

TYA Incubator Seeking Creators

Join us and explore contemporary Theatre for Young Audience practices while making new work for the Ottawa Children's Festival

What is a TYA Incubator?

The TYA (Theatre for Young Audiences) Incubator is a group of creators who come together to form a Community of Practice. We will think, re-think and generate processes around making theatre for young people. We will then put those ideas into practice by making and performing short performance pieces at the [Ottawa Children's Festival de la jeunesse](#) in May 2023.

This program will support Ottawa-Gatineau area creators in risk-taking and experimentation to foster a culture of creative local innovative work for young people. Applications are due **April 22nd at midnight**.

Who can apply?

We are looking for creators from any discipline with an existing live-art practice. This could include theatre, dance, community arts, storytelling, arts activism and more. Are you:

- Curious about how your current work or practice could be shifted or re-thought to embrace TYA audiences?
- Eager to learn about and share research about Contemporary TYA practices and apply your findings to your own practice?
- Keen to develop your artistic knowledge and learn about considering, incorporating and/or embracing inclusive/diverse perspectives in your creation practice?
- Experienced and/or interested in working with young people.
- Located in the Ottawa-Gatineau region with access to the internet*.
- Available to attend a kick off workshop and Ottawa Children's Festival de la jeunesse artistic programming from May 19th - 23, 2022
- Able to commit to meeting virtually and in person 1-2 times per month between May 2022- May 2023.

We welcome you to apply if you are in post-secondary school but will prioritize those who are looking to expand the skills they have developed through finishing school or from life experience.

As some of our meetings will take place virtually, access to the internet for meetings is an asset (If this is a barrier, the facilitators will work with you to support your participation).

We actively encourage applications from members of groups with historical and/or current barriers to equity. Applicants who have built an artistic practice through channels other than

post-secondary education, or alongside other full-time/part-time (paid or unpaid) work are also encouraged to apply.

What happens in the Incubator?

From May 2022 - May 2023, participants will gather 1 to 2 times per month for a supported hybrid learning experience. The curriculum content will be guided by participant interests but could include the following:

- Attending shows and then talking about them with the creators
- Hearing from knowledge activators working in the field
- Undertaking and presenting research on Contemporary practitioners
- Exploring creative prompts to spark content creation

As part of this project, participants will create a 5-10 minute piece to be presented on site at the Ottawa Children's Festival in May 2023. In order to support the learning and creation components of this program, the Incubator will provide the following:

- Free tickets to local TYA performances with discussion opportunities following
- A supportive and inclusive learning environment
- Optional group and 1-to-1-dramaturgical feedback for your performance piece
- Technical and production support for your performance
- An honorarium of \$2500 plus additional funding for materials and collaborators

Expectations of participating in the TYA Incubator:

- Attend all scheduled meetings
- Attend the TYA performances at the Festival May 19-21, 2022
- Research and lead a discussion about a TYA theatre company, practice etc.
- Create and present a 5-10-minute piece at the Festival in May 2023 that has the necessary supports in place for their audience (according to the subject matter of the piece).

If you are interested in applying, you can fill out this [Application Form](#) or send a link with a 5 minute video with your answers to tya.incubator@gmail.com. The [application questions](#) are available here. All applications are due April 22nd at midnight.

Before applying, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the program co-facilitators Emily Pearlman and Drea at tya.incubator@gmail.com. We are happy to clarify any questions and provide any application support you might require.
