- people in custodial settings,
- students at pupil referral units,
- people with learning or physical disabilities,
- asylum seekers or refugees,
- young offenders

## Essential Criteria

- An inspirational drama workshop leader, with experience of working with a wide range of children and/or adults.
- Experience of managing and delivering arts projects involving vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of people.
- A passion for theatre and a firm belief in its power to benefit the local community.
- A good knowledge of theatre and theatre-related skills.
- The ability to evaluate and report on projects.
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- A committed team player and pro-active self-starter.
- Organised, efficient and able to self-administrate.

## Desirable Criteria

- Experience of managing budgets
- Experience of working professionally as an actor or director.

Supported by



## Terms and Conditions

3 year, fixed term contract

Salary: £25,000 per annum

Holidays: Statutory including public holidays

Probationary period: 3 months

Working hours: An average of 40 hours per week. Our offices are open between the hours of 9am and 6pm Monday to Friday and some evening and weekend work will be required.

You will be entitled to participate in the Employer's (or Watermill theatre Limited's) contribution based 'Qualifying Workplace Pension Scheme'. Should you choose not to participate in the scheme you will be automatically enrolled into 'The People's Pension Scheme'. Further information is available from the Finance Department.

## To Apply

Please send us the following:

- Your CV
- A covering letter explaining how you fit the criteria, and a brief description of a drama workshop you have run with vulnerable people of any age.
- A completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

Deadline for applications: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 9am

Interviews to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June; recalls in the w/c 8<sup>th</sup> June.

Applications should be sent to [admin@watermill.org.uk](mailto:admin@watermill.org.uk)

or by post to:

Julie Pearson,  
Administration Secretary  
The Watermill Theatre  
Bagnor  
Newbury  
Berkshire RG20 8AE

For an informal chat about the post, please call Beth Flintoff, Outreach Director, on 01635 570927.