



Freelance Supporting Artist & Support Worker

CALL OUT

Deadline: Monday 1st June at 10am

2026

About Interplay Theatre

Interplay's mission is to remove barriers to the arts for young people who experience significant communication, social and economic barrier, and to explore and demonstrate their strengths through creating and experiencing the arts. We seek to give young people agency and tools to exercise power and creativity, whilst we challenge perceived expectations in a society which has habitually undervalued their contribution to culture. The different strands to our activity include:



- Developing and **touring sensory theatre** productions nationally to Special Educational Needs schools, as well as community spaces and arts venues.
- A programme of socially engaged work in our studio space in Armley, supporting local artists and audiences to engage in the theatre landscape of Leeds with **Pay As You Can performances**.
- A supportive force in the arts ecology of Leeds, advocating for accessibility and the removal of barriers to the arts, whilst **supporting artists** to create their own work.
- Our **LS12 Creative Program**, is overseen by our Associate Director and is home to our engagement and participation projects, in our building and in our community.

About the roles

We want to expand our freelance pool of Supporting Artists and Support Workers to work alongside our core delivery team to work across our LS12 Creative program. We hope that the Freelance Supporting Artists and Support Workers can support Interplay Theatre's ethos of working to create transformative art that removes barriers to theatre, arts and society.

Each project is unique and requires different creative approaches, meaning these roles will encourage communicating in new ways and in a mixture of settings and delivery styles.

Fees are project and experience dependent, and all contracts will be issued on a freelance basis. This is not a performance opportunity.

LS12 Creative Programme Overview

Our LS12 Creative program consists of 4 projects that aim to engage young people from our local community of Armley both in our building and out in our community.

We strive to have a creative offer for as many young people in our area as possible, resulting in each project being facilitated in varying approaches. All of our projects are planned with a human centered approach in response to what the young people enjoy and what will suit the needs of each group and individual participants.

In Our Building

We host monthly free-form **Sensory Open Days** for young people with learning disabilities, PMLD and/or autism, with their families and carers. Sessions take place on the first Saturday of the month with a morning and afternoon session. Each month is themed differently and introduces artistic ideas, celebrates messy spaces, and promotes play and creativity. We include music, theatre, and art, and our artists are led by the participants with very few rules or expectations.



Our **Sensory Youth Theatre Projects** are for young people aged 11-25 years with learning disabilities, PMLD and/or autism who want to be creative and explore stories with a sensory approach. These sessions provide a creative and relaxed environment for young people who find rules, or expectations unrealistic with a structure that will better support learning disabled young people. Each project will take place over 3 mornings during selected school holidays with a mixture of free-form and facilitated creative activity.



Interplay Youth Theatre contains weekly facilitated sessions on a Thursday evening during term time. This open access youth theatre consisting of 3 sessions for young people aged 8-11, 11-14 and 14-17. A standard youth theatre session includes a warmup activity, skills development, and a creative task which are tailored to the terms theme and the access needs of the group. young people develops performance skills, theatre techniques, confidence and meet likeminded people. Making creative work that represents their lives, their stories, and their interests in a supportive and fun group environment with regular performance opportunities.



In Our Community

Based at Armley Leisure Centre, **Armley Youth Space** is a pick n' mix of sport, arts and youth activity. It is a collaboration between Interplay Theatre, Armley Leisure Centre, New Wortley Community Centre, Barca Leeds and Leeds Youth Service. These relaxed weekly drop-in sessions run every Tuesday during term time for young people aged 10-16 who live in Armley. It is fun, free and welcoming, where young people can try new things in a relaxed and supportive environment.



The **Wyther's Way** program is a space where we chat, eat and take part in creative activities together, outdoors. Our free-form community sessions take place during the summer on the Wyther's estate in Armley. They are free and are open to anyone who lives nearby, to have a cuppa, and have a go at something creative.

We also provide a Walking Bus to Interplay Youth Theatre on a Thursday evening for young people aged 8-11 to be able to attend sessions with us on a regular basis.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

Supporting Artists – Experience of working with young people, an interest in the arts and a want to develop your skills in delivering creative workshops is essential. Some experience facilitating arts activities is desirable.

Support Workers - 1 Years experience of working with learning disabled audiences and other underrepresented communities is essential.

Skills required:

- An understanding of the positive impact engaging in creative activity and youth work can have for individuals and communities.
- Able to support lead artists in delivering activities and work effectively with young people in groups.
- Able to work with young people to safeguard their welfare, effectively manage conflict and address challenging behaviour.
- An understanding of the issues which concern young people today with the ability to provide information advice and guidance to young people.

Knowledge required:

- Some Safeguarding and Youth Work methodologies.
- Some working knowledge and understanding of managing conflict with restorative practice.

Experience required:

- Enabling young people to explore their values, while respecting themselves and other people.
- Working with young people in a diverse range of youth work and / or creative environments and involving them in decision-making processes.

How to Apply:

To apply to be in our freelance pool, please send a short Expression of Interest (no longer than one A4 piece of paper) and a copy of your CV to Associate Director Lizzy Whyne via email at lizzy@interplaytheatre.org.uk.

Deadline: Monday 1st June at 10am.

You will then be invited to a Skills Share / Induction to Interplay Theatre's Creative Practices on **Monday 8th June, 3.30pm - 5.30pm.**

You may then be invited for a cuppa and an informal chat to discuss which projects your skills might be best suited to.

Freelancers must be registered as self-employed and roles are subject to a DBS check and must be available **Monday 20th - Thursday 23rd July** for paid staff training.

