

Nottingham Playhouse Call Out for Director

The Little Mermaid

Every Christmas, Nottingham Playhouse produces a family show aimed at children aged 3-8 in the Neville Studio. The production then tours to primary schools, libraries and other community settings in the region.

We are very proud that this production provides a vital experience for younger children, many visiting a theatre for the first time. It is a core part of our Christmas programme and has been building a reputation year on year.

"A fun, high energy show." The Reviews Hub (*Little Red Riding Hood*, 2021)

"The sweetest and most perfect little Christmas show for the littles and their not-so-little parents" East Midlands Theatre (*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, 2022)

"A joyous, simplistic, up-beat show, with lots of interactive moments crafted for excitable small children." Beyond the Curtain (*Hansel & Gretel*, 2023)

For 2025/26, we are producing *The Little Mermaid* and we're seeking an East Midlands or Midlands-based Director. The Composer and Writer will also be commissioned via an open callout.

The show is produced in the Neville Studio and then tours to primary schools and libraries in the region.

The Brief

The production must run at around 50 minutes and will include original songs.

There will be two actors in the production.

The production must be suitable for children aged 3–8, and their families.

The production tours to school halls and often has 30 minutes to set up.

The above parameters aren't intended to limit your imagination, but keep the feasibility of this at the back of your mind.

For the last four years, we have included elements of embedded access such as integrated creative captioning into the production and will do so again this year.

For the fourth year running, the production will be designed and produced following the sustainability standard Baseline, as outlined in the [Theatre Green Book](#).

The contract offered will be an ITC Director's Contract (Short Play). Fee of £4,000.00. Expenses are available if applicable.

The Director

We are looking for a professional director who has experience of working with professional performers as either a lead artist or assistant. They should also currently reside in, or originate from, the East Midlands or Midlands.

The successful director will be expected to work with the writer, composer and Playhouse team to develop the script, appoint a creative team and cast the actors, work with the designer to meet the design deadlines, prepare as necessary to begin rehearsals, lead the team through rehearsals, technical rehearsals, up to the opening performance. There may also be additional marketing and media tasks.

Selection Process

Your application will be assessed by a panel of theatre professionals, including Artistic Director, Adam Penford.

We may then invite selected candidates to meet to discuss their application.

How to Apply

Please submit:

- Approx. 300 words on a piece of work that you've made that best articulates your work as a director. What does this work reveal about your taste and practice?
- Approx. 300 words on why this specific production (*The Little Mermaid*) interests you as a director.
- A single page CV. Please include a line explaining your connection to the East Midlands or Midlands. [SEP]
- A completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form, downloadable from our website.

The Equal Opportunities monitoring form will be separated from the 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 obtaining 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.

If you require an alternative way to make your submission, such as via video, please contact recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk to discuss a suitable format.

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

Please send as a Word document or PDF. Do not send as a zip file or use file sharing services such as Sky Drive. Apple/Mac users should export their submission to a Word document or PDF before sending.

Alternatively, submissions 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 20 January 2025 at 12pm midday.**

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

Nottingham Playhouse is committed to a policy of equality of opportunity and working with people representative of the diverse communities we work with. We actively encourage submissions from the Global Ethnic Majority and Disabled people. Nottingham Playhouse is part of the Parents in Performing Arts (PIPA) campaign and welcomes submissions from people who have caring responsibilities.

Dates

The deadline for submissions is **Monday 20 January 2025 at 12pm midday.**

The deadline for the first draft of the script will be late May 2025.

The rehearsal draft deadline will be at the start of September 2025.

Rehearsals begin 10 November 2025.

Dress rehearsals, previews and press performance will be the week commencing 1 December 2025.