

## **Jerwood Trainee Assistant Director Program** *Part of the Young Vic's Jerwood Artist Development Pathway*

Plain text, Screen Reader, British Dyslexia Association style guide, and audio versions of this document are available.

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### **Tribe**

Directed by TD Moyo, written by Ronke Adékoluejo.

**Deadline:** Noon on Monday 19 June 2023

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## **The opportunity**

The Trainee Assistant Director role provides an opportunity for a director or theatre maker to gain experience working on a show at the Young Vic. The opportunity to support and observe the director in rehearsals, previews, and run of a show will provide the Trainee Assistant Director with the experience of the workings of the rehearsal room, the relationships between the creative team, the craft of the actor, and the process of making a show from first day of rehearsals through to opening night. They will have the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in a supported environment working alongside a director on a professional production.

We hope the chance to observe a rehearsal and production process of a show will give the Trainee the confidence to apply for assistant director roles, either at the Young Vic or elsewhere.

## ***Tribe***

Embark on a creative journey that explores and celebrates all the different forms that family can take - from single parent families to large communities, chosen families to blood relatives. Part immersive exhibition and part live performance, *Tribe* is an entertaining and joyous adventure filled with movement, music and art. The show will be created with a collective of women who will work as a company devising in collaboration with a dynamic creative team. #ThisIsOurTribeWomen in

Prison (Beth Centre) offer advice and support for women affected by the criminal justice system. The Beth Centre is a safe confidential space providing expert support for women at risk of, or affected by the criminal justice system living in Lambeth. They aim to reduce re-offending rates; increase positive family relationships and increase the use of community sentences, rather than custody, for women.

## Key dates

Applications open	Thursday 1 June 2023
Applications close	Monday 19 June 2023
First round interviews	W/c 26 June 2023
Second round interviews	W/c 17 July 2023
Engagement from	Wednesday 9 August 2023
Rehearsals start	Monday 16 October 2023
Technical rehearsals start	Monday 23 October 2023
Preview	Saturday 28 October 2023
Press performance	Tuesday 31 October 2023
Final performance	Saturday 4 November 2023

You will choose 10-15 days of activities or workshops to engage with between Wednesday 9 August and Saturday 14 October 2023, in agreement with the Neighbourhood Theatre Producer.

You will need also to be available full-time for rehearsals (10am – 6pm, Monday to Saturday) from **Monday 16 October through to the press performance on Tuesday 31 October 2023**. Post-press night week,

there is an option to see the show during the run and observe the director, but there is no expectation that you will be free to do this.

If you have any regular or prior commitments, please let us know and we will try and accommodate these as much as we can.

### **Fee**

There is a fee of £3,000 to cover the engagement period, and rehearsals through to press night. If you live outside of London travel and accommodation expenses can be provided. Please mention this in your covering letter.

### **Is this for you?**

We accept that it is hard for all directors to secure paid assisting work, and we aim to provide opportunities on all our shows through a variety of schemes and programmes. This observational role is particularly aimed at new directors and theatre makers who have had limited access to making work or assisting.

You will have an interest in multi-disciplinary work and the use of sound and music for performance. Experience of working with community groups is desirable but not essential.

We actively work to create a team at the Young Vic that is made up of people from a variety of backgrounds with

different experiences, skills, and stories to join us and influence and develop our working practice.

It is important to us that the lived experience of our team accurately and fairly represents the participants, audiences, and communities we serve. For this show, the Trainee Assistant Director should either have been personally affected by the criminal justice system, or has experience working with women affected by the criminal justice system.

We are committed to inclusive working practices and ensuring access. We will ask you about any access requirements you might have at each stage of the process. The pack is available in a range of formats, and we welcome written, audio, and video applications (please see below for more detail).

### ***Essential criteria***

We are looking for someone who:

- Has less than two years' experience of working professionally\* in theatre as a director or theatre maker but can demonstrate a commitment to a career as a theatre director
- Has not assisted at a theatre equivalent to the scale and reputation of the Young Vic
- Has not studied to MA-level and above, or the equivalent in a theatre-related subject
- Is interested in a collaborative process

- Is interested in multi-disciplinary work and the use of sound and music for performance
- Is resident in the UK at point of application
- Is not currently in full-time/part-time education
- Is not an alum of the Jerwood or Boris Karloff Trainee Assistant Director programmes

\*We would define professional as: making work with a cast and creative team who have or hope to have theatre as their main career focus and source of income. It does not include shows made at university or whilst training at drama school.

### ***Desirable criteria***

We are looking for someone who:

- Have experience of issues posed by the criminal justice system or have worked with women affected by the criminal justice system
- Have had experience working with community groups

You do not have to be a member of the Young Vic's Genesis Network to apply, but we would encourage you to join so you can continue to find out about events, workshops and opportunities. All our activities are free, and it is where we advertise our paid opportunities. You can sign up [here](#).

## How to apply

If you would like to apply, please fill in our online application form, which will require you to submit a CV and either a covering letter (one A4 page, addressed to Sue Emma, Associate Artistic Director of the Young Vic), video file (two to three minutes) or audio file (two to three minutes) telling us:

- Three things you would specifically like to learn from this opportunity
- Why you are interested in working as a Trainee Assistant Director on *Tribe*

Please add your name, telephone number, and email address to your CV and letter, and embed your name and email address within any videos files you upload and say your name in an audio files you send.

The online application form includes a mandatory Equal Opportunities Monitoring page.

Filling in the Equal Opportunities Monitoring page will help us to be as representative as possible, in the makeup of our creative teams. Our aim is to embrace diversity, ambition, and excellence. To achieve this, it is useful for us to know a certain amount about who you are. If you don't want to provide the information, please fill in answering 'prefer not to say' to the questions.

If you have any access requirements, you can upload an access rider using our template, or your own within the



application form. The templates will be made available in a link in the online application form.

You will need to be available for the majority of the dates. If you know you have any prior commitments during the rehearsal period outlined above, please let us know in your covering letter and we will try to accommodate these as much as we can.

Applications will open from 12pm on Thursday 1 June 2023. Please [click here](#) for the application form.

## **Deadline for applications**

The closing date for applications is noon on **Monday 19 June 2023**.

We will contact everyone who expresses an interest and arrange initial 10-minute meetings on Zoom. These initial online meetings will be held in the week commencing Monday 26 June 2023.

We will send out a link so you can sign up to a date and time of your choice. A second stage of meetings is planned for the week commencing Monday 17 July 2023 at Young Vic, to be confirmed with the shortlist.

If your availability changes, please contact Khánh Hạ Nguyễn on [opportunitiescreatorsprogram@youngvic.org](mailto:opportunitiescreatorsprogram@youngvic.org) so we can withdraw your application.

## **About Young Vic**

The Young Vic has always been more than a theatre – bigger than a building; it’s a set of values that uphold the conviction that theatre is an indispensable part of civic life. Whether on our stages at our home on The Cut, touring to schools and community centres across South London, premiering a play in the West End or on Broadway, streaming our work across the country and around the world – we are actively working to be a theatre for everyone.

### ***Our Anti-Racism Commitment***

Our leadership team and staff share a joint commitment to prioritising the wellbeing of Black and Global Majority people at the Young Vic. We are working together to create a culture of care for all, but especially those with lived experience of racism, and we commit to holding each other accountable for building and maintaining this culture. We believe that making the Young Vic an anti-racist organisation makes the culture better for everyone.

### ***The Language We Use and Why***

We believe that language is important and empowering. Where possible we are specific as possible with our language and avoid defaulting to umbrella terms or making assumptions about people’s identity or experience.

When we can't be specific, we say 'Black and Global Majority' instead of phrases like 'Person of Colour' and 'BAME'. This is because the term 'Black and Global Majority' does not centre whiteness and is also factually true - over 80% of the world's population make up the Global Majority.

***Our Values at the Young Vic***

We are committed to creating an inclusive environment where everyone is treated with fairness, dignity, respect and importance, and shows respect for themselves, others and our community regardless of seniority or area of work. Our values are as follows:

**We believe theatre is at its best when everyone participates.** We begin by asking, who isn't here that should be? Then we make certain they are. At the Young Vic, everyone belongs, everyone is welcome.

**We are driven by relentless curiosity and debate.** We believe in the power of stories to help us see the world in new ways. We believe in being a forum for discussion and opposing views, in the possibility of fostering understanding and shifting perspectives.

**We believe in pioneering and leading into the unknown.** We innovate in how we make work and how we share it. We push against the status quo to challenge

whose voices are celebrated, and whose stories are told.

**We are led by the creativity of our people and the limitless possibility of imagination.** We believe in pushing limits and reimagining what's possible. We make space for the unexpected, and we move quickly to make the most of opportunity.

**We collaborate: working together to achieve shared goals.** We believe our organisation is made stronger by including varied and unique perspectives and talents in every aspect of our work. We are committed to reflecting the great diversity of our city onstage and off.

**We prioritise kindness, we lead with heart, with care, and with the wellbeing of our people** - our staff, participants, volunteers, theatre makers, civic leaders, advocates, supporters, and audience members.

**We are committed to openness rooted in trust.** We believe in being held to account - apologising when we've not upheld our values or when we've caused hurt or confusion and learning from our mistakes.

### ***About the Young Vic's Jerwood Artist Development Pathway***

The Young Vic's Jerwood Artist Development Pathway is a holistic program of industry entry points and progression routes for early-career artists.

Through the pathway, we offer intensive learning opportunities including traineeships and assistantships, alongside some of the UK's most exciting artists. We nurture artists at the very start of their creative journey to learn about theatre, and to build skills and collaborative networks through year-long introductory courses. Vitally, all these opportunities include ongoing professional support from the Young Vic team.

This interconnected pathway of training and artist support is the evolution of our 20-year partnership with Jerwood Arts. Together we provide the essential ingredients – consistent opportunities to learn, a community of collaborators and a support network – to ignite and sustain a creative career.