

**STRATFORD  
EAST**

**YOUNG TECHNICIANS 2023-24  
APPLICATION PACK**



## CONTENTS

Welcome	2
Programme Overview	3
Course Facilitators	4
Who We're Looking For	5
Accessibility	6
How to Apply	7
About Stratford East and our Partners	8





## YOUNG TECHNICIANS 2023-24 APPLICATION PACK

### WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in Stratford East's Young Technicians, a practical introductory course for 16-21-year-olds, run in partnership with [RADA](#) and [Backstage Niche](#).

The 12-week programme offers participants the opportunity to develop practical skills in stage management, lighting and sound with industry professionals.

Previous participants have gone on to accept work experience at [White Light](#), on our Young Company mainstage productions, and at other London venues.

The course aims to address the imbalance of underrepresented groups working in backstage theatre. We believe it's crucial to create opportunities for young people to engage with artists that culturally and socially represent them. As such, we will prioritise applications from underrepresented young people.

We hope this course will support the next generation of backstage professionals.

If this sounds like you, then please read on to find out more. If there is anything that you're not sure of, please don't hesitate to contact us at: [getinvolved@stratfordeast.com](mailto:getinvolved@stratfordeast.com).

[Applications](#) close on Monday 02 October 2023, 12pm. No experience necessary.



## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Across the 12 weeks, participants will develop introductory knowledge and skills in lighting, sound and stage management, through practical workshops.

WHAT?	Stratford East's Young Technicians Course
WHO?	Young people aged 16-21 from East London*
WHEN?	A 12-week course on Thursday evenings, 6.30pm-8.30pm from November-February (full dates on page 7), plus:  Trip to RADA between Nov-Dec, outside of Thursday evenings Work Experience offered on a case-by-case basis between Mar-Aug
WHERE?	Theatre Royal Stratford East, London, E15 1BN and Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, 62-64 Gower Street, London, WC1E 6ED
HOW MUCH?	FREE

## WHAT YOU WILL GAIN

- Participation in practical workshops on:
  - Stage Management: roles/responsibilities of stage management team
  - Lighting: roles/responsibilities, design, types of lanterns, rigging, programming and operating a lighting desk
  - Sound: roles/responsibilities, types of speakers, design, programming and operating a sound desk, learning software like Ableton and/or QLab
- Development of transferable, practical and employability skills
- Connecting with peers and industry professionals in the workshops
- Invitation to watch shows at Stratford East and other London venues
- Offer of a tour and free tickets to stage productions at RADA
- Offer of work experience with our Production Team at Stratford East upon course completion



## COURSE FACILITATORS

We are thrilled to be working with RADA and Backstage Niche to deliver Young Technicians. Constance Oak will be facilitating the course, with Sound Engineer Chuky Omo, Composer Xana and RADA lighting tutors joining the programme.



### CONSTANCE OAK

Constance is a Freelance Stage Manager and Facilitator, and has worked for a number of major venues including The Royal Court, National Theatre and the Young Vic. Constance has been facilitating Stratford East's Young Technicians since 2021.



### XANA

Xana is a freestyle live loop musician, sound artist, vibrational sound designer, archival audio producer, audio researcher, spatial installation artist and theatremaker, who deconstructs words to make improvisational performances, manages music tech label Inventing Waves, develops accessible sound systems for spaces and is an sound arts facilitator.



### CHUKY OMO

Chuky has recently been working on Sound Design and FX mix for Enny's GRM awards performance, also producing and sound engineering music for Film and TV libraries used by BBC and SKY, alongside sound engineering podcasts and live events and performances.



## COSTS, DATES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

### Cost

Young Technicians is FREE to participants.

We can support with travel costs to/from workshops. Please contact Maya at [getinvolved@stratfordeast.com](mailto:getinvolved@stratfordeast.com) if you have any questions about this.

### Course Dates

It's important that participants are available to attend all course dates. Please carefully check the dates and times below.

#### Date / Time

#### Venue

2023:

- Thu 15 Nov, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 23 Nov, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 30 Nov, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 07 Dec, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 14 Dec, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Fri 15 Dec, 6pm–10pm

Stratford East  
Stratford East  
Stratford East  
Stratford East  
Stratford East  
*Trip to Jack and the Beanstalk at Stratford East*

2024:

- Thu 11 Jan, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 18 Jan, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 25 Jan, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 01 Feb, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 08 Feb, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Thu 15 Feb, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- Sat 17 Feb, 10am-5pm
- Thu 22 Feb, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Stratford East  
Stratford East  
Stratford East  
Stratford East  
Stratford East  
TBC  
TBC  
Stratford East

## WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR

No prior experience is necessary. We are seeking young people who:

- are aged 16-21-years-old
- live or study in East London\*
- want to learn more about technical theatre

We are also particularly keen to hear from young people who:

- identify as Black, Asian or from the Global Majority
- identify as Deaf, disabled or neurodiverse
- identify as female, non-binary or trans
- are from a lower socio-economic background
- are care experienced

## ACCESSIBILITY

Workshops will take place at Stratford East and RADA

### Stratford East

- The main entrance to the theatre has step-free access. On the ground level, there is a spacious foyer, wheelchair-accessible Box Office and toilets.
- There is 1 wheelchair-accessible toilet by the 1st floor studio.

### RADA

- Step-free access to the box-office, to all theatres and to all workshop spaces.
- Multiple wheelchair-accessible toilets in each building.

We are happy to discuss how we can support you to get the most out of the course, including sending workshop plans in advance, scheduling longer or more regular breaks, and providing a breakout space.

Please contact Maya at [getinvolved@stratfordeast.com](mailto:getinvolved@stratfordeast.com) if you would like to discuss your access needs.



## HOW TO APPLY

### Application Form

To apply for Young Technicians, please complete this online [application form](#).

*The deadline for applications is Monday 02 October 2023, 12pm.*

### Accessibility

If completing section 4 of the form isn't accessible for you, you can send us a video or a voice recording to [getinvolved@stratfordeast.com](mailto:getinvolved@stratfordeast.com), to support the rest of your application. Please ensure that your answers to section 4 are a maximum of 3 minutes long.

Please visit the [website](#) if you would like to view the full application form before completing it.

### Selection Workshops

All eligible applicants will be invited to join us at a Selection Workshop at RADA on Thu 26 Oct 2023, 6.30pm-8.30pm or Sat 28 October 2023, 10.30am - 5pm.

The selection workshops are an opportunity for us to meet you in a group setting, and for you to learn more about the course, take part in fun activities and meet new people. The workshops are informal and you won't need to prepare anything!

The team will choose the successful applicants after the workshops. Confirmations will be sent via email by 30 October 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Maya at [getinvovled@stratfordeast.com](mailto:getinvovled@stratfordeast.com).

\*Young Technicians has been designed specifically for young people from East London (Newham, Hackney, Waltham Forest, Tower Hamlets, Greenwich, Redbridge, Barking & Dagenham, and Havering).





## ABOUT STRATFORD EAST

Stratford East is a producing theatre, built in 1884, in the heart of East London. Stratford East makes theatre both for, and inspired by, our community in Newham, East London. We tell stories that are current, political and representative of London.

Alongside our work on stage, our Learning & Participation programme offers opportunities that are accessible to all, with the aim to widen participation for people of all ages. You can find out more about Stratford East [here](#).

We are thrilled to be working in partnership with RADA and Backstage Niche to deliver a Young Technicians course that is relevant to and representative of the young people we work with.

## ABOUT RADA

The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) offers vocational training for stage managers, designers, technical stagecraft specialists and actors. We nurture creative expression and seek to empower individuals to influence long term change in the creative industry and society.

Through our Access and Participation work we create opportunities for a wider community to engage with our training. The aim of this work is: to make sure that our full-time training is accessible to students and practitioners from all backgrounds; to increase diversity across the Academy; and to affect change in the industry in which our students gain employment. Our projects are specifically designed to encourage applications from young people who are Black and Global Majority, from low-income households, Deaf and disabled, and those who are care experienced.

## ABOUT BACKSTAGE NICHE

[Backstage Niche](#) is a community of freelancers from diverse cultural backgrounds who work in technical theatre. Our aim is to encourage the involvement of young people into production art roles, as well as supporting professionals currently working in the industry who are from the Global Majority. This includes mentorships, panel talks, workshops and a database where companies and theatre establishments can build creative teams that reflect the society we live in.

**RADA**

Newham London

Supported using public funding by

Department  
for Education

ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

**BACKSTAGE | NICHE**