



FAMILY STORYTIME COMPANY 2018

Role description and more information

What is Family Storytime?

Family Storytime is an interactive storytelling performance style aimed at children age 3 to 7 years and their families. Each performance is a one hour immersive theatre piece for a maximum audience of 35 people. An energetic and lively experience, the shows encourage little ones and big ones to be part of the story, to help move the story forward by creatively contributing through song, dance and theatre games.

What is Family Storytime Company?

We are seeking 4 individuals aged 18 to 25 to become the Family Storytime Company from October 17 to August 18. Each selected individual will receive a training bursary totalling £1,050.

Family Storytime Company provides an immersive training experience that will increase your knowledge, skills and confidence in making work for an early years audience.

Membership of Family Storytime Company enables trainees to develop their understanding of a professional theatre environment.

Each trainee will benefit from professional mentoring to identify their strengths and areas for development, improving their broader transferrable skills.

Science and Theatre with early years

Science fits perfectly with creating theatre for young people as it is not just a set of facts that have already been discovered by others, it is a way of exploring and understanding the world. The characters and story can help a young person to experience science concepts.

"Children acquire scientific knowledge by 'construction' not by instruction" (Kamii & Lee-Katz, 1983)

The Family Storytime Company is delighted to be working in partnership with Edinburgh International Science Festival (EISF), to create a season of interactive science tales for 2018. The approach is to draw the science out of familiar stories and develop the children as our very own mini experts.

"Working in partnership with the Family Storytime Company to create exciting storytelling adventures that engage the youngest audience members in science and technology has been a wonderful experience which has allowed us to share skills and learn from each other's expertise. Family Storytime brings classic stories to life in such a unique way for audiences – getting them involved and including them as part of the action – and by searching for the science in each story they bring simple science concepts alive for the audiences, creating a beautiful

partnership between science and storytelling. Edinburgh International Science Festival really values our partnership with the Family Storytime Company and looks forward to working with and learning from a fresh batch of artists.”

Andrew Jeffrey, Events Developer (EISF)

What is included in the Family Storytime Company training?

The training will build your confidence as a theatre-maker for early years by following a series of devising theatre techniques and exercises. This will include initial brainstorm, study of chosen story and exploration of performance ideas through acting, dance, music, song and other creative media. From this, the writing of the script and all essential rehearsal and performance processes take place. In addition there will be development days within the programme to see theatre, explore the science theme and work with science educators from EISF.

Each trainee will be asked to select a creative question to investigate which looks at an aspect of creating theatre for a young audience. This will act as a catalyst for independent study which must be completed and presented in August 2018.

On completion of the year-long training programme, there will be an opportunity to use the SYT building for an agreed number of sessions to develop theatre projects that have been inspired by your training.

Who does what?

The agreement includes days for training, development, rehearsing, previews and performing. Each story will be devised by the full company of 4 and will be performed by 3 performers.

In addition to the devising and performance experience, trainees will have opportunities to take on other roles relevant to being part of a small touring theatre company. These roles can include composer, music director, assistant director, tour manager, assistant stage manager and opportunity to design set, costume and props from the bank of SYT wardrobe.

FST 2018 rotation	Perform	Perform	Perform	Support
February show	Participant A	Participant B	Participant C	Participant D
Easter show	Participant B	Participant C	Participant D	Participant A
May show	Participant C	Participant D	Participant A	Participant B
Merchant City Festival show	Participant D	Participant A	Participant B	Participant C

How is the training bursary paid?

The schedule for payments of the bursary is as follows below.

October 2017 £150.00 Upon signing agreement

April 2018	£300.00	Date to be confirmed (early in the month)
July 2018	£300.00	Date to be confirmed (early in the month)
August 2018	£300.00	Upon completion of programme

Do I need to commit to all of the dates?

Yes, it is essential you are available for all dates in the training programme.

There will be other dates added to this to provide further training and/ or touring opportunities.

DATES IN 2017	ACTIVITY
Fri 13 October	Training day
Sat 14 October	Observe <i>My Robot</i> performance by Family Storytime Company 2017 and agree stories for 2018 season
December - date tbc	Observe SYT Festive Show <i>Tommy and the Snowbird</i> performance
DATES IN 2017	ACTIVITY
Sat 13 & Sun 14 January	Development weekend
Wed 31 January & Tue 6 February	Rehearsals for Story 1 (February show)
Thu 8 February	Preview of Story 1
Sat 10, Sun 11, Mon 12, Tue 13 February	Story 1 performances
Wed 28 March & Tue 4 April	Rehearsals for Story 2 (Easter show)
Fri 6 April	Preview of Story 2
Sat 7, Sun 8, Mon 9, Tue 10 April	Story 2 performances
Wed 16 May & Tue 22 May	Rehearsals for Story 3 (May show)
Thu 24 May	Preview for Story 3
Fri 25, Sat 26, Sun 27, Mon 28 May	Story 3 performances
Sat 16 and Sun 17 July	Development days for Story 4 (Devised story)

Wed 2 August to Sat 12 th	Rehearsal days, preview day and performance days for Merchant City Festival 2018 (<i>exact dates tbc</i>)
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When and where are the auditions?

Time & Date: 10am, Saturday 16th September 2017

Location: Scottish Youth Theatre, The Old Sheriff Court, 105 Brunswick Street, G1 1TF

What do I need to do to audition?

1. You must ensure before attending audition that you can commit to all of these dates (above)
2. Register for your audition at our website.
3. You will take part in a group workshop audition from 10 to 11am led by Karen McGrady – Parker, Associate Director (Pathways).
4. You will be given a separate timeslot the same day and asked to perform a solo prepared piece and chat through relevant skills, experience and why you want to be part of the Family Storytime Company.

What do I need to prepare for the audition?

Each auditionee should prepare a short performance piece inspired by a well known story focusing on the science concept within the tale. Examples of basic science concepts for a 3 to 7 year old audience could include plants and animals, the human body, cause and effect. The performance piece could include a game, a song, a rhyme, a dance, an interaction that brings the audience into the world of the story. The piece should be no longer than 5 minutes.

What if I need support?

If you require any specific support or reasonable adjustments to allow you to fully participate in the audition then please contact karenm@scottishyouththeatre.org

When will I know if I have been successful?

After the audition date, SYT will be in contact within 7 days to let you know if you have been successful in gaining a place in the Family Storytime Company 2018. If you are not successful this time, we would welcome you to audition for future SYT projects.