



WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Youth Services Grant

APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

Organisation			
Name of Organisation	Buttercross Theatre Productions		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	[REDACTED]		
Website	https://www.buttercrosstheatreproductions.co.uk	Telephone	[REDACTED]
Facebook/Twitter		Email	hello@buttercrosstheatreproductions.co.uk
Contact Name	Debbie Tuffs		
Position in Organisation	Head of Drama (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	

What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?

Our vision is to create an empowering platform and space for anyone, regardless of age and experience, to explore their own voice and creativity within a safe and inclusive environment.

Our mission is to provide a relaxed and attentive environment for training in the performing arts through professional workshops for adults and young people, offering our students a greater sense of self-confidence, self-acceptance and community.

Our values ensure that with equality and compassion, everyone has the opportunity to attain their goals.

Our classes

We offer a wide range of professional performing arts workshops for both adults and young people, run and taught by our skilled team of industry professionals in Theatre, Film, Dance and Vocal Performance Training. Our aim is to provide a relaxed and attentive environment for their performing arts training.

In our fun-filled sessions, our students could be working on perfecting their performance skills and technique for the stage and screen, working on technical 'behind-the-scenes' aspects of performing arts, such as designing costumes, props, programmes, scripts, learning how to direct!

During their time with us, we'll help to build their self-confidence, nurture their self-esteem and mental health. They will be given the opportunity to develop life skills such as communication, problem solving, perseverance, teamwork and accountability.

Our Youth Theatre

Our sessions are tailored to work through different genres to develop and enhance creativity such as improvisation, development of characters, script work, working with puppets, vocal and singing. We aim to boost confidence and self esteem, nurture hidden talents, aid in the development of life skills and performance techniques.

Acting for Film & TV – Youth

Know how to act in front of a camera, learn the skills needed for screen acting. Through fun exercises, improvisations and script work, we'll explore what makes a compelling and truthful screen performance. We teach you all the techniques of acting in front of the camera and what happens behind the camera. Our students have the chance to star in their own film and if they would like to further their career in the acting field, we can offer the possibility of joining a professional acting agency.

Musical Theatre – Dance sessions - Youth

Whether our students enjoy singing along to Disney in the car or shimmying to their favourite show tunes, our Musical Theatre Workshops offers the chance to learn some of the actual routines from some of the West End and Broadway hits. Aimed at all levels of performance experience, the workshops aim to give a taste of performing as a 'Swing' in some of the most well-known show dances. Shows include West Side Story, Legally Blonde, Mary Poppins, Hairspray and Wicked.

Supporting Mental Health

We create exercises using what we call strength exercises as part of our sessions. These will hopefully help each person struggling with different elements of mental health needs to recognise their struggles and give them resources to use. An example of this would be a young teenager who is on the autistic spectrum who calls herself 'weird.' We turn this round into a positive and through different types of drama exercises help her to develop and show she's not 'weird.' We use positivity and group acceptance. We also offer the opportunity to students who feel they are struggling in life and would like to talk on a one to one basis confidentially.

Membership

How many members do you have?	We are a new provision starting on 6 th September 2021. Currently we have 17 young people enrolled onto our workshops with new enquiries coming in.
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	All live in the Witney area.
Is membership restricted in any way?	No
What is your annual subscription, if any?	N/A
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or other similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Not at this moment in time
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Corn Exchange, Witney

Grant-Funding

Purpose for which the grant is required:

To help towards funding two scholarships to families that are experiencing financial difficulties one we have already identified. We have offered a part scholarship by offering a 50% reduction for our Youth Drama (Seniors) and free attendance for Musical Theatre Dance and Acting for Film & TV. The young lady is a young carer to her disabled mum, is an amazing support and deserving of so much more.

Camera equipment for our film module where the students learn not just how to act for Film & TV but also to learn how to direct and use the equipment to make films.

Amount of grant applied for		£ 800
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details		
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details		
Financial		
Please enclose a copy of your latest audited accounts, a financial projection for the period following the balance sheet or a Business Plan if a new organisation.		
Fundraising		

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

We are hoping to hold an evening of musicals in conjunction with the MTi Musicals project All Together Now in November 2021 to raise funds and to encourage people in the community to come back to the Theatre.

We are putting on a Panto at the Corn Exchange from December 16th – 31st 2021.

We will also be aiming to perform 2 Musicals and 2 Plays in 2022 to the Corn Exchange, plus each Youth workshop group will work towards and perform their own shows.

General

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

I certify that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am authorised to make this application for Grant-aid.

Signed: *Debbie Tuffe*

Date: 31/08/2021

If posting, please return your completed application form to the address overleaf, for the attention of the TOWN CLERK

For office use only:			
Acknowledged		Previously Applied	
Grant Aid Awarded/Amount	Y / N	Chq No.	