



# Pastoral Support Worker Brief (casual freelance positions)

## Introduction

20 Stories High make theatre with...  
young people from excluded communities, emerging & world-class artists  
to tell stories that are...

**gritty, jumping, melodic, rebellious,  
contemporary, mashed-up, authentic, original,  
visual, challenging, lyrical, tender,  
anarchic, diverse, surprising, booming,  
political, funny, collaborative and heart-felt.**

We bring young people into theatre venues and go out into their communities.  
We hail from Liverpool, but our reach is national and international.  
We believe everybody's got a story to tell...and their own way of telling it...

(Please see attached Appendix for more detailed information about 20 Stories High)

## 1. Role description

Freelance Pastoral Support Workers work on a casual, freelance basis alongside the Participation Manager and Participation Support Worker to ensure the safeguarding and pastoral care for all young people involved in 20 Stories High's participation programme

The Freelance Pastoral Support Worker works within the 20 Stories High Participation Team, reporting to the Participation Manager.

### Responsibilities

#### Pastoral

- Support, empower and encourage all participants
- Work alongside the Participation Manager and Participation Support Worker to ensure appropriate systems are maintained in order to support the safeguarding and wellbeing of young people
- Support young people in working with other key partners and services
- Offer advice and information to young people around other relevant services, and assist young people to seek help and additional support

## **Programme**

- Support young people's engagement and contributions during participation workshops and other activities
- Engage with young people in different ways: one to ones, workshops, sessions and projects
- Communicate with the young people by phone, social media and email ensuring they have up to date information on workshops, rehearsals and trips
- Collect, collate, record and monitor information from activities

## **Sustainability and Development**

- Work with a range of partners and stakeholders
- Advocate for cultural diversity, social inclusion and young people's voices in theatre
- Work with the 20 Stories High's team to ensure work is as accessible and inclusive as possible

## **2. Person Specification**

### **Essential**

#### **Knowledge, Skills and Experience**

- Experience of engaging young people from excluded communities aged 13-25
- Experience of dealing with young people's complex social problems on a one-to-one basis
- The ability to engage and communicate with young people from a wide range of backgrounds and cultures and maintain discipline in a fair, friendly and firm manner

#### **Personal Qualities**

- Enjoy the company of young people
- Have an interest in the arts and the benefits they can bring to young people
- Ability to act on her/his own initiative whilst remaining a flexible team member
- Ability to maintain a consistent rapport with young people demonstrating a warm and approachable style with good listening skills
- An ability to empathise with young people whilst keeping a professional distance
- An understanding of diversity and equality and a commitment to increasing access and inclusion
- A sense of humour

### **Desirable**

#### **Knowledge, Skills and Experience**

- Experience of supporting young people during activities and sessions
- Experience of working within the creative industries
- Up to date safeguarding training
- Mental health awareness training or experience supporting young people with mental health issues/problems

### **General**

- The Pastoral Support Worker will be expected to develop a good understanding of the work, participants, audiences and partners of 20 Stories High. They will be expected to work in line with the current management values, ethos and objectives

### 3. Fee & Hours

- An hourly rate of £10 per hour (£19,500 full time equivalent).
- The amount of hours per week will vary and be mutually agreed. 20 Stories High will endeavour to give as much advance notice as possible of working hours.
- The role will involve evening and weekend work

### 4. To apply

Please send your CV and a letter outlining your approach to the role and how you match the person specification to [siofra@20storieshigh.org.uk](mailto:siofra@20storieshigh.org.uk).

The deadline for applications is 3pm Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Interviews will be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018, with a start date as soon as possible after appointment.

## Appendix

### 20 Stories High Background

20 Stories High was established in 2006 and is led by co-Artistic Directors, Julia Samuels and Keith Saha. It was set up as a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity.

Since April 2012, we have been part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio of funded organisations enabling us to consolidate our position as a leading theatre company creating work with and for young people.

### Recent Productions

- ***She's Leaving Home***, a site-specific production created in collaboration with Phelim McDermott (Improbable), written by Keith Saha and commissioned by Liverpool City Council as part of their Sergeant Pepper at 50 international arts festival - a monologue with puppetry and music.
- ***"I told my Mum I was going on an RE Trip..."***, a co-production with Contact - a verbatim piece by Julia Samuels exploring young people's experiences of abortion, which we have now adapted for television in partnership with ACE/BBC and Battersea Arts Centre.
- ***The Broke 'N' Beat Collective***, a co-production with Theatre-Rites, written by Keith Saha and Sue Buckmaster - a raw, gritty, funny and moving gig exploring the hardships faced by young people in the UK today.
- ***Headz*** a collection of contemporary urban monologues written by Keith Saha touring to community venues
- ***The Elasticated Sound-System*** a contemporary Musical Mash-Up written by Keith Saha and Julia Samuels where urgent political stories were re-mixed with personal heart rending tales.
- ***Black***, a provocative and engaging show written by Keith Saha talking about racial tensions in the UK today.

### Awards and Nominations

- In 2016 we were awarded the **Jenny Harris Award** for work with Young People from the National Theatre Foundation. The award includes a grant which we used to fund a new Young Writers Programme in Liverpool.
- ***The Broke 'n' Beat Collective*** won the **Young Critics Award** at the On the Edge Festival in Summer 2016.
- In 2013, ***Whole***, written by Philip Osment, won the Writers' Guild of Great Britain Young People's Play Award 2013.
- In 2010, the production of ***Ghost Boy*** won the **2011 Brian Way Award** for the UK's Best New Play for young people, and also Best Touring Production from the Liverpool Daily Post Awards.
- ***Blackberry Trout Face*** received the **2010 Brian Way Award** for Best New Play for Young People, and was shortlisted as Best New Play by the Manchester Evening News, 2009.

### Participation

Our participation programme continues to expand: the Liverpool-based Youth Theatre and Young Actors Company meet weekly at Liverpool's Bluecoat for skills workshops and the

development of an annual show; Future Collective (our youth advisory group), who influence decision-making across the organisation, continues to meet and plan fundraising and social activities. In 2017/18 we ran a Young Writers Programme and a music group, Sound System.

When on tour we produce diverse participation activities in partnership with touring venues and community spaces.

Find more information about 20 Stories High on our website <http://www.20storieshigh.org.uk/>