

# NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE

Information Pack

## ASSOCIATE ARTISTS

June 2026



ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

LOTTERY FUNDED

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**ARTS COUNCIL  
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**NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE**  
**UK'S MOST WELCOMING THEATRE**

**UK  
THEATRE  
AWARDS**

WINNER  
2023

## Call Out for Associate Artist

Nottingham Playhouse is one of the UK's most prestigious producing theatres.

We have a reputation for creating ambitious and challenging work, of high artistic quality, which explores and responds to the world we live in. We attract world renowned talent and exciting new voices to our city, whilst developing and exporting homegrown talent. Our work is celebrated both locally and nationally.

We are seeking two Associate Artists to support the artistic vision of Nottingham Playhouse and to use the opportunity to develop their own skills and career.

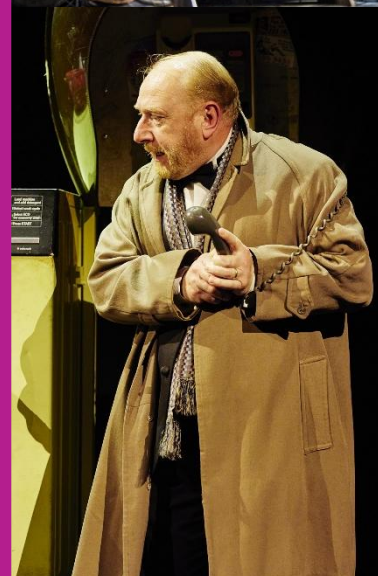
The ideal people will be theatre-makers with a strong knowledge of the contemporary theatre industry who currently resides in the East Midlands or Midlands. It is crucial that they enjoy promoting and developing the work of other artists. To make the most of the opportunity, they must be proactive and self-motivated, with a curiosity to grow as an artist.

The role is offered on an 18-month freelance contract, commencing from date of acceptance, with a fee of £3,000, pro rata. The hours are flexible and will be mutually agreed at the time of contract.

We would like to help you to fully participate in the application process. If you would like the information in an alternative format, support in completing your application, or you would like an alternative way to apply, please contact us at [recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk) to discuss a suitable format, or ring our Stage Door on 0115 947 4361. Please leave a message with your full name, contact information, your address (if you need paperwork posting to you) and details of your request.

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***"Being an Associate Artist at Nottingham Playhouse has been hugely helpful to my career and my creative development. For example, this opportunity coupled with DYCP funding allowed me to assist on my first mainstage show and manage understudy rehearsals which has been key in building my skills on larger scale work.***

***Through reading scripts, being on the Ideas Panel and reading for the Phoebe Frances Brown Award, I have developed my script analysis skills and confidence in identifying what excites me artistically and what might work for audiences.***

***I have found conversations with Adam Penford particularly illuminating in learning about the inner workings at Nottingham Playhouse which I will take forward into future work. Being an Associate gave me credibility as a director when meeting with other employers and collaborators."***

**Hannah Stone**

*Director, Theatre Maker, Creative Producer*



## About Nottingham Playhouse

**We create theatre that's bold, thrilling and proudly made in Nottingham.**

Awarded the UK's Most Welcoming Theatre by UK Theatre in 2023, and Regional Theatre of the Year 2019 and 2025 by The Stage, Nottingham Playhouse is one of the country's leading producing theatres. We create a range of productions throughout the year, from timeless classics to innovative family shows and adventurous new commissions.

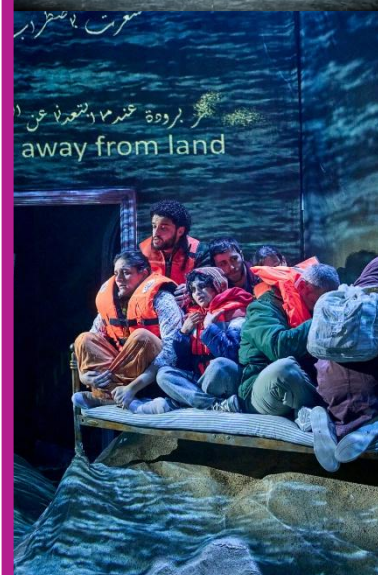
Under the leadership of Chief Executive, Stephanie Sirr MBE, Artistic Director, Adam Penford, and Chief Operating Officer, Lee Henderson, we mount varied and ambitious productions, attracting a host of high-profile performers and creatives and garnering frequent media attention and commercial interest.

We want our theatre to be a space where everyone feels they belong, and we use our stage to tell diverse stories that reflect our city. Our wide-reaching participation programmes create life-changing experiences for our community and we also support the next generation of theatre-makers in the East Midlands through our extensive Amplify programme.

Nottingham Playhouse is a registered charity (no. 1109342). All of the funds we raise help to ensure we're reaching as many people as possible to give them new opportunities and create lasting memories.

Our building has grade II\* listed building status and is home to Anish Kapoor's *Sky Mirror*.

Click [here](#) to watch our introductory video.



## What Our Community Thinks

***"Honestly, the final few minutes of the first act were some of the most captivating, powerful and heart wrenching I've seen on stage. Incredible!"***

– Audience member on *The Madness of George III*

***"Nottingham Playhouse has a very special place in my heart. At the age of 16, my school placed me at the theatre for my work experience... Without [them], I wouldn't have the career I do now."***

– Indhu Rubasingham, Artistic Director of Kiln Theatre

***"The actual performance was an incredible experience. Firstly, just to be on the Nottingham Playhouse stage was a dream for all of us. But to be a part of such a powerful, visceral production was an absolute privilege."***

– Lisa Chamberlain, on her experience as a member of our community ensemble during Gary Clarke Company's production of *COAL*.

## Our Vision, Mission and Values

The essence of who we are is to **create wonder in Nottingham**. We believe that, through theatre, being transported to different worlds broadens our horizons, that by being positive, relevant and devoted we provide an experience, not just a stage. At Nottingham Playhouse, we give a voice to untold stories and cultivate life-changing experiences. Our theatre is a place where everyone belongs, a place of entertainment, heart and joy.

Our vision is to create high quality art that is truly accessible and representative of both our heritage and our rich diversity. We aim to be a nationally recognised destination theatre, a producer of "must see" work and a venue that welcomes everybody to be entertained, surprised, delighted and challenged by work that is bold, brilliant and relevant. Working in partnership with exciting artists and companies regionally, nationally and internationally, we create theatre that puts Nottingham Playhouse on the map.

We exist for the benefit of the people of our region – be they audiences, participants or artists. As a publicly-funded organisation we commit to ensure that our demographic of opportunity reflects the demographic of our catchment – including gender, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic standing and disability – to be not just world-class but also truly inclusive in all areas of operation, including to recruit and pay fairly. To strengthen our actions we established a Diversity in the Workforce Working Group to ensure that we are doing all we can to recruit a more representative workforce.



# NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE

This group has now merged with our Anti-Racism Action Group, launched in January 2021 to examine the wider culture and environment at Nottingham Playhouse. The group advises the Executive and Nottingham Playhouse Board of Trustees on matters of diversity, inclusion and equality, with the aim of ensuring that we are a safe and fully representative organisation, which reflects the full breadth and richness of diversity within our community. Through this group we have created an online system for Reporting Racist Incidents.

A core value of Nottingham Playhouse is to proactively create and support opportunities for cultural participation for all ages, for all backgrounds. We also work in supportive partnership with a very wide range of stake holders to cement our position as an organisation with a strong artistic vision that includes the development of artists.

Nottingham Playhouse is a founder member of [Ramps on the Moon](#), a member of [PiPA](#) (Parents and Carers in Performing Arts) and a [Family Friendly theatre](#). We are committed to the [UK Theatre/SOLT Ten Principles](#) to encourage safer and even more supportive working practices in theatre and have signed up to the [Old Vic Guardians initiative](#). Find out more about Nottingham Playhouse by visiting our [website](#) or our [YouTube channel](#).



## Participation and the Community

At Nottingham Playhouse, our diverse, local community are at the heart of everything we do.

We deliver more than 60 participation programmes for people of all ages, backgrounds and experience levels, including:

- Weekly Young Companies for children and young people
- Homegrown, a pre-professional training programme for aspiring writers, directors, producers and performers aged 16–25
- Conversation & Creative Café, a welcoming space for refugees and people seeking asylum to connect, socialise and take part in creative
- activitiesPlayhouse Platform and Open Stage Young Company for autistic and learning-disabled adults and children
- Life-Long Learning and Encore programmes, offering regular classes,
- workshops and social groups for adults
- SHINE, our long-running outreach programme, which provides 14 free
- drama groups for young people across Nottingham city and county, including specialist provision with Queen’s Medical Centre Hospital
- School and Nottingham Education Sanctuary Team (NEST)
- Family Festivals during school holidays, alongside a wide range of
- performances and creative projects delivered at Nottingham Playhouse and in libraries across the city and county

Bursary places are available across all participation programmes, ensuring that financial circumstances are never a barrier to taking part.



## **Associate Artist Tasks**

As an Associate Artist at Nottingham Playhouse, you will:

- support the Artistic Director and wider Playhouse team in helping to shape the artistic identity of Nottingham Playhouse
- assist in areas of Nottingham Playhouse's programming such as reading commissioned scripts, offering dramaturgical support, attending workshops and readings, sitting on interview panels
- increase the Artistic Director's knowledge of the cultural landscape by watching external productions, reading scripts and immersing yourself in the cultural sector
- be an advocate and ambassador for the organisation both at Nottingham Playhouse and in the wider industry
- have periodic catch-up meetings with the Artistic Director
- watch Nottingham Playhouse productions, attending Press Night if possible, and provide feedback as requested
- read unsolicited scripts and creative proposals and feed back to the Artistic Director
- support dramaturgical work and provide other specialist artistic support, advice and input as necessary
- attend fundraising and other gala events at Nottingham Playhouse
- participate in outreach work such as running workshops, participating in Q&As, speaking at forums and at other appropriate events
- work with the Artist Development Producer to offer support to local theatremakers via the Amplify network. Including attending the Amplify SEASONS and other events
- make best use of the associateship to explore your own areas of professional interest and proactively develop skills

June 2026

## How to Apply

### To express your interest in this opportunity, please submit:

1. a short statement of 300 words maximum that explains why this opportunity appeals to you and what you could bring to the role;
2. your CV (please include your name and contact details);
3. An Equal Opportunities monitoring form, downloadable from our website.

Please email these to [recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk)

If you would prefer to submit your statement by video or voice-recording, please limit this to 5 minutes maximum. You can send us your video or audio file by email or WeTransfer to [recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk)

Or you can submit your application by post, marked Private and Confidential, to: Recruitment, Administration Office, Nottingham Playhouse, Wellington Circus, Nottingham NG1 5AF.

If you require an alternative way to make your application, please email us to discuss a suitable format, or ring our Stage Door on 0115 947 4361. Please leave a message with your full name, contact information, your address (if you need paperwork posting to you) and details of your request.

### Data and monitoring

As part of recruitment procedures Nottingham Playhouse collects and processes personal data relating to job applicants. We are committed to being transparent about how and why we collect, use and keep personal data secure. Please see Nottingham Playhouse Recruitment Privacy Notice on the website for full details.

The Equal Opportunities monitoring form will be separated from the application and will not be available for the persons 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.

### Deadline for applying

**Closing date for expressions of interest: Monday 20 July 2026**

Interviews (may be subject to change): week commencing 3 August 2026

A panel will consider your application and select a shortlist of candidates to invite to interview.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission. We will contact you by telephone or email if you are shortlisted for interview.

Thank you for your interest in Nottingham Playhouse and we look forward to receiving your application.