

Sent: 07 May 2022 19:45

To: Info <info@witney-tc.gov.uk>;

Subject: Oxford Playhouse - Playhouse Plays Out Tent Tour

Hello,

I hope you're well.

My name is Paul Simpson, and I am the Participation Manager at Oxford Playhouse.

Each summer Oxford Playhouse takes to the road with our touring Playhouse Plays Out Tent, bringing free theatre and activities to young people and families across the county. At Oxford Playhouse, we believe every young person has the right to be inspired and empowered by theatre, bringing communities together and sharing important stories. We understand the financial and geographical barriers that often mean that young people and families aren't always able to get to the theatre, so we are coming to them!

We are curious to explore the possibility of bringing our Playhouse Plays Out Tent to The Leys park in Witney. Our Tent would be resident at your park for the duration of two or three days, offering up to three performances per day, as well as drop-in activities supporting the themes of the performance. We would welcome families from your local community at the weekend, and could explore the possibility of pupils from a nearby primary school coming to the park to watch performances on a preceding weekday.

Our Playhouse Plays Out Tent visits similar sites across Oxfordshire each year, including Edmonds Park in Didcot and Florence Park in Oxford.

OUR SHOW:

This summer, our production will be *Animal Rocks*, written by Jack Benjamin.

Tim the Tortoise and his family lose their home and are forced to relocate to a new island. Tim doesn't fit in in the new land and struggles to make friends at school, where he is laughed at because he looks different and has different traditions.

Tim's love for music begins to intrigue the native animals, as he starts to approach their traditional music style with his own unique twist. Breaking the rules together, Tim and his classmates begin to learn more about one another and overcome the things that make them different, through their love of their new genre of music.



Taking inspiration from the history of the Windrush generation, and the love of reggae and ska music that built in Birmingham and Coventry across the 70s and 80s, this interactive show will explore the important themes of tackling prejudice and discrimination, as well as understanding community and identity. This production fits well with anti-bullying and anti-racism initiatives across the

education sector, teaching young audiences the importance of kindness and acceptance towards others.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The production is designed for audiences aged 5 to 11. We would set ourselves up at your park across 2 or 3 days, and are able to schedule up to three performances per day (max. of approx. 60 people in each audience). We'll also have arts and crafts activities on site to further immerse young people and families into the themes of the performance.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

For a 2 day visit to your park, there is a cost of £3000. This increases to £4500 for an additional third day. Tickets for audiences are free.

WHEN CAN WE COME?

Remaining dates are here below. We are scheduling the tour on a first come first serve basis, so if you would like a particular date please get in touch as soon as possible.

- Friday 24 June to Sun 26 June
- Friday 1 July to Sun 3 July

Our Playhouse Plays Out Tent will arrive on the Thursday, the day before your selected dates, to set up. This allows us to be ready to work with as many of your local young people and families as possible across the scheduled days. We'll dismantle the Tent on the Monday, the day after the scheduled dates.

NEXT STEPS:

Please respond to this email ASAP. If you're interested, let us know and we will book you onto our tour schedule and begin making logistical plans ready for our visit.

For an idea of what our project is like, please find the promotional video for one of our previous tours here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJ2xaj-CJdI> (Please note our visiting Tent will not look the same as the one in the video)



I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,
Paul

Paul Simpson (he/him)
Participation Manager
Oxford Playhouse