**The 306: Dawn**

**The Project**

These workshops are to support learning around the National Theatre of Scotland, 1418 Now and Perth Theatre co-production in association with Red Note Ensemble of ‘The 306: Dawn’ written by Oliver Emmanuel, composed by Gareth Williams and directed by Laurie Samson. The workshop will give an insight into the processed used in developing the work.

The 306: Dawn is a new piece of music theatre from the National Theatre of Scotland. Based on real events, it charts the heartbreaking journey of three of the British soldiers who were executed for cowardice, desertion and mutiny during World War I (1914-18).  
  
Joseph Byers (17) from Glasgow.   
Too young to enlist, Joe, like so many at the time, has lied about his age to join the other men at the front. However, his dreams of being a solider are quickly destroyed by the brutal realities of trench warfare and he soon finds himself in trouble with the authorities.  
  
Private Harry Farr (25) from London.   
Traumatised by the things he has seen and lived through as a serving soldier, Harry is suffering from shell shock and is now unable to fight. He has subsequently been convicted of cowardice and, as he waits to hear his fate, he dreams of his wife and hopes for a last minute reprieve.  
  
Lance-Sergeant Joseph Willie Stones (24) from Durham.   
Having used his rifle to block the entrance to a trench during fierce fighting, Joseph stands accused of casting away his arms in combat - an offence punishable by death. He thought he was protecting his men, but the top brass want to make an example of him to maintain discipline in the ranks.  
  
With a contemporary score performed live by the Red Note Ensemble, the songs explore the vulnerability and devastation of the battlefields, alongside the inner struggles of the men.   
  
Poignant and powerful, The 306: Dawn will be performed in a transformed barn in the Perthshire countryside. Join us, as we explore the lives of these unknown soldiers - who appear on no war memorials – and give them back their voices, stories and names.  
  
Age guide 14+  
Contains strong language and adult themes.  
  
Costume and Set Design by Becky Minto  
Lighting Design by Simon Wilkinson   
Musical Director Jonathan Gill

Performances - 24/05/2016 – 11/06/2016

The project will also be supported by a community programme offering bespoke activity.

**Info to Schools**

Each selected school will receive a full day inter-disciplinary project engaging up to 80 pupils. The day will offer 4 routes of engagement with pupils. We hope to achieve a lot in a day and the workshops promise to be challenging, creative, lively and enjoyable. All participating pupils should be in loose comfortable clothing and appropriate footwear fro moving around.

**Discovering History**

Up to 20 pupils – Working with an experience facilitator/theatre maker - Research local people from WWI and identify interesting facts about these individuals. Take these findings to the **Constructing Story** group and redevelop these findings into story starters. These story starters will be presented to the **Music in Theatre** and **Devising Theatre** to create some creative responses to. The group will then work again with the **Constructing Story** group to identify and build a pitch as to how they could creatively commemorate the names of the 306 soldiers.

**Constructing Story**

Up to 20 pupils – Working with an experienced facilitator/theatre maker - Explore examples of creating story from true facts, employing artistic licence to begin to identify potential stories. Implement these skills to develop the findings of the **Discovering History** group to create story starters. These story starters will be presented to the **Music in Theatre** and **Devising Theatre** to create some creative responses to. The group will then work again with the **Discovering History** group to identify and build a pitch as to how they could creatively commemorate the names of the 306 soldiers.

**Music in Theatre**

Up to 20 pupils – Experience a full physical and vocal warm up led by the professional staff. Working with two experienced musicians and/or M.D/Composers to explore some of the original music from ‘The 306: Dawn’ composed by Gareth Williams. Creatively explore how this piece of music can be used with text and create feeling and atmosphere.

Take the story starters created by the **Discovering History** and **Constructing Story** groups to explore creative ways of presenting elements of these using music. Create a number of Scratch ideas. Coming together with the **Devising Theatre** group to perform in the **Scratch Challenge**, where of all the material created is performed in one piece. – Pupils should bring their instruments, if they have any. Where possible, could they access schools instruments?

**Devising Theatre**

Up to 20 pupils – Experience a full physical and vocal warm up led by the professional staff. Working with two experienced practitioners/theatre makers explore tried and tested techniques employed by theatre companies when creating and presenting material. Using excerpts from ‘The 306: Dawn’ the group will begin to see the possibilities of movement, choral speaking and tableaux.

Take the story starters created by the **Discovering History** and **Constructing Story** groups to explore creative ways of presenting elements of these using these techniques. Create a number of Scratch ideas. Coming together with the **Music in Theatre** group to perform in the **Scratch Challenge**, where of all the material created is performed in one piece.

**Times**

A full day is needed to achieve all of the above culminating in the Scratch Challenge and creative pitches. 5 hours of contact time is needed.

**Proposed breakdown of day**

9.00am – 11.00am All workshops in designated spaces. For the first 30 minutes the Music in theatre and Devising Theatre groups will be together.

11.00am – 11.15am Break

11.15am – 11.45am All groups together in one space. The Discovering History & Constructing Story group will introduce their story starters

11.45am – 12.15pm The Music in Theatre and Devising Theatre groups will return to their rooms to begin selecting story starters and discussing ideas. The Discovering History and Constructing Story group will come together to begin discussion around creatively commemorating the 306 soldiers.

12.15pm – 1.15pm Lunch

1.15pm – 2.15pm Continuation of creating material

2.30pm – 3.00pm Music in Theatre and Devising theatre group come together to piece together creative pieces. The Discovering History & Constructing Story groups put together their creative pitch.

3.00pm – 3.30pm Scratch Challenge, Creative Pitch and Evaluation

**Room Requirements**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 9.00am – 10.00am | Classroom with internet access. (20 pupils max) | Discovering History |
| 2 | 9.00am – 2.30pm | Music room. (20 pupils max) | Music in Theatre |
| 3 | 1. 9.00am – 11.15am &  2. 11.45am - 3.00pm | Clear Classroom. Access to chairs would be useful. (40 pupils max) | Constructing History & Discovering History |
| 4 | 9.00am – 3.30pm | Large clear space. This room should be large enough to accommodate all participants. The Scratch Challenge can happen here. (80 pupils max) | All groups |

**Staff**

All staff employed for this project are experienced practitioners from the National Theatre of Scotland, Perth Theatre and Red Note Ensemble. All staff have been involved in development and fully prepped to ensure the best quality of experience to pupils. All staff have been PVG checked in advance of the visit.

At least 2 teachers are required to be present for at least the am sessions. Teachers are, of course, welcome to stay for the whole experience.

**Evaluation**

Evaluation of the project will be captured on the day, however, for quality assurance the National Theatre of Scotland will require the completion of a short online questionnaire from a representative from the host school.

**Photo Permission**

To monitor and record the project there may be a requirement to film or record the day. Appropriate permissions will be sought in advance.

**  **

***The 306: Dawn***

**Guidelines and Booking Form**

**If you are interested in booking a FREE workshop please read the guidelines carefully and complete this booking form to confirm your interest and preferred date.**

* Return this form by email to Fraser MacLeod, Creative Learning Co-ordinator at [fraser.macleod@nationaltheatrescotland.com](mailto:fraser.macleod@nationaltheatrescotland.com) by Monday 7th March 2016.
* After you have submitted this form we will contact you within 10 days to confirm your booking.
* The information you supply in this form will be given to the workshop practitioners, to help them plan the content and level of the workshop in advance.

**Workshop Guidelines**

**Duration:** 5 hours (at school/group venue. There are 5 sections to the day. Each lasts 1 hour)

**Venue:** To be held at your school. (Unless previously arranged with the Creative Learning Coordinator.)

4 separate spaces are required throughout the day. Discovering History (1 hour) requires a classroom with access to computers and internet. Story Construction (1 hour) requires a classroom big enough for up to 40 pupils. Creating Music in Theatre (full-day) requires large clear space for rehearsal and Devising Theatre (full-day) requires a large enough space that can hold all participating young people.

**Cost:** FREE

**Participants:**  Recommended for school, college and university students studying History, English, Music and Drama.

Participants must be advised to wear loose and comfortable clothing and trainers/flat shoes suitable for light exercise.  **NO high heels** and **NO short skirts.**

National Theatre of Scotland must be informed of any special needs or medical requirements in advance.

**Numbers:**      20 max per workshop option.

**Spaces:** 4 spaces required AM; 3 spaces PM.

**Safety:**           Your organisation is responsible for health and safety, and first aid. Two teachers are required for the day. It is the National Theatre of Scotland policy that staff are not left alone in a room with pupils. The Discovering History and Story Construction workshops require a teacher present.

**Photography:** For our records, marketing and future fundraising, National Theatre of Scotland may want to document the workshop through photography or film.

Please tick this box if you **DO NOT** give permission for us to do so:

For further information about the content of workshops please contact **Fraser MacLeod**, Creative Learning Coordinator on **0141 227 9232** or email [fraser.macleod@nationaltheatrescotland.com](mailto:fraser.macleod@nationaltheatrescotland.com) .

***The 306: Dawn* – Workshop Guidelines and Booking Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **NAME OF GROUP /ORGANISATION/SCHOOL** |  |
| **ADDRESS**  (we will send the contract to this address) |  |
| **YOUR NAME** |  |
| **ORGANISATION/SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER** |  |
| **MOBILE NUMBER**  (this is important in case we need to contact you in an emergency) |  |
| **EMAIL ADDRESS** |  |
| **LOCATION OF WORKSHOP**  (if different to the address given above) |  |
| **YOUR PREFERRED DATE FOR THE WORKSHOP:** | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Mon** | **Tues** | **Wed** | **Thurs** | **Fri** | | 25/04/2016 |  |  |  |  | | 02/05/2016 | 03/05/2016 | 04/05/2016 | 05/05/2016 | 06/05/2016 | | 09/05/2016 |  |  | 12/05/2016 | 13/05/2016 |   Please indicate a 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice |
| **No. OF MALE AND FEMALE PARTICIPANTS**  (maximum 20 per workshop option) | ………………………….Male ………………………..Female |
| **LEVEL / EXPERIENCE OF PARTICIPANTS**  (i.e. 4th Year, Standard Grade, drama, never done drama before etc) |  |
| **MEDICAL INFORMATION** | Are there any special needs/medical details that the practitioner should be aware of? |
| **TYPE OF SPACE**  (please describe your workshop space in as much detail as possible, giving approximate size and type of floor) | It’s really helpful to know what type of space we will be working in. Will there be chairs, tables, mirrors? etc. Remember, the space must be of reasonable size with a cleared space. Carpet or concrete floors are not ideal for workshops for health and safety reasons. |
| **HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THESE WORKSHOPS?** |  |
| **WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO BOOK THIS WORKSHOP?** |  |
| **ANY OTHER COMMENTS?** |  |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BOOKING