



Your chance to perform alongside the Royal Shakespeare Company

I'm writing to let you know about an exciting opportunity for your group to perform alongside the Royal Shakespeare Company on the Theatre Royal stage.

The RSC will be touring *A Midsummer Night's Dream - A Play for the Nation* for 12 weeks throughout the spring/summer of 2016 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Bard's death. The production will be directed by Erica Whyman, Deputy Artistic Director of the RSC. At every venue on the tour a new group of local amateur performers will play Bottom and the rude mechanicals, and this is where your group can get involved.

We are inviting local amateur theatre groups (within the NG postcode area) to come and audition for a chance to be involved in this project, be billed alongside and perform with the RSC here at the Theatre Royal for one week, as well as going on to perform with the RSC at Stratford at the conclusion of the tour. We are looking for six actors plus a director from within your company.

During your rehearsal process you will be guided by Theatre Royal and RSC staff, in terms of characterisation, voice and text-work, as well as visits from Erica and/or the Assistant Director. Your group will also be paid for the work you do with the RSC.

We'd like to invite up to two representatives from your group to attend an informal event on **Monday 20th October at 7pm** on Level 2 Foyer of the Royal Concert Hall. Staff from both the Theatre Royal and the RSC will give an overview and answer all the questions you may have about the project. We will also be handing out the application forms at this event for your group to be considered for the audition stages. Although we'll provide more detailed information at this event, please see the reverse of this letter for approximate time scales to give you some guidance on the time and commitment involved.

If you would like to attend this meeting and find out more please RSVP by Mon 13th October to Lindsay Hall at Lindsay.Hall@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or David Longford at David.Longford@nottinghamcity.gov.uk. Also, please get in touch if you're unable to make this meeting but would still like to receive an application form.

We look forward to seeing you on Monday 20th October.

Yours sincerely

Lindsay Hall
Marketing Officer

Proposed Schedule
A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Play for the Nation

Monday 20th October 2014

Initial information evening and distribution of applications

Friday 19th December 2014

Deadline for submission of applications

Week commencing 19th January 2015

Successful groups notified ready for next stage

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th March 2015

Workshop weekend with RSC practitioners based at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham

June/July 2015

2nd audition weekend for those shortlisted from workshop sessions – location TBC

Autumn/winter 2015

Rehearsals take place

Week commencing 2nd May 2016

RSC & successful group perform on the Theatre Royal stage for 7 performances
(matinee & evenings)

Summer 2016

RSC return to Stratford with Nottingham group featuring for a number of
performances