



Young People's Programme Evaluation Brief 2018/19.

Travelling Light have been making outstanding theatre for and with children and young people for 34 years. Our mission is to inspire young people's thinking, engage their emotions and fire their imaginations.

We are based in the heart of Barton Hill and we engage with children, young people and their families in our local area and across Bristol, providing a safe and welcoming space for them to express themselves through theatre. Our thriving participation programme reaches over 2,000 young people per year through our young people's programme, community engagement and creative learning projects.

Travelling Light makes award winning professional theatre for young audiences which we tour locally, nationally and internationally. To find out more information about our current work please visit our website www.travellinglighttheatre.org.uk

Travelling Light's participation programme has significantly developed over recent years.

- Our Youth Theatre has been running since 2000 from its base in Barton Hill and is now open to children as young as 4.
- There are 4 youth theatre groups 4-6s, 7-10s, 11-13s and 14-19s, with around 90 participants.
- Our Louder than Words group for young people with additional needs celebrated its 5th anniversary in June 2018 and we have now extended our activity to include ActionSpeak, a group for 16-25 year olds with disabilities (delivered in partnership with WECIL).
- We are mid-way through our programme additional activity for young people funded by the Youth Investment Fund, including Young Critics theatre trips and a programme of taster workshops for young people in our community.

We are keen to use this opportunity to reflect on the impact of our young people's programme on the lives of the young people and our organisation and to help shape our service for the future.

Aims of the evaluation:

- To better understand the impact of the programme on the lives of young people.
- To reflect on successes, challenges and lessons learned.
- To reflect on how the changing participation programme has shaped the development of Travelling Light as an organisation.
- To understand young people's pathways to our service, how they engage and what the barriers are.
- To understand why children and young people choose to engage with us and why our projects are important to them
- To understand what the need is among young people in our community, and how we best shape our services to respond to this need.

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VAT registration no. 713204875



- To understand young people's journeys from our services into the creative workforce and/or what the barriers are to career pathways.
- To build a bank of resources to support us to make the case for future investment in our young people's programme.

Outputs:

- A report summarising the findings of the evaluation
- Information to feed into the development of our Theory of Change.
- An Infographic which clearly illustrates impact of the programme
- A project by project case for support and a bank of case studies and quotes to be used in future advocacy and fundraising

Timescales:

- January – May (spring term): Initial session observations, interviews with participants, initial case studies and advocacy materials produced.
- May – August (summer term): More detailed report summarising findings and feeding in to Theory of Change.

Methodology:

As part of the Youth Investment Fund's Learning Programme we are working with The NPC on gathering Feedback Data, Attendance Data and Beneficiary Data and using the Centre for Youth Program Quality framework for quality assessment of service. We want to compliment this evaluation framework by dovetailing it with some qualitative evaluation methods to gain deeper insight into young people's journeys with us. This qualitative data will enhance our learning and enable us to update all our cases for support in line with our fundraising strategy.

The methodology will be shaped in partnership with the evaluator. We expect this to include:

- Observations of young people in sessions
- Interviews with current participants
- Interviews with past participants
- Interviews with staff members/practitioners
- Interviews with parents/carers
- Interviews with partners/other stakeholders
- Creative evaluation methods
- Consultation and collaboration with our elected Youth Board
- Review of past evaluations- drawing out key themes.

Budget

This evaluation is jointly supported by investment from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and the Big Lottery Fund.

We have a budget of **£7000** for the work

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Person Specification:

We are looking for someone with the following experience:

- Extensive experience of monitoring and evaluation
- Experience completing evaluation of projects involving the arts and young people
- Experience of working collaboratively with young people and using creative and participatory evaluation methodologies.
- Experience of producing advocacy documents, case studies and reports
- Understanding of social inclusion and working with young people with a range of backgrounds and needs.
- Understanding of Theory of Change, and approaches for assessing the impact of projects.

Recruitment

Please submit a CV and a cover letter including, how you meet the person specification, an outline of how you would approach the brief and examples of similar projects you have completed to admin@travellinglighttheatre.org.uk or by post Travelling Light Theatre Company, Barton Hill Settlement, 43 Ducie Road, Bristol, BS5 0AX.

Expressions of interest must arrive no later than **Monday 3rd December at 12pm.**

Informal interviews will take place w/c 10th December with a view to start in **January 2019.**

The process will be managed by our Participation Director, Georgina Densley. Any questions please contact george@travellinglighttheatre.org.uk or call 0117 377 3166.

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