

WRITERS' GROUP CALLOUT

Nottingham Playhouse, in collaboration with Amplify Associate Nathan Ellis, is running a 9-month writers' programme. This is a callout for expressions of interest to join the group.

Summary

The Nottingham Playhouse Writers' Group will run February – October 2024 for writers based in the Midlands who may want to develop a new play to a full draft.

It's an opportunity to meet and discuss texts for performance and engage with the process of writing a play.

You will be mentored by Nottingham Playhouse Amplify Associate Nathan Ellis, and you will have an opportunity to have an excerpt of your writing performed as part of a showcase in Autumn 2024.

You will meet once every two weeks, sometimes in-person, sometimes online, and develop a new play from idea to first draft. There will be assignments to complete, and you will receive feedback on your writing. You will have an opportunity to engage with the work of the Playhouse and learn more about how to develop work for the stage, as well as how to develop a career as a writer. Sessions will be led by Nathan and occasionally by or with guest industry professionals.

This is an opportunity to learn more about and hone your skills in the craft of playwriting and the career side of it.

If you are a writer-performer who is exclusively interested in writing for yourself, then this probably isn't for you.

If you would like this information in an alternative format, please contact us at recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk or ring Stage Door on 0115 947 4361 to discuss.

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Expectations

We are looking for people who have:

- An interest in learning about how plays get put together
- A desire to discuss texts for performance with other writers
- A desire to make work for the stage

Nottingham Playhouse Writers' Group members will:

- Become part of a community of writers, learning sharing and developing work together
- Attend bi-weekly meetings (a mix of online and in person)
- Be invited to take part in a writers showcase as part of Amplify Festival (likely late October 2024)
- Forge a connection with Nottingham Playhouse
- Receive mentoring and supervision from East Midlands writer Nathan Ellis
- Be invited to press night for Nottingham Playhouse in-house productions for the duration of the course
- Have the offer of support with travel expenses / access requirements / childcare if required (individually arranged)

Nottingham Playhouse Writers' Group members will be expected to:

- Commit to the full series of sessions
- Read set material in advance of sessions
- Complete set writing assignments in advance of sessions
- Work independently to write their own material

Nottingham Playhouse Writers' Group members will have the option to / opportunity to:

- Attend press nights at Nottingham Playhouse for in house productions
- Write a full-length draft of a new play with mentorship and guidance from programme leader Nathan Ellis
- Have an excerpt of their writing performed by professional actors in a rehearsed reading at Amplify Festival 2024
- Attend rehearsals for the above

All applicants to Nottingham Playhouse Writers' Group will:

- Receive an invitation to workshops on 23rd April and 18th June 2024.
 - 23rd April: *Dramatic Action dramaturgy session (in person)*
 - 18th June: *Industry talk TBC (via zoom)*

List of dates:

Application process

Friday 8 December	Open for expressions of interest
<u>2024</u>	
Monday 8 January	Expression of interest window closes
w/c 22 January	Artist meetings
Wednesday 31 January	All artists contacted with outcome of application by this date

Nottingham Playhouse Writers' Group dates

Tuesday 6 February	<i>Introductory social / meet the writers / photo call (19:00 – 21:00)</i>
w/c 5 th February	Nottingham Playhouse Writers' Group Announcement (Press)
Tuesday 13 February	<i>Session 1 (sessions 1-19 will run from 18.30 – 21.30, some sessions will be held in person and some will be held online)</i>
Tuesday 27 February	<i>Session 2</i>
Tuesday 12 March	<i>Session 3</i>
Tuesday 26 March	<i>Session 4</i>
Tuesday 9 April	<i>Session 5</i>
Tuesday 23 April	<i>Session 6 open to all applicants</i>
Tuesday 7 May	<i>Session 7</i>
Tuesday 21 May	<i>Session 8</i>
Tuesday 4 June	<i>Session 9</i>
Tuesday 18 June	<i>Session 10 open to all applicants</i>
Tuesday 2 July	<i>Session 11</i>
Tuesday 16 July	<i>Session 12</i>
Tuesday 30 July	<i>Session 13 (optional / summer break)</i>
Tuesday 13 August	<i>Session 14 (optional / summer break)</i>
Tuesday 27 August	<i>Session 15</i>
Tuesday 10 September	<i>Session 16</i>
Tuesday 24 September	<i>Session 17</i>
Tuesday 8 October	<i>Session 18</i>
Tuesday 22 October	<i>Session 19</i>

How to apply

To apply, please submit:

1. 3-5 pages of writing for performance – this can be dialogue, monologue, or something more experimental. It can't be poetry, writing for film or television, or a short story.
2. A paragraph (200 words) or a 3 minute video or voice-recording about yourself. No need to include everything you've ever done, but a sense of where you are in your writing and why this would be an exciting opportunity for you now in your artistic journey. Please include your name and contact details.
3. A completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form, downloadable from our website.

The Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form will be separated from your application and does not form part of the selection process. Information obtained from the form will not be available for the people preparing the shortlist, with the exception of information about disability required to make reasonable adjustments for interview. Data obtained from the forms will be used solely for monitoring purposes and no one individual can ever be identified.

Equal Opportunities Data will be shared with Nathan Ellis' company SUBJECT OBJECT for them to use in their Arts Council Project Grant funding reporting, following the completion of the recruitment stages. The shared data will not be identifiable to any individual.

Applications should be emailed to: recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk

Apple/Mac users, please export documents to a Word document or PDF before sending.

Alternatively, applications may be sent by post marked *Private and Confidential* to:
Recruitment, Administration Office, Nottingham Playhouse, Wellington Circus, Nottingham NG1 5AF.

The deadline for submissions is **Monday 8 January 2024**.

Your application will be read by a panel including our Artist Development Producer, Beccy D'Souza and writer Nathan Ellis. We will then invite a number of writers to individual meetings to find out more about you and give you and us the opportunity to assess whether this programme is right for you at this time.

It is expected that Writers' Group members will commit to attend all sessions, though we recognise this may not be possible. Please highlight in your application if you are unable to attend some sessions (e.g. a pre-booked holiday / medical appointment etc.)

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission.

All artists who send in an expression of interest will be able to receive feedback on their submission upon request.

If you would like this information in an alternative format, support in completing your application, or have any questions about the submission process, please contact us at recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk or ring Stage Door on 0115 947 4361 to discuss.

Please note, the Recruitment inbox will not be monitored between 21 December 2023 – 8 January 2024. If you have any queries during this time, please contact Beccy D'Souza at beccy.dsouza.01@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk