



WRITER CALL OUT

NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE AND COMPASS COLLECTIVE

National Youth Theatre and Compass Collective are commissioning a writer to work with a company of young people aged 18-30, to tell a coming-of-age story as part of a festival of bold new writing, taking place at NYT between **7-26 July 2025**.

National Youth Theatre (NYT) plays a vital role in fuelling young talent, propelling the next generation of leading storytellers on stage, on screen, on the page, behind-the-scenes and in leadership positions across the UK's world-leading creative industries.

Compass Collective is an independent charity supporting the integration of young refugees and people seeking asylum in the UK through the arts. Compass Collective runs theatre, music and film projects, creative English classes, and arts-led professional development programmes.

The commissioned writer will collaborate with Compass Collective Associate Artist Eleanor Henderson, who will direct this work. The writer will receive a short play commission and rehearsal attendance fees, to develop and rehearse a work-in-development piece, working with a company of Compass Collective and NYT members. The process will culminate in up to 3 performances of the work-in-progress in NYT's Workshop Theatre in July 2025. The sharing may be a full script, or a section of a script.

For this opportunity, we are particularly keen to hear from a writer who:

- Has lived experience of being a refugee or the process of seeking asylum
- Has experience of leading a collaborative, responsive writing process and/or co-creation
- Is excited to work with a large mixed company of between 12-16 Compass Collective and NYT members

Though there is no set theme, we are interested in developing a coming-of-age story that weaves in the experience, and multiple cultural identities, of the members of the young company.

Key Dates

RECRUITMENT

14 March: Deadline for Call Out (**10am**)

19-20 March: Meetings with Writers

25 March: Writer Confirmed

DEVELOPMENT

16-17 April: 2 days R&D at National Youth Theatre with young company and Eleanor Henderson

May-June: Additional R&D and Rehearsal Time to be confirmed

16 June: Rehearsal script deadline

7-11 July: Rehearsal week at National Youth Theatre

14-19 July: Rehearsal and work-in-progress performance week at National Youth Theatre

Dates above are illustrative and subject to change.

Recruitment process

If you would be interested in being commissioned in this way, please send the following information:

- **A sample of your work (e.g. a previous full script, or script extracts)**
 - **A short paragraph (up to 300 words) or a link to a 3-minute video or audio file about you.**
- We are interested to hear about how your practice is suited to the development process outlined above, and your connection to the experiences of Compass Collective and NYT young people.

Please send the above to NYT Assistant Producer Cherrelle Glave on Production@nyt.org.uk with **Compass x NYT Writer** in the subject box by **10am on Friday 14 March**.

If you would like to submit the information required in a different format, we would be happy to accommodate this, please contact Cherrelle Glave on Production@nyt.org.uk to discuss this.

Once all submissions have been read, a select number of writers will meet with the NYT Production Team, a member of Compass Collective leadership team and a Compass Youth Trustee, and Director Eleanor Henderson.

Meetings will take place in person at National Youth Theatre (London N7 6LW) or Online, on **Wednesday 19 or Thursday 20 March**, after which a writer will be selected.

Our Culture

At National Youth Theatre we work to create a culture that is inclusive, creative, and collaborative. We celebrate all the ways we are different and aim to create an environment where everyone can thrive and do their best work. We want our culture to create spaces where young people can be together, be brave and create bold work. We ask everyone involved in making each project to approach it with generosity, curiosity, kindness, and respect. We believe that we do better work together than we would apart and that our work is richer and stronger thanks to the different backgrounds and experiences that everyone in our company brings. Through our work we want to be connected and responsive to each other, our communities, our industry, and the wider world. Whatever your background or wherever you're from, we invite you to support our mission to be a creative force for good at a critical time for our industry, country, and planet.