



Guidelines for Audition Preparation

For the 2024 national ensembles there will be two ways for you to audition. Either face to face at one of the audition centres across Wales, or through a Zoom workshop audition. All auditions are run bilingually, and we welcome the use of Welsh, English and BSL in our auditions.

The audition requirements are set out below.

Please read all the information carefully to ensure you are well-prepared for your audition.

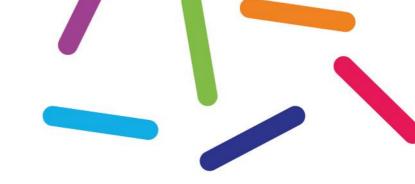
Audition confirmation

Through the application process you will be able to choose a date and venue for your audition. Once the application deadline has passed, all applicants will receive an email confirming the details of your audition and a request for your choice of monologue.

If you are intending to perform using BSL we would be grateful if you could inform us no later than February 28, so we can ensure we have the necessary interpretation in place.

How long is the audition?

The friendly group workshop audition will last 3 hours with a short break in the middle.



What to Expect from a NYTW audition?

The ethos of our auditions is to develop an environment where you feel confident to explore and discover your potential with the group. We've designed them as small, friendly 3-hour long group workshops led by a panel of professionals alongside NYAW and Theatr Clwyd staff. We work bilingually and welcome the use of Welsh, English or BSL in all our auditions.

What will it include?

- It will include movement, acting, group work and some vocal/music exercises and you don't have to prepare anything in advance. There will also be an opportunity to prepare for your monologue/speech section with the panel.
- One section of the audition will be about finding out about other interests you may have around making theatre or backstage skills and an opportunity for you to ask the panel and Theatr Clwyd/NYAW staff questions about how to develop as performers and theatre makers.
- A short section where you get to work with the panel on your speech. The
 monologue section of the audition is a small part of the audition process but a
 valuable one. We'll do plenty of work during the workshop to prepare you for this
 section, so don't be nervous!

What to prepare for the audition

Once the application deadline has closed, we will email you to confirm your audition details and ask you to send us your choice of a short speech/monologue (max 1 minute and 30 seconds).

Top tips for choosing your speech or monologue.

- Choose a speech and character from a play you are familiar with and like and that reflects you as a performer.
- Think about where your character is, their backstory and who are they directing this speech to and what they are trying to convey.

- Don't rely on props and avoid using accents that you're unfamiliar with.
- Don't go over time this will give you less time to work with the panel on your piece and that's the interesting part!
- Be open to re-direction and working with the panel to look at the speech from a different angle and don't worry if this isn't perfect it's your willingness to try things and adapt that we want to see.
- Don't worry about mistakes, it's how you get over them and use them to improve that's important.

If you need any support with this or are unsure what to choose, please get in touch with us at auditions@nyaw.org.uk and we will be happy to help.

There is nothing else to prepare in advance and all we ask is that you make the most of the session by being open, presenting work with your fellow performers and embracing the opportunity.

Arriving at your audition

When you arrive at the venue you will be met by members of the NYAW team and taken through a short registration process. You should arrive 15 minutes before your audition time.

Panels

Auditions will be led by a panel of National Youth Arts Wales associates who are industry professionals including the team from our partners at Theatr Clwyd and NYAW staff.

We want our 2024 ensemble to represent the diversity of young people and their backgrounds, experiences and cultures in Wales and are committed to ensuring the panels who audition and select our members share those backgrounds and experiences.

Language

The audition will be led bilingually, and we welcome the use of either Welsh, English or BSL.

If you have any access or additional learning needs, please do get in contact with us at nyaw@nyaw.org.uk and the NYTW producer will get back to you.

Recording

We intend to film all face-to-face auditions this year to aid with final selections.

Choosing an online Zoom audition

We are once again offering the option of an online audition for anyone who for whatever reason feels unable to attend a face-to-face audition, whether that's due to concerns around COVID-19, travel challenges or other reasons.

The requirements for these auditions are the same as those for the face-to-face auditions but will only last two hours and a half.

If required, we reserve the right to ask those who audition via Zoom to attend an informal online conversation. These conversations will be intended to help the panel get to know candidates rather than being used negatively.

What should you bring with you?

- Wear comfortable clothes that you can move around in easily.
 It might get warm as you will be taking part in some movement exercises so wear layers.
- Bring bottled water and/or preferred cold drinks (not fizzy drinks), and any necessary fruit/snacks to sustain you through the audition.

If in doubt - please ask!

If you have ANY questions or queries regarding the auditions, please feel free to contact us at nyaw@nyaw.org.uk.

All that is left to say is **good luck!** Looking forward to seeing you in your audition.

Audition Results

We will aim to process all auditions shortly after the final auditions take place with results being sent out during the first week of April.