

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Hello and thank you for your interest in becoming an Assistant Director at the Yard Theatre. This short pack is designed to give all the information you need, but if there's anything that you're unsure of, please don't hesitate to contact The Yard's Theatre Producer, Lara (lara@theyardtheatre.co.uk).

For this role we are particularly keen to hear from artists who are deaf, disabled or neurodiverse, and/or are black or from the global majority. We believe work is at its best when it is impacted upon by people from different backgrounds and life experiences. We also recognise that these artists have historically been underrepresented at The Yard and elsewhere. If you identify this way, there will be a section on the application form where you can tell us this in your own words.



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ABOUT THE SHOW

The Yard is the partner theatre for the NT Women of Tomorrow Directors Award, and so will produce a show directed by the award-winner Grace Gummer. Yet to be announced, the show is about two young women on the verge of adulthood, they are seventeen and in their final year of school. Every evening after school they meet up at a fencing club in New York to train at fencing, in the hope of making it onto the Junior Olympics team. The show is a coming of age story about friendship, sisterhood, competition, class, female strength and power.

ABOUT THE YARD

Built in a converted warehouse, The Yard is an award-winning theatre in London's Hackney Wick. It is a place for explosive new theatre. The work we present on our stage communicates stories and ideas from the heart of our society.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Grace Gummer is the first recipient of the National Theatre Women of Tomorrow Director's Award. Her directing credits include *Reality* by Stuart Slade at Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, *Roman Candle* by Tom Fowler at Theatre 503, *Butter* by Lady Junk Theatre at the Vaults (winner of an Origins Award for Outstanding New Work) and most recently *Germ-Free Adolescent* by Natalie Mitchell at the Bunker Theatre.

ROLE DETAILS AND KEY DATES

Fee: £3,052.50 (£555pw for 5.5 weeks)

Freelance engagement from 6 September - 23 October 2021.

This will be a full-time commitment between 6 September - 7 October, then attending one evening performance a week until 23 October as follows:

- **Rehearsals: Monday 6 September - Tuesday 28 September.** Monday - Friday 10am - 6pm, a rehearsal space in East London.
- **Technical Rehearsals: Wednesday 29 September - Saturday 2 October.** 10am - 6pm, at The Yard Theatre.
- **Preview and Press Night performances: Monday 4 October - Thursday 7 October 2021.** Daily working hours TBC but agreed in advance. Evening working is required (watching the performances).
- After the Press Night on 7 October, we expect the Assistant Director to attend one performance a week at the Yard Theatre until the final night on Saturday 23 October 2021.

THE ROLE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The Yard is looking for an Assistant Director to provide imaginative and administrative support to Director Grace Gummer, during the creation of the show.

The Assistant Director will work closely with Grace and the team (three cast members, a Creative Team and Technical Team) to create the show, whilst having the opportunity to observe a professional theatre director in action.

What you will do

- Attend rehearsals, and provide general and imaginative support to the Director - e.g. researching elements of the play, discussing the play with them
- Understanding and facilitating the rehearsal process - e.g. keeping in mind rehearsal goals and schedule
- Provide administrative support to the Director - e.g. managing their diary
- Help the Director with communicating notes and updates with venue staff, cast, creative and technical teams, e.g. sending email updates to the Producer, delivering notes to the team
- Work closely with the cast, providing support and care, e.g. running warm-ups, helping with line-runs and practicing fight choreography, giving notes on performances, checking up on the wellbeing of the cast
- Attend all technical rehearsals, dress rehearsals and preview performances, offering notes and supporting their smooth running
- Attend 1 performance each week of the production, making notes for the cast and technical team to ensure the production remains consistent and strong

What we're looking for

If these statements describe you, then please get in touch:

- I love theatre and am interested in pursuing a career in it.
- I have had experience of working on at least two shows (including fringe performances, community theatre, digital work).
- I can offer my insights, experience and expertise to support the Director.
- I can offer administrative support, such as helping to organise the Director's diary, and scheduling plans for the next day.
- I can offer my communication skills, such as writing emails, and delivering notes to the team.
- I will enjoy developing relationships with the Director, cast, creative and technical teams, and the Yard Theatre staff.
- I have a deep commitment to supporting and enabling actors and members of the team.

Please do not apply if, at the time of applying for this role, you are in education. We want to offer this opportunity to someone in the first years of their professional practice.

ANTI-RACISM, ACCESS, REMOVING BARRIERS

Anti-racism

The Yard is doing ongoing work related to anti-racism, to make our organisation better for our artists, employees and audiences who experience racism. For more information about this, please see our latest public update [here](#).

If you would like to hear more about the Yard's work on anti-racism in advance of applying for this role, we can set up a conversation with The Yard's Senior Producer, Ashleigh Wheeler - please email the Theatre Producer, Lara at lara@theyardtheatre.co.uk to do this.

Access

The Yard is wheelchair accessible. We are also Disability Confident Committed - this means that all Disabled People who meet the minimum criteria in the 'What we're looking for' section will be shortlisted for interview.

If you need access support to apply for or to undertake this role, there are a number of ways we may be able to help, including time with a support worker. To ask for this, or to raise a question about it, please email the Theatre Producer, Lara - lara@theyardtheatre.co.uk.

Removing other barriers

We know there are other barriers to taking part in opportunities like these - including financial barriers and caring responsibilities. We will do our best to remove these barriers - for example, offering flexible hours to support with caring responsibilities - just let us know in the application form.

APPLY

To apply, please complete the [application form](#) by **12pm on Monday 2 August 2021**.

In the application form, you will be asked to:

1. Copy and paste your up-to-date CV, either written, or as a link to a website, online document or an audio recording of no more than 2 minutes (e.g. via Sound Cloud, Drop Box, Google Drive, or any other filesharing service).
2. Write a paragraph on why you are interested in this role (no more than 350 words), or an audio recording (of no more than 1 minute). **See below for what to include.**
3. We are particularly keen to hear from artists who are deaf, disabled or neurodiverse, and/or are black or from the global majority. If you identify this way, there is a section for you to tell us this in your own words.

4. Whether you need access support to take part
5. Whether there are other barriers to you taking part

In your answer for Q2, some things we'd like to know about you are:

- Why is this the right role for you? Why is now the right moment for it to happen?
- Why do you want to work at The Yard and with Grace?
- What do you hope to learn from your time on this production?

NEXT STEPS

- Applications will be read and shortlisted by The Yard's Theatre Producer, Lara Tysseling and Associate Director, Cheryl Gallacher. All Disabled People who meet the minimum criteria in the 'What we're looking for' section will be invited to an interview.
- The shortlist will be read by Director Grace Gummer.
- Some applicants will be invited for a 30 minute zoom interview.
- All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by Tuesday 17 August 2021.