

Open Door Programming FAQ

What dates would I be taking part if selected?

We will ask for your preference, but the following dates are allotted for slots in the Door:

- Thursday 9th July
- Friday 10th July
- Saturday 11th July
- Thursday 16th July
- Friday 17th July
- Saturday 18th July

The festival is jam-packed so your project would have to be deliverable on one of these dates to be selected. *Please note, we'd be able to provide you time in the Door from 9am until 10pm on the date you are given only.*

Can I have young or vulnerable people participating in my project?

Yes, you can and we'd love to see applications with projects of this nature. However, you are responsible for having the appropriate safeguarding measures and chaperones in place and managing the welfare of your group. We also ask that you share these in your application.

Do I need a producer?

No, you do not need to have a producer, but we will need you to have someone responsible for coordinating and project managing the work as we can only offer minimal support here. This can be:

- An independent producer
- A collaborator
- Yourself

For more information on what a producer does and why we recommend you have one, please see [here](#). We would need your producer to be a primary point of contact for our marketing and technical team.

In the application form, we will ask if you have a producer, but again, this can be yourself. We just want to ensure you have fully considered who will be responsible for your project and provide you with the appropriate language for future work you may do.

Will you provide actors or stage managers?

No, we will expect you to bring your own team in for your project.

Do I need funding to apply?

No, funding is not a requirement for a successful application. However, if you do have funding (or expect to secure it), we will ask you to share that information so we can understand the scope of your project and what additional support might be needed.

How are applications selected?

We will review applications based on the feasibility of the project within the confines of the festival, as well as its alignment with the vision and values of the festival. We are open to all ideas, but we may prioritise stories that feel resonant with young people in Birmingham and the West Midlands or events that invite those audiences.

Applications will be shortlisted and then considered by the Youth Board for final decisions.

What is the deadline?

The deadline to apply is **Tuesday 7th April at 5pm**. We will not accept any applications submitted beyond this point.

When will I find out?

All applicants will receive their outcome on or before **Friday 8th May at 5pm**. Please do not contact us before this point for a decision.

How many performances per selected project are expected?

We expect each project to have one evening slot for performance. This is not mandatory and if you feel your project would benefit from different performance times or multiple performances, we can consider this on a case by case basis. Please do remember that we can only allow a maximum of 4 hours technical time so your application must be deliverable based on that.

Does it have to be a play or theatre piece?

No, we're open to scratch nights, open mics, film screenings, sharings and even more.

Are there any upfront costs to the artist?

No, we will not charge you to be a part of the festival, but we will expect you to be responsible for your own production costs beyond the technical support we are providing.

Are there ticket price guidelines? Or is pricing set by the artist?

If you choose to charge for your event, we will set ticket prices at £5.

What does 50/50 net box office split mean?

Net box office is the total left over once VAT and credit card charges are taken off. For Open Door, we would pay you 50% of the net box office total. This does mean that how

much you make for the show will be completely dependent on how many tickets you sell. If you sold out your event, you could make around £300. Please do not plan your project based on making this amount however, as ticket sales are never guaranteed. This is just to give you an idea of what we could offer financially.

Who covers PRS, licensing, or rights clearances?

You are responsible for securing and paying for all necessary rights, licences, and permissions for your work.

Is insurance provided by The Rep?

The Rep holds venue insurance, but you are responsible for ensuring you have appropriate Public Liability Insurance and any other insurance needed for your project.

Who manages ticketing and provides front-of-house staff?

The Rep will manage ticketing and provide front-of-house staff.

What does “basic lighting and sound” include?

If your application is successful, we will be in touch to discuss how you use your technical time, but we can provide support for a simple lighting design (states and cues), video projection and playback-based sound design. Complex programming, additional equipment, or extensive cueing is not possible within the allocated hours.

Is there an access budget available?

There is no dedicated access budget for individual projects within the Door. You should outline any access plans in your proposal, and we can see what is possible.

Is The Door accessible?

The Door is on the ground floor and accessed step free, so is accessible. Please note, the backstage entry way has a narrow door that not all wheelchair users can fit through, but if needed, we can provide entry via other routes.

Are other rehearsal spaces available at The Rep?

Unfortunately, we cannot offer space other than The Door during this timeframe.

What qualifies as a “strong connection” to the West Midlands?

This may include living, working, studying, training or having an established creative relationship with the region. You do not need to have a strong connection to the West Midlands, but we will prioritise applications with this, provided they are also high standard and feasible within the confines of the festival.

Can artists apply with more than one project?

No, please only submit one application.

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