

Persephone Theatre Young Company FAQs

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 (in Grades 9-12) who are interested in pursuing a career in the arts. The Young Company students have the opportunity to thrive in a classroom setting while also getting to work and study with professional theatre artists. When students apply, they can choose to apply for Term 1, or Term 2 or both Terms.

Term 1 Oct –mid Jan

Cost: \$650+GST

The focus will be on **self-created, alternative performance styles** that will culminate in a Mini Theatre Festival that of original plays performed in found spaces throughout the Persephone building.

Term 2 mid Jan –end of May

Cost: \$750+GST

The focus will be on a more **traditional style of theatre** culminating in a full-scale theatre production (lights, sound, costumes, set, etc.) in Persephone Theatre's Backstage.

Both Terms will have:

- A series of **Guest Speakers** who are professional theatre artists from all different areas of theatre (from stage management, design, acting, to directing).
- A series of **Theatre Critique** opportunities in which students will watch 2-3 shows from Persephone's season followed by in depth discussions about the experience, themes, production approaches, etc.

NOTE: As Young Company is intended for a more mature age group and as the students are interested in pursuing a career in theatre, topics will be explored that are current in our world today (and throughout history). This may include LGBTQ+ rights, war, homelessness, etc. Persephone will provide a safe, inclusive, and healthy atmosphere to explore these issues in an age appropriate manner.

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, your interests, and dreams. Students will need to indicate if they are applying for Term 1, Term 2 or both Terms.

The audition is very laid-back and open, where students get to share their abilities and talents. There will be both individual and group auditions.

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

No. Anyone can apply! Students do not need to 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 interested in doing something new or you're into the technical or stage management aspects of theatre. We are interested in seeing all of you – from the very experienced to the not-so-much. The only pre-requisite is a passion for sharing a story and expressing oneself through performance.

How much of a time commitment is the Young Company?

Classes will be on Mondays. Weekly classes generally will be from 6:30-9PM. The week leading up to the end of each term students will attend more frequently, as we prepare for performances.

Tech and dress rehearsals Tues-Thurs from 5:00 pm to 9-9:30 pm.

End of term performances will be over a weekend. Students can expect to be at the theatre Friday 5-10PM and Saturday/Sunday 1-9:30PM.

Students will be expected at all classes and rehearsals (except in emergencies).

Note: times indicated are not set in stone and will be confirmed with Young Company members at a later date.

How do I apply/audition?

Young people interested in applying/auditioning for Young Company must **first fill out an application form** and submit it along with a recent photo of themselves. If you're selected, Kristi Friday will contact you for an interview/audition. The application form consists of the regular information requests (name, age, address) along with a section where applicants are asked to tell us a bit about themselves. Don't worry, it's not a test. We just want to get to know you!

You can fill out an application form by going to: [HERE](#)

The auditions will be straight forward and simple. Auditioners will be asked to:

1. Prepare a monologue of their choice (3-5min in length).
2. Choose a monologue provided by Persephone and perform it [HERE](#) If you have special skills (such as you are a musician, dancer, singer, juggler, etc.) we might ask you to show off these skills too.
3. Students will also be asked to play a few quick, basic improv games in small groups.

Note: While we would love to see everyone, depending on application numbers, It is possible that not all applicants will be asked to come and audition.

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

That's great! In this case: You will be asked to

1. Prepare one of the audition pieces provided by Persephone.
2. Prepare a brief presentation on what it is you would like to focus on and why (stage management, design, etc.)
3. Play a few quick, basic improv games in small groups.

What are the dates/deadlines?

Sept 2 nd	Deadline for applications and to request an audition
September 9 th & 10 th	Auditions
TBA (tentatively Sept. 13 th)	Callbacks if necessary
Sept 16 th	Successful auditioners will be notified if they are chosen
Oct 4 th 6:30-9PM	1 st Day of Term 1 of Young Company
TBA in mid Jan	Mini Festival of Self Created Scenes
Jan 23 rd 6:30-9PM	1 st day of Term 2
TBA in May	Term 2 Production in the Backstage

The majority of classes for both Term 1 & Term 2 will be Mondays from 6:30-9PM

If you have any questions, please contact

Kristi Friday, Artistic Associate – Youth Programming

306-384-2126 ext 242

kristi.f@persephonetheatre.org