



MISSION STATEMENT

Synergy works through theatre towards the rehabilitation of prisoners, ex-prisoners and young people at risk of offending. We seek to create a ground-breaking, interrelated programme of artistic work which harnesses the energy, instincts, and life experiences of those we work with, gives them a voice and, in doing so, their dignity back. We want to inspire change by capturing the imagination and affecting the feelings, behaviours and attitudes of participants and public, whilst doing our part to influence the arts and criminal justice sectors towards systemic change. Our work provides practical opportunities which develop beneficiaries' skills, capabilities and resilience, builds a bridge from prison to social reintegration, provides vital support to rehabilitation, and seeks to prevent young people from entering the criminal justice system.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Synergy's work comprises the following strands of activity:

- **Producing:** the development and making of theatre and film productions for adult audiences and for young people, plus commissioning and presenting new voices writing for theatre. Productions are performed by prisoners and ex-prisoners alongside professionals in prisons, theatres and schools.
- **Young People's Programme:** An education programme to engage young people including those at risk of offending and young offenders through high quality, theatre-based activities, including outreach touring, bespoke projects and workshops and an emergent focus on work placements and further training.
- **Synergy Studio:** a programme of artistic courses, training, and dramaturgical support for prisoners and ex-prisoners, plus support into training, work experience and employment beyond Synergy.
- **Synergy Services:** an emergent strand, offering role-play training services for criminal justice agencies, led by ex-prisoners.

Synergy has a proven track record in delivering high quality and critically acclaimed work and has produced: 29 theatre productions including 10 education touring productions, a radio project, 73 projects for young people, 3 national prison scriptwriting competitions, 40 playwriting courses, 50 rehearsed readings and two short films. Over 1,100 prisoners and ex-prisoners and 1,800 young people and young people at risk have participated in projects, reaching audiences over 27,000 including 12,000 young people.

Synergy's current partners include Theatre503, V&A, Young Vic, Royal Opera House, Unicorn Theatre, Sara Putt Associates, Morley College and Roundhouse. Alongside these partnerships, we continue to work with criminal justice, education and young people's organisations to reach beneficiaries including existing relationships with HMP Thameside, HMPYOI Isis and London CRC Probation and schools, youth offending teams (YOTs) and pupil referral units (PRUs) across London. The company's last four mainstream productions have played to sell-out audiences and received 4 and 5 star reviews across the national press. *Girls Like That*, produced by Synergy as part of the Young People's Programme and written by Evan Placey, won the 2015 Writers Guild Award.

Targeting students in mainstream education and young people at risk of offending, Synergy's **Young People's Programme** comprises touring productions and bespoke projects and workshops, including work with three long term partners: Woodbridge PRU, HMPYOI Isis, and Islington Looked After Children. The work is delivered by experienced professional theatre practitioners, supported by ex-prisoner facilitators who have been trained through Synergy Studio. With the artistic experience at the heart of the process, combined with the facilitators' first-hand experience of the consequences of crime, Synergy's Young People's Programme aims to engage and challenge attitudes and behaviours of young people.

Harnessing the success of the Young People's Programme to date, Synergy is looking to contract an Education Manager (maternity cover) to manage and develop the programme including the annual touring production, bespoke projects and workshops with young people at risk of offending and creation of resources including education packs.

For further information about the company's work visit: www.synergytheatreproject.co.uk

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post: Education Manager (Maternity Cover)

Reporting to: Artistic Director and General Manager

Main purpose and scope of the post:

To lead on Synergy's Young People's Programme for schools, Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), Young Offenders Institutes (YOIs), Looked After Children (LAC), Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and youth groups in order to maintain existing activity and develop ongoing provision for the future.

Principal duties

To manage and develop Synergy's Young People's Programme.

The role will include but is not limited to:

- Development and management of touring productions, projects and participatory workshops
- Managing and devising, with the Artistic Director, a range of in-depth bespoke projects for schools, for excluded young people and young people in the criminal justice system
- Recruiting and managing freelance theatre practitioners and educators
- Recruiting, overseeing training and supporting a team of ex-prisoners as workshop facilitators
- Researching and developing work experience opportunities and exit strategies for young people beyond Synergy
- Maintaining existing partnerships (e.g. with schools and colleges, PRUs, YOTs, The Roundhouse) as well as developing new relationships to support and extend the reach and delivery of the programme
- Developing education resources
- Managing Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks of contracted teams and implementing child protection policies and procedure
- Liaising with the General Manager on marketing and press for touring productions and projects
- Monitoring projects and collating information to produce evaluation reports
- Liaising with and reporting to project funders and partners
- Managing project budgets set by the company and complying with Synergy's financial procedures
- Representing Synergy within local, regional and national arts education, prison education and crime prevention sectors
- Undertaking any other duties as may reasonably be required

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- Experience of devising and managing a range of creative learning projects (ideally 5 years)
- Good knowledge of the formal and informal education and youth sectors
- Strong interest in and understanding of the role of theatre in learning and the community and/or arts in the criminal justice system
- Highly organised and self-motivated with excellent project management skills
- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral, and ability to build relationships with a range of partners
- Ability to manage client groups with tact and skill

Desirable

- Understanding of current legislation regarding protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in arts activities
- Arts Award Adviser
- Experience of using digital media

Terms of employment

- Contract: Fixed term 9 – 12 month contract and is subject to a three month probationary period
- Salary: £30,000 p.a, pro rata
- Hours: 32 per week, 4 days per week
- The post will be offered subject to a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Disclosure.

Application procedure

If you are interested in applying, please email a copy of **your current CV with a cover letter** detailing why you feel you are a suitable candidate for this post to Jessica Draper with 'Education Manager application' in the subject field: jessica@synergytheatreproject.co.uk

Or post to:
Education Manager Application
Synergy Theatre Project
8 St. Thomas Street
London SE1 9RR

Closing date for applications: 10am Friday 28 April 2017
Interviews will be held: Week commencing 15 May 2017