



At Milton Keynes Theatre
For young people and adults with additional needs

Milton Keynes Theatre has an active and forward thinking Creative Learning department, who proactively strive to create opportunities for young people and adults to creatively engage with the theatre and the performing arts. We regularly work with Special Educational Needs schools, SEN Units; including those for ASD and other groups of people who may have learning difficulties, emotional or behavioural problems and/or physical disabilities.

We provide an interactive approach to our theatrical workshops, exploring the stories behind our productions through language, texture, visuals and sound. We endeavour to make the sessions lively and exciting to experience, bringing our productions to life for people with varying levels of disability, who cannot always learn through conventional methods. We are also able to offer Arts Award Discover & Explore, Bronze and Silver award levels; and can work alongside you to develop outreach projects around this.

Our workshops are led by professional freelance theatre practitioners, who are experienced in working with those who have additional needs/disabilities. Theatre tours are led by members of the Creative Learning Team who are also experienced in delivering bespoke tours to those who have additional needs. All of our workshops can be adapted to suit your group's requirements.

Due to the size of our backstage rehearsal studio we can only accommodate a maximum of 15 participants per session for our workshops; however larger groups can be accommodated if you are happy for split sessions to run (for example: tour/ workshop on rotation or different time slots for the same session). Workshops can take place at Milton Keynes Theatre in our backstage studio or at your school/venue. It is very rare for us to gain access to the stage for our workshops, due to the busy schedule of our visiting productions, although there may be the occasional opportunity to accommodate this.

Theatre backstage tours are also available for SEND groups at the specially discounted rate of £30* for up to 15 people plus teachers/carers. Our tour includes access to our dressing rooms (where available), wardrobe, green room, rehearsal studio, prompt corner and staging areas; which may include quick change areas, props and scenery. Tours can be combined with a workshop or booked on their own. Tours usually take place on weekday mornings, subject to permission from the visiting production company.

To discuss this further or to organise a visit to Milton Keynes Theatre please contact the Creative Learning Manager- Kelley Evans on 01908 547651 or by emailing kellevevans@theambassadors.com

*SEN School special rate

Milton Keynes Theatre

Workshops for young people and adults with additional needs

Musical Theatre Workshops

Our musical theatre workshops teach participants the basic elements of singing, dancing and acting. They actively encourage group work and spatial awareness through energetic dance routines; helping to improve confidence, co-ordination and musicality, whilst having fun.

- Workshops are available on weekday mornings and can take place in our theatre studio or at your school/venue.
- £100 for up to 15 students at the theatre or £120 for up to 25 students in school*

You may want to combine a Musical Theatre Workshop with the performance of a musical currently being staged:

MAMMA MIA! <i>Tues 2 – Sat 20 May</i>	Bring It On- The Musical <i>Wed 20- Sat 23 Sep</i>	Jersey Boys <i>Tues 23 Jan – Sat 3 Feb '18</i>
Evita <i>Tues 23 – Sat 27 May</i>	Cilla- The Musical <i>Tues 26- Sat 30 Sep</i>	Hairspray <i>Mon 9- Sat 14 April '18</i>
Billy Elliot <i>Tues 30 May – Sat 17 June</i>	Blood Brothers <i>Mon 2 – Sat 7 Oct</i>	Matilda the Musical (UK tour) <i>Tues 5 – Sat 30 June '18</i>
Dreamboats and Petticoats <i>Mon 3 – Sat 8 Jul</i>	The Adams Family <i>Tues 24 – Sat 28 Oct</i>	Legally Blonde- The Musical <i>Mon 28 May – Sat 2 June '18</i>
Wonderland <i>Mon 17 – Sat 22 Jul</i>	Cabaret <i>Tues 31 Oct- Sat 4 Nov</i>	Flashdance <i>Mon 16 – Sat 21 Jul '18</i>
Grease <i>Mon 28 Aug – Sat 2 Sep</i>	Sunset Boulevard <i>Tues 28 Nov – Sat 2 Dec</i>	Shrek The Musical <i>Wed 25 Jul – Sun 5 Aug '18</i>

Please contact the Creative Learning Department for ticket pricing information – mkcreative@theambassadors.com

Drama Workshops

The perfect chance for participants to learn about the importance of communication, and the different ways we can share and express our feelings with each other in a fun learning environment. Through drama we aim to develop participants' imagination by bringing stories to life through the use of props and drama improvisation; encouraging initiative and spontaneity.

- Workshops are available on weekday mornings and can take place in our theatre studio or at your school/venue
- £100 for up to 15 students at the theatre or £120 for up to 25 students in school*

You may want to combine a Drama Workshop with the performance of a play currently being staged:

National Theatre's Jane Eyre

Mon 10 – Sat 15 Jul

A Judgement in Stone

Mon 24 – Sat 29 Jul

La Cage Aux Folles

Tues 8 – Sat 12 Aug

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time

Mon 4 – Sat 16 Sep

National Theatre's Hedda Gabler

Tues 27 Feb – Sat 3 March '18

War Horse

Wed 19 Sep – Sat 6 Oct '18

Please contact the Creative Learning Department for ticket pricing information – mkcreative@theambassadors.com

Puppetry Workshops

This workshop involves participants creating their own puppets which can then be utilised to encourage involvement in activities which they may not have previously felt comfortable; exploring new situations that inspire participants to open up and express themselves in a fun theatre environment.

- Workshops are available on weekday mornings and can take place in our theatre studio or at your school/venue
- £100 for up to 15 students at the theatre or £120 for up to 25 students in school*

Street Dance Workshops

Our street dance workshops are designed to encourage participants to express themselves and improve their confidence through performing funky dance moves. During the workshops participants are taught the art of popping and locking, break dance moves and tricks- encouraging exploration of their bodies and the new and interesting ways that they may use them. Participants will then piece together all moves taught at the session, into a short dance routine for a final performance. No prior dance experience is necessary.

- Workshops are available on weekday mornings and can take place in our theatre studio or at your school/venue.
- £100 for up to 15 students at the theatre or £120 for up to 25 students in school*

You may want to combine a Dance Workshop with the performance of a dance show currently being staged:

Matthew Bourne's 'Cinderella'

Tues 13 – Sat 17 Feb '18

Singing Workshops

It has been well documented that music can make an invaluable contribution to educational and social development, particularly for those with special educational needs. During this workshop our experienced singing practitioner will teach participants a fun and lively musical number, with piano accompaniment, leading to an internal performance opportunity at the end of the workshop.

- Workshops are available on weekday mornings and can take place in our theatre studio or at your school/venue
- £100 for up to 15 students at the theatre or £120 for up to 25 students in school*

Shakespeare Simplified

This drama workshop will explore Shakespeare- bringing the stories and characters in his plays to life. Using a variety of modern techniques, such as drama and warm-up games, we will rehearse brief excerpts from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Twelfth Night'. We explore Shakespeare's plays practically, rather than statically, allowing participants to gain a clearer understanding of Shakespeare's work; and hopefully a deeper enjoyment of it.

- Workshops are available on weekday mornings and can take place in our theatre studio or at your school/venue
- £100 for up to 15 students at the theatre or £120 for up to 25 students in school*

Cinderella Themed Pantomime Workshops

We take participants on a practical pantomime drama adventure, learning about all the different characters in Cinderella along the way. We explore the traditions behind pantomime and the use of slapstick comedy in a fun theatrical environment.

- Workshops are available on various dates/times throughout Dec 2017 and Jan 2018
- Workshops can take place in our theatre studio or at your school/venue
- £100 for up to 15 students at the theatre or £120 for up to 25 students in school*

Cinderella Show Tickets

School rate £11 - £14pp + 1 free teacher per 10 tickets purchased*



9 Dec 2017 – 14 Jan 2018

Our fabulous pantomime is a great festive outing and we are delighted to offer a **relaxed** performance on **Wed 10 Jan 1pm**.

So what is a relaxed performance and who is it for?

Suitable for both adults and children alike, who would benefit from a more relaxed setting when attending the theatre. This includes those on the autism spectrum, those who make involuntary noises, those with learning disabilities, or anyone who just prefers a less formal environment when attending a show.

There are no alterations to the performance itself- it is just as entertaining and spectacular as at any other, but the atmosphere in the auditorium is less formal than at a regular performance. It's the opposite of the 'quiet carriage' on the train – there is a relaxed attitude to noise, movement and a few small changes to the sound levels and some lighting effects, to accommodate those who may feel uncomfortable with the dazzling lights and sound of an ordinary performance.

We offer group discounts for 10 or more at this performance – please call our dedicated Group Sales Team on 0333 009 5393

or email groupsales@theambassadors.com

For individual tickets please call;

Box Office 0844 8717652*

Access 0800 912 697

Or visit www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes*

***Booking fees apply. Calls cost 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge**

Feedback from the relaxed performance of Aladdin in Jan 2016

Wow! What a great afternoon. You thought of everything; lots of helpers clearly identifiable and the helpful information before we came setting out what to expect on the day. You fetched me a chair so that I could sit next to my son in his wheelchair rather than behind him. Anthony loved the show and shouted 'more' throughout. And it didn't matter! No one minded - a relief for Mum! Definitely coming next year.

Thank you!

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*Thank you so much for putting on a relaxed show - not only do those with disabilities enjoy the show but parents and carers feel so much more relaxed!*

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Superb production with consideration for sensory issues!

Accessibility

All areas of Milton Keynes Theatre are accessible to customers with Access needs, including wheelchair users.

Visual Story

We have developed a theatre visual story, for people with autism, which enables them to prepare for a visit to our theatre and familiarise themselves with the surroundings. Our visual story is available to download from our website: www.atgtickets.com/access/visual-stories/

Induction Loop Necklace

Suitable for patrons already wearing a hearing enhancement aid. If you put the necklace around your neck and switch your hearing aid to the 'T' setting, the sound will be amplified. The necklace has an adjustable volume control.

Infra-red Headsets

We have infra-red *Sennheiser* sound amplification headsets which amplify sound through earpieces similar to regular headphones. This is suitable for patrons without a hearing aid.

Signed Performances

We have many BSL interpreted performances throughout the year. Upcoming BSL performances include:

Billy Elliot 8 June 2017 at 7.30pm	Jane Eyre 13 July 2017 at 7.15pm	Wonderland 21 July 2017 at 7.30pm
Cinderella 4 Jan 2018 at 7pm	Warhorse 4 Oct 2018 at 7.30pm	

Captioned Performances

Captioning is similar to television subtitling where the spoken word is displayed as text onto screens situated either side of the stage, for people with hearing impairments. Audience members who are using the captions should ask to be booked into our access seats so they will have good sightlines of the screens. Upcoming captioned performances include:

MAMMA MIA! 13 May '17 at 2.30pm	Billy Elliot 13 June 2017 at 7.30pm	Jane Eyre 12 July 2017 at 7.15pm
Cinderella 28 December 2017 at 7pm	Warhorse 3 Oct 2018 at 7.30pm	

Audio Described Performances

A live, scripted verbal commentary of a show, delivered by a trained individual via headsets. The commentary provides information which is otherwise only available visually; so it may include actions happening on stage, details of significant non-verbal communication or a character's entrance. The audio describer will do a pre-show introduction giving a detailed description of the set, characters and costumes in advance of the performance. Upcoming audio described performances include:

MAMMA MIA! 20 May 2017 at 2.30pm	Billy Elliot 16 June 2017 at 7.30pm	Jane Eyre 15 July 2017 at 2pm
Cinderella 30 Dec 2017 at 2.30pm	Warhorse 28 Sep 2018 at 7.30pm	

Touch Tours

Touch tours are led by an audio describer prior to an audio described show. Touch tours provide the opportunity for members of the audience who are blind or partially sighted to familiarise themselves with the set, costumes and props. Upcoming touch tours include:

	MAMMA MIA! 20 May 2017 at 12.20pm & 1.30pm	
Jane Eyre 15 July 2017 at 12pm	Cinderella 30 Dec 2017 at 1pm	Warhorse 28 Sep 2018 at 5.30pm

Kelley Evans
Creative Learning Manager (maternity cover)
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*some travel expenses may be charged dependent on venue distance from theatre. Ticket offers have a minimum group size of 10 paying pupils with an accompanying teacher; many shows do offer 1 free teacher for every 10 paying students. Extended pay by dates are available. Discounts subject to availability at time of booking. No retrospective discounts given.