

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE

The Organization

Young People's Theatre (YPT), now in its 54th season, is North America's first and Canada's largest professional theatre for young audiences. It currently produces and presents an 8-play season with an audience of approximately 85,000+. Housed in a renovated historical venue in downtown Toronto, YPT has a 458-seat Mainstage and a 115-seat Studio, and operates a year-round Drama School in four locations. With a \$5 million operating budget and a strong team, the family-friendly employee culture at YPT (given that hours are primarily day time) encourages ingenuity, team-work, and an atmosphere of learning. The theatre employs more than 50 staff members and engages more than 200 artists each season. YPT's artistic policy focuses on arts and education – in fact, learning is at the centre of everything we do. Current Artistic Director Allen MacInnis has announced his retirement and will be fulfilling his contract through his final season of programming in 2020.21. The new Artistic Director will join YPT ideally in late fall 2020, allowing time for acclimatization as well as the development of a 2021.22 season for budget and arts council application purposes. Over the next five years YPT will be embarking upon a major capital project for a new facility for the company: *Room for Imagination*.

The Position

Working in partnership with the Executive Director, the Artistic Director reports to an engaged Board of Directors and is an eloquent spokesperson for the artistic vision of the company. The AD of YPT leads the artistic mission of a well-resourced, unique arts organization with a dual mandate, encompassing both professional stage productions and arts education. The Artistic Director will also assist the Executive Director to realize the creation and development of a new facility. Working closely with two Associate AD's, one focused on Education and the other on Play Development, the Artistic Director will develop new partnerships locally, nationally, and internationally, and will launch YPT into its next 50 years of evolution.

The Candidate

You are an energetic, fearless leader with a record of artistic accomplishments and a commitment to learning. You have a strong, evolving artistic practice, which thrives through collaboration. You are curious about and respect the thoughts and ideas of children and young people, and are eager to enter into a genuine dialogue with them around the issues that they face. You are committed to representing a multiplicity of perspectives and experiences, as are reflected in the patrons of YPT. You are interested in continuing to develop YPT's relationship with Indigenous people. You are adventurous, rigorous and generous, and are excited by the possibility of positive change.

Primary Responsibilities

The Artistic and Executive Directors are jointly responsible for the overall health of Young People's Theatre. For the Artistic Director, primary responsibilities include:

- Creation and delivery of programming for a season of productions/presentations that reach a variety of age groups
- Development and curation of teams of artists for each project
- Supervision of artistic and education staff, leading play development and educational programming
- Maintenance of a current and informed view of the industry
- Development of partnerships with artists in Toronto, in Canada, and internationally
- In partnership with the Executive Director:
 - Leading all staff and supporting activities
 - Developing long-term strategic planning and short-term operations for the company
 - Composing all operational grants for Arts Councils
 - Provision of aesthetic and logistic input into the development of YPT's potential new facility
 - Representation of YPT on key fundraising occasions.

Qualifications

You are an accomplished theatre artist (a director, a playwright, designer, dramaturg, actor....) with a record of solid artistic achievements.

You have experience in Theatre for Young Audiences or a background in and passion for education.

You have experience developing new work.

You have an excellent relationship with the larger arts community.

You are an exceptional communicator.

Compensation

A competitive compensation package will be offered, complete with salary and benefits. Salary range commensurate with experience and eligible for annual review. Benefits include RRSP, vacation allowance, group insurance benefits with extended health, dental, life insurance, AD&D and LTD.

TO APPLY

Please apply by email with your cover letter and resume.

Send to the Artistic Director Search Committee care of adsearch@youngpeoplestheatre.org by Friday, April 24, 2020, 5 pm.

YPT invites applications from all qualified individuals and welcomes applications from members of racialized groups/visible minorities, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. Accommodations are available for potential applicants with disabilities.
