

SPEAKEASY PROJECT

Playwriting Project Leader/Tutor

Thank you for your interest in the above role.
Please read the following information carefully.

Speakeasy Project Overview

Over the last three years Islington Community Theatre has established itself as one of Islington's most successful and innovative organisations for young people. We currently create theatre with more than 120 young people aged 10-19, with every place offered to those who will most benefit from our work.

We aim to create a space in which professional theatre makers and young people can develop work together in a collaborative and democratic way.

We have worked extensively with leading theatre companies and playwrights to develop new plays for, with and about young people. Our work has featured at the National Theatre, in the Guardian, Time Out and on Channel 4. Inspired by our new home at Islington Central Library and national concerns about young people's literacy we want to launch a new, innovative and targeted literacy and self-expression project: **Speakeasy**.

Speakeasy will become our ongoing play reading and writing project. At its centre is a unique evening weekly workshop – in a real speakeasy, with atmospheric lighting, hot chocolates and a password to get in.

The first stage of Speakeasy is a pilot project from January – April 2012.

Speakeasy will initially engage local young people in reading and writing plays and short scenes through outreach workshops and the establishment of a regular reading/writing project in Islington. This will lead to a sharing of work (performed by our existing company members) in April.

KEY PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Outreach literacy workshops with young people

We will work with key local organisations and our own young companies to deliver reading/writing workshops to local young people. Led by highly experienced tutors and artists (with specific experience of engaging young people) the workshops will be inspired by ideas about heritage, legacy and the future.

These workshops will form part of our recruitment process for:

'Speakeasy' - Weekly reading/writing group meeting Friday early evenings (5 Fridays in March)

A new regular weekly group for young people to pursue an ongoing interest in reading and writing. This will allow for longer term development of ideas and skills and will enable us to better capture our young people's complex stories. This workshop will be a secretive evening weekly event in a 'grown up' location.

ABOUT THE ROLE

We are looking for a highly experienced playwriting workshop leader/tutor to take an artistic lead on the project and help develop it and to lead all the project workshops.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate the following:

- **Proven long-term experience in working with young people and facilitating dynamic playwriting & literacy workshops.**
- **A highly imaginative and creative approach to methodology, activities and repertoire, including working with different written and spoken styles.**
- **Strong artistic leadership and the ability to support young people and co-workers.**
- **Understanding of the environment and lifestyle of young people in Islington.**
- **Ability to define the project with key aims, strong artistic vision and creative charisma.**
- **Commitment to all project dates (see below)**

PROJECT DATES

| <u>Weeks beginning</u> | <u>Activity</u> |
|------------------------|---|
| 16/23 January | Project planning and set-up (flexible days) |
| 30 Jan/6 Feb | Planning and initial workshop testing with our <i>Work in Progress</i> company (flexible days/both Thursday evenings 6-9pm) |
| 13 Feb | Possible workshop delivery (inc 18 Feb) (tbc) |
| 20/27 Feb | Delivering 6 outreach workshops (flexible) |
| Every Friday in March | Running 5 twilight (aprox 5/6pm – 7/8pm) workshops |

FEE

Between £1400 - £1900 dependent on eventual number of workshop sessions including all planning and (2 hour) workshop sessions (between 10-15 tbc).

APPLICATIONS

Please submit:

- Your **CV**
- **Covering letter** stating your suitability to run the project and what skills/experience you would bring to it.

by **5pm, Tuesday 20th December 2011**. Send your application by email to work@islingtoncommunitytheatre.com.

INTERVIEWS

Interviews will take place on **11/12 January 2012**.

Successful candidates will be required for project planning and development from the middle of January.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about Islington Community Theatre and our projects, please see

www.islingtoncommunitytheatre.com or email kirsten@islingtoncommunitytheatre.com