

Persephone Theatre Young Company FAQ

What is the Persephone Theatre Young Company?

The Persephone Theatre Young Company is both **a class** and **a theatre company** for young performers between the ages of 14 and 19 years. The Young Company performers work and study with professional theatre artists over a period of five months culminating in the development, rehearsal, and public performance of a full-scale theatre production directed by a professional director in one of Persephone Theatre's performance spaces. Students become immersed in all aspects of the development of a theatre production from writing, acting, and directing to technical and design training opportunities.

How do you get to be a part of the company?

Students fill out an **application form** and then **audition** for the Young Company. The application form simply asks about your background and your interests and gets you to talk (on paper) about a few of your favourite things and dreams. The audition is very laid-back and open, where students get to show off their abilities and talents and possibly play improv games with their peers. There are both individual and group auditions.

Do you need to have attended past Persephone School classes or have acting experience to apply?

No. Anyone, whether they have experience or past classes, can apply. There is no prerequisite, nor do students have to ever have acted before. Perhaps you are more of a dancer than an actor. Perhaps you are a musician who would like to try another form of performance. Maybe you are just interested in doing something new or you're into the technical or stage management aspect of theatre. We are interested in seeing all of you – from the very experienced to the not-so-much.

How much of a time commitment is the Young Company?

**Note: times indicated are not necessarily set in stone and will be confirmed with performers at a later date.* For the first two months we will work together two days a week (one weekday and Saturday). Later, we shift to 3 days a week (times/days TBA). The number of days increases as we get closer to performance. During the week, the workshops/rehearsals generally begin around 6:00 pm and end between 9:00 – 9:30 pm. Saturdays are four-hour days generally beginning at 1:00 pm. While we are open to *attempting* to accommodate students' busy

schedules, we cannot tolerate unexcused absences, and when we move into our 5 days a week there is zero tolerance for absences (except for emergencies).

How do I apply/audition?

Young people interested in applying/auditioning for Young Company must fill out an application form and submit it along with a recent photo of themselves. You will then be contacted by someone at Persephone Theatre if we wish to see you for a meet and greet and audition. It is possible that not all applicants will be asked to come and audition, depending on numbers. The application form consists of the regular information request (name, age, address) along with a section where applicants are asked to tell us a bit about themselves. You will write a couple of short paragraphs about yourself, why you want to be part of the Young Company, and what you're like as a human being. Don't worry, it's not a test. We want to get to know YOU. The auditions will be very straight forward and simple. Auditioners will be asked to prepare a short monologue of their choice. Auditioners will also be required to perform a short Shakespeare monologue; you will have a choice of three. If you do not have something prepared, a song and/or a monologue will be provided for you. If you play a musical instrument or are a dancer, juggler, gymnast, ride a unicycle, do magic, or can do almost anything else, we'll probably ask to see that too. Students will also be asked play a few quick, basic improv games in small groups.

What if I only want to work behind the scenes? Will I still have to audition?

Yes.

What are the dates/deadlines?

December 10 th	Application deadline
December 16 th	Auditions/meetings (Callbacks if necessary)
TBA	1 st Day of Young Company
May 14 – 20 th	Young Company performance week