

Business Plan 2019 – 2022

Executive Summary

- acta will create and produce theatre with diverse groups within Bristol, (at least 10 shows each year), and deliver a full programme of original, relevant plays at the actacentre, and touring to community venues and schools, with new projects developed in working class and disadvantaged areas, engaging 500+ participants and 3,000 audience p.a. We will focus on making work which creates connections between different cultures and communities with groups from diverse backgrounds sharing work and collaborating on integrated productions.
- Work with children and young people - Funding from Youth Investment Fund will support a distinct weekly service for children and young people, with regular youth theatres in Bedminster, Lockleaze, and our Young Carers Youth Theatre. We will also provide regular projects for young adults (Phoenix Youth theatre), and develop new groups for primary age children, both in and out of school settings.
- acta will continue to develop a strategic role in the development of community theatre practice, working with organisations in the UK and internationally to promote a methodology that is relevant, reflective and accessible to communities, and building a new audience for theatre.

- We believe that locally created work can resonate with audiences in other cities and countries; that there are universal themes of common humanity which transcend cultural difference, and which can connect at an artistic and humanitarian level. Our programme will proactively demonstrate this belief and we will continue to build existing and new partnerships with other companies in Europe and globally including: CAN Manchester, Doorstep Arts, Rotterdams Wijktheater, Collective Encounters, Create Studios, CSC (Italy), Appalshop (Kentucky, USA).
- A key component of this aim is the development of the actacentre's role as cultural hub and beacon of excellence at local, national and international levels. In 2018-22 acta aspires to increase and broaden our workshop and performance programme, including:
 - Seminar programme to discuss key issues, share learning, develop practice
 - CPD for practitioners
 - National/International touring performances, workshops and talks
 - International Collaboration projects
- We will seek to share our recognised learning and expertise in community engagement with other arts organisations, developing partnerships, offering advice and consultation where appropriate.
- We will continue to invest in, and develop the Foundation entry-level employment programme, engaging and mentoring new workers from diverse backgrounds and cultures in order to sustain and enrich the company in the future, and contribute to diversifying the workforce in the wider sector.

Headlines

- **Create theatre with diverse adult groups – approximately 10 original shows annually.**
- **Work which makes connections between cultures and communities.**
- **Work with children and young people.**
- **Strategic role nationally and internationally; through partnerships; sharing methodologies - artistic process and engagement.**
- **actacentre as a cultural hub, developing practice, and programming high quality community theatre.**
- **Foundation – further development and continued investment.**