

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 Sept 11 – Dec 10, Mondays* 6:30-9PM

*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 from Dec 7-10.

Term 2 Jan 8 – March 24, Mondays* 6:30-9PM

*Cost: \$750+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 from March 21-24.

****Monday night classes are mandatory throughout both terms- no exceptions (except in emergencies or due to illness).***

***** To secure student spot- a deposit of \$100 per term must be paid by June 23, 2023***

Both Terms will have:

- A series of **Guest Speakers or Teachers** 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 will be from 6:30-9PM. The month leading up to the end of each term students will attend more frequently, as we prepare for performances. **Tech and dress rehearsals will be** the week of performances Tues-Wed from 5:00-9:30 pm. **End of term performances** will be Thurs-Sundays. Students can expect to be at the theatre Thurs-Sat 6-10PM and Sunday 1-5PM.

NOTE* *Monday night classes are mandatory throughout both terms- no exceptions* (except in emergencies, due to illness, or on statutory holidays).

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 are 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: [Click 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 [click 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?

May 31, 2023	Deadline for applications and to request an audition
June 12 & 13	Auditions
TBA (June 14)	Callbacks if necessary
June 20	Successful auditioners will be notified if they are chosen
June 23	\$100 per term deposit is due to secure spot

Sept 11 th 6:30-9PM	1 st Day of Term 1 of Young Company
Dec 7-10	Term 1 Production in the Backstage

Jan 8 th 6:30-9PM	1 st day of Term 2
March 21-24	Mini Festival of Self Created Scenes

The majority of classes for both Term 1 & Term 2 will be Mondays from 6:30-9PM. Monday night classes are mandatory throughout both terms- no exceptions (except in emergencies, due to illness, or statutory holidays).

If you have any questions, please contact

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