



## Call Out for Sessional Youth Arts Workers (Freelance)

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Lyra are looking for new recruits to join our team of freelance Youth Arts Workers!

The role of Youth Arts Worker is to provide high quality pastoral, practical and creative support to the children and young people taking part in Lyra's vibrant performing arts programme, supporting Lyra's Facilitators and Lead Artists in the delivery of a wide range of participatory projects.

Lyra is based in Greater Craigmillar and works to engage children and young people from one of Scotland's most deprived communities in the highest quality arts projects. The successful candidates will be experienced in working with children and young people, be able to facilitate creative approaches to behaviour management and support a variety of learning needs, and have a passion for the performing arts.

### How to Apply

Please read the Job Description & Person Specification and Supporting Information below.

If you are happy that you meet the requirements of the role, send us your **CV** and a brief **Cover Letter** outlining your interest and suitability for the role to [lyra@lyra.co.uk](mailto:lyra@lyra.co.uk) by **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020, 11am**

Your Cover Letter should be no more than one side of A4 or maximum 2-mins if using video or audio format.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020**. The interview is likely to take place online.

Successful candidates will be invited to attend a training session on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**. This training session will be paid at industry rates. *Applicants must be available on both of these dates*. The training is likely to take place online.

Lyra recognises the positive value of diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination. We welcome and encourage applicants from people of all backgrounds.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at [lyra@lyra.co.uk](mailto:lyra@lyra.co.uk) if you have any questions before applying!

### Working within the Covid 19 Pandemic

At present, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, our venue Artspace is closed. As such, much of our weekly activity is taking place online and in-person activity is taking place in alternative formats. We plan to re-open Artspace as soon as is safe to do so.



## **Job Description & Person Specification**

**Job Title:** Youth Arts Worker  
**Reports to:** Arts Facilitator  
**Hours:** Flexible. Sessional work. Includes evenings, weekends, and school and statutory holiday periods. (Regular sessions currently take place on a weekly basis from Tuesdays – Saturdays, in line with the school terms)  
**Rate:** £12.50 per hour  
**Location:** Lyra, Artspace, 11 Harewood Road, Edinburgh, EH16 4NT  
**Contract:** Freelance

The role of Youth Arts Worker is to provide high quality pastoral, practical and creative support to the children and young people (aged 5 – 25) taking part in Lyra's vibrant performing arts programme, supporting Lyra's Facilitators and Lead Artists in the delivery of a wide range of participatory projects.

This is an active role, ideal for an enthusiastic and motivated person who is able to take initiative, and act as a positive role model for children and young people.

The successful candidates will be experienced in working with children and young people and have a passion for the performing arts. They will be able to facilitate creative approaches to managing challenging behaviour and support the varying needs of Lyra's participants.

The responsibilities listed below refer mostly to in-person and online delivery, but some tasks are specific to in-person delivery.

### **Main responsibilities include:**

- Supporting Lead Artists and Facilitators to engage the children and young people taking part in the programme.
- Take part and confidently support games, creative activities, tasks and rehearsals.
- Facilitate creative approaches to behaviour management, supporting the varying needs of participants, allowing the sessions to run smoothly and stay on task.
- Support Lead Artists and Facilitators with time-keeping and managing break times.
- Chaperone groups from their school to Artspace for workshops.
- Lead warm-up and focus activities as required.
- Take registers and contribute to Lyra's Evaluation and Monitoring Procedures
- Prepare healthy snacks and other meals for participants.
- Represent Lyra in a positive manner and develop a good rapport with our participants and their families.
- Set up and clear resources before/after activity, encouraging children to take part in supporting this.



## **Person Specification:**

### **Essential**

- Experience of working with children and young people in a paid or voluntary capacity.
- Experience of facilitating creative approaches to managing behaviour and varying learning needs.
- Experience and confidence in effectively motivating and communicating with children and young people, and overseeing participatory activity.
- Must have an understanding of best practice in child protection procedures and be a member of the PVG scheme (or be willing to join).
- Excellent communication and time management skills.
- Experience of working with a child-centered approach, and interest in child development.
- Ability to handle sensitive information in a professional manner, and in line with Lyra's policies.
- Understanding and interest in creative practice with children and young people.
- Ability to contribute to Lyra's evaluation and monitoring procedures, including reviewing and supporting the overall development of each participant.
- Basic IT skills, e.g. understanding of digital platforms such as Zoom, or shows a willingness to learn.
- An awareness and understanding of equality and diversity.

### **Desirable**

- Experience of working with vulnerable children and young people.
- Experience of working in a fast-paced and demanding environment.
- An arts-based practice or interest in a particular artform. Lyra's work is multi-disciplinary, but focused primarily around Dance, Music and Theatre-making.
- Passion for working with children and young people in a performing arts context.
- Commitment to personal and professional development.
- Experience of supporting or leading online workshops.



## Supporting Information

### About Lyra

Lyra's vision is to have a positive impact on the lives of children and young people in the community of Greater Craigmillar (Edinburgh) through engagement with a broad, rich world-class programme of performing arts, regardless of age, race/ ethnicity or socio-economic factors.

We run Artspace, a vibrant venue in the heart of Craigmillar which houses a 116-seat theatre, a flexible studio and foyer space. We work with arts professionals from Scotland and abroad to inspire young people, whilst attending to individual pastoral needs (such as behavioural support or home pick-ups) to enable participants to focus on their cultural engagement.

All of our work, from our regular groups to our events and productions, is focused on the best practitioners from around the world working side-by-side with the youngest members of one of Scotland's most deprived, diverse and exciting communities. Since 2012, we have been building a community of children, young people and artists and have created 15 artworks and performed more than 145 times at home and abroad. Over 2000 children and young people have taken part and accessed a range of opportunities and events at Lyra. Learn more about Lyra [here](#).

Lyra is led by founder and Artistic Director, Jo Timmins with Projects and Engagement Manager, Anna Plasberg-Hill, Arts Facilitator, Natalia Barua (currently on maternity leave), Freelance Operations Manager, Katie Stuart, Freelance Arts Manager, Dawn Hartley and Freelance Facilitators, Jo Sharp and Caitlin Mulgrew.

### Lyra's Young Artists

The Young Artists are the children and young people who take part in the regular arts activity at Lyra, through our [Watch, Learn, Create](#) framework. They live locally in Greater Craigmillar and are aged 5 - 25. The majority of our Young Artists are referred to us by teachers, social workers and agencies, because of their curiosity and passion for the performing arts.

Through their participation in our FREE programmes, the Young Artists develop a range of skills across art-forms and are supported to watch at least one professional performance per year. The Young Artists also learn to be collaborators and creators – always playing a central role from the outset of the creative process to the finished work.



## **The Weekly Sessions**

Our regular groups take place on a weekly basis and run in-line with the school calendar. Depending on the project, additional rehearsals and development time may also be arranged.

### **2020/21 Term Dates**

3rd November – 13th December 2020

13th January – 3rd April 2021 \*excluding w/c 8th February.

5th May - 19th June 2021

### **Regular Groups**

#### **Saturdays:**

Scamps (age 5 - 7)

Dance (age 8+)

Music (age 8+)

#### **Tuesdays:**

Culture Crew (age 10+)

#### **Wednesdays:**

Lower Performing Arts (P3-5)

#### **Thursdays:**

Upper Performing Arts (P6-7)

#### **Fridays:**

Young Company (age 8+)

Successful candidates will either work regularly with one or more of our weekly groups or may be asked to cover shifts on an ad hoc basis.