

Misfits Theatre Company UK - Job Pack

Role: Drama Facilitator

Contract type: 8 weeks Fixed Term / Set dates

Reports to: Artistic Lead

Rate of Pay: £41.25 p/hr (£82.50 per session to include to include all prep)

Working Hours: 2hrs Friday 25th October – 13th December 10.30AM – 12.30PM

Location: Misfits Theatre Company's offices at St Paul's Learning Centre.

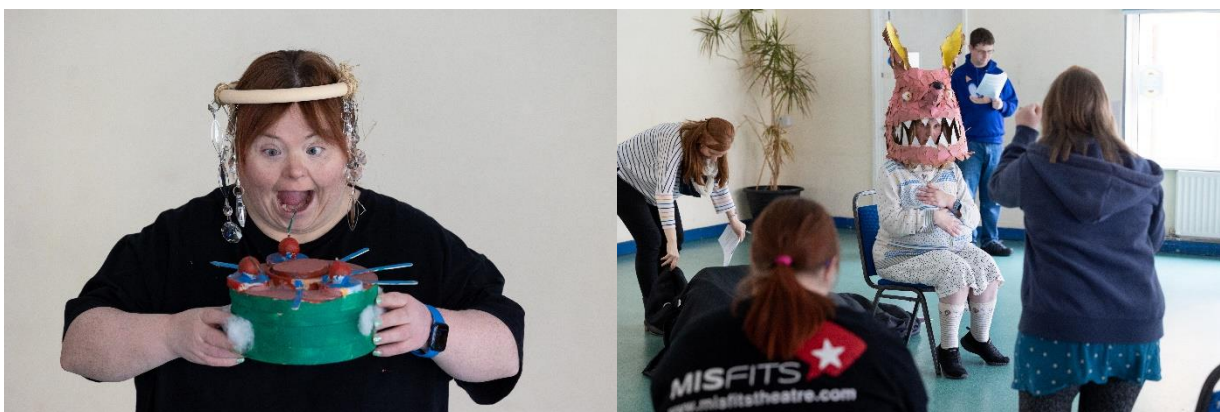
Starting: 25th October / 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th November / 6th, 13th December
(18th October option for shadowing session with the group)

About Misfits Theatre Company UK:

We are the Misfits, a unique Bristol-based theatre and social group, led by our members, People with Learning Disabilities (PWLD). We evolved from a drama group at a local day centre formed in 2000 to an established CIO in 2016. Our mission is to improve the life opportunities and aspirations of PWLD, to challenge their discrimination in society, and to prevent them from becoming socially excluded.

Based at St Pauls Learning Centre since November 2023 (and previously at Hamilton House 2010 – 2023), we currently have 50 individual members (PWLD), who elect Trustees (6) each year at our AGM; 3 part-time staff, 3 part-time co-workers (PWLD) and 5 freelancers.

Our Steering Group was formed in 2015 and meets quarterly: 8 PWLD, 2 Trustees (1 PWLD) and 2 Staff. Together, they oversee the planning and running of their creative sessions, put together outcomes, and collate feedback and evaluation from activities and performances. This ensures consistent monitoring of outcomes and a direct voice from our members at Trustee meetings, giving the organisation real direction.



Misfits Charitable Objects are:

- The advancement of education of people with learning disabilities ranging from those with moderate learning disabilities to those with profound and complex needs in Bristol, South Gloucestershire, bath and northeast somerset and the provision of facilities for recreation of said people in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving their conditions of life.
- To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people with learning disabilities from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of their learning disabilities and assisting them to integrate into society, particularly but not exclusively by the provision of a local network, support and advocacy group providing creative and social opportunities for people with learning disabilities in Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath & Northeast Somerset.

What we do:

We run 4 affordable weekly workshops with experienced freelance artists for 60 PWLD across sessions exploring expression through drama, poetry, movement, and wellbeing. Members script, devise and perform original work based on their experiences and interests. We design and deliver creative projects that develop the creative practice of PWLDs, helping them to find their voice to share their stories and influence change. The content and performances that emerge are

heartfelt, funny, and poignant. Creative exhibitions and performances have been featured all over Bristol, breaking down barriers for people with LD and raising visibility in the mainstream arts world. With work shown at the wardrobe theatre, Vestibules - Bristol council houses, Central library, featured on BBC Radio 4, Radio Bristol, Bristol BBC news, Bristol Old Vic, Bristol Beacon, Trinity, Southmead hospital, Arnolfini, M-shed, Bristol Museum, Windmill City Farm, Hamilton House, Harbour Festival, amongst others.



Since 2005, we have provided unique and creative training/performances for the NHS, Universities and Councils. Our performing group rehearses once a week and tackles difficult issues, from relationships to inclusion in the workplace, describing how PWLD want to be treated by the services they use and the professionals they meet.

Our excellent track record and reputation are demonstrated by our 2012 UK Museum & Heritage Award for Education for 'All the Kings Fools' and our National Lottery Good Causes Award for the Nation's Favourite Arts Project in 2013. We also received an honorific mention at the Arts & Health Southwest Awards 2015 for our film 'Confidential Inquiry into Premature Deaths of People With Learning Disabilities' presenting the Norah Fry Research Centre findings. This film has over 19,000 views and is used by the Royal College of Nursing, Royal College of Paediatrics, and the NHS as part of their training and 'Patient Stories Week of Action'. 'Health is Everybody's Responsibility' 2017 film (13,600 views) is also used as a regular training resource. By 2019 our performing group was delivering commissioned face-to-face training to 2,500 medical students and professionals a year in the Bristol area.

Misfits are also widely known for running Bristol's only monthly club night for PWLD – The **Rhythm of the Night** (ROTN). It started in 2004 when our members told us they needed a safe space where PWLD could dance, socialise, and have fun. The ROTN has an average of 100 PWLD plus their friends/family at each event, held at The Trinity Centre, Bristol.

Purpose of the role: Drama Facilitator

We are looking for someone to lead our Friday Drama sessions for a period 8 sessions this Autumn and work with our group to create a mini performance to share with friends and family in December.

You will be supported by a co-Facilitator who is experienced with the group and Misfits' work.

We are looking for someone who:

- Has a background in theatre and performance.
- Is experienced working with people with learning disabilities and can lead a group with mixed abilities.
- Can teach through a positive 'give it a go' approach making sure to deliver high quality, effective and interactive teaching
- Brings skills in physical theatre and devising.
- Will work with the group over a period of 8 sessions to devise and direct a short piece of performance to share with friends and family



- Can lead large group sessions in a way that ensure involvement from all members
- Can inspire the group
- Will teach new skills and techniques
- Is able to manage group dynamics and ensure the wellbeing of individuals as well as the whole
- Has worked with a similar group in the past in a similar position or can demonstrate how your experience is transferable.



Other – the following requirements apply to all roles within the Misfits team:

As a member of the Misfits Team you will also need to adhere to Misfits Policies and Procedures at all times. As a new Team Member you will undergo a full induction on existing systems and activities. This will also include shadowing workshops and activities to better understand our work.

This role is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Person Specification:

Attributes and skills that we are looking for:

We are looking for someone who can bring passion and energy to our group over a period of 8 weeks.

Someone with experience of devising performances who can inspire people who have limited public performance experience

Someone who is passionate about supporting people with learning disabilities to reach their creative potential.

Someone who wants to be part of an organisation that supports people with learning disabilities to learn new skills, express themselves, build their confidence and live happy, joyful lives.

Experience - Essential:

- Experience of working with People with Learning Disabilities (in a voluntary or paid role)
- Experience of leading group performances with people with different skills
- Experience of designing and delivering creative sessions in a performance discipline
- Experience of bringing a group to a shared outcome over a limited time period.

Experience - Desirable:

- Experience in working in a Charity or Not-for-Profit organisation in either a paid or voluntary role.

Our Recruitment Process

To apply please send a copy of your CV (no more than 2 pages) and covering letter (no more than 2 pages) that should include:

- How do you meet the Person Specification criteria
- How do you propose to work to fulfil the role's responsibilities and duties

Closing dates: 9am Friday 27th September

Interview date: Friday 4th October

What to expect:

We will acknowledge all applications that have been received and aim to contact people by the end of Friday 4th to let you know if you have been invited to interview.

Interviews will take place at St Paul's Learning Centre between 10AM – 1PM.

Interview questions will be sent out in advance.

Our interview panel will be made up of staff and Members.

More information:

Please email sara@misfitstheatre.com if you have any questions.

Access/Reasonable Adjustments:

Please let us know if you have any questions or requirements to enable you to apply for this role.

Equal Opportunities:

Misfits Theatre Company are committed to ensuring equal opportunities for all. We ask that all applicants complete an Equal Ops Form after submitting their application so that we can better understand who we are reaching. This information will remain confidential and will not be part of the decision-making process.

Please use the link below to download the form from our website:

<https://misfitstheatre.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Equal-Opps-Form-Recruitment.docx>