**Belgrade Ensemble 24-25:**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**About the Programme**

**Q: How long is the training programme for, and what’s the commitment like?**

A: The Belgrade Ensemble will run from Tuesday 1 October 2024 - Tuesday 22 July 2025 inclusive. Regular rehearsals will be on Tuesday evenings (6.30-9.30pm) at the Belgrade Theatre.

In addition to regular rehearsals, there are two intensive periods in February/March 2025 towards Romeo and Juliet, and in July 2025 towards the Belgrade Ensemble’s show.

**Q: How many participants are you looking for?**
A: We are looking for around 14-20 participants to join the Belgrade Ensemble.

**Q: Can I work whilst taking part in the Belgrade Ensemble?**

A: Yes, however we do ask you to commit to the regular rehearsals (6.30-9.30pm on Tuesdays) and the intensive rehearsal/performance dates (Romeo and Juliet show dates and Ensemble rehearsal/show dates).

**Q: Will there be any financial support available to me to help cover costs?**

The programme is completely free for participants; however, we acknowledge that the commitment to the Romeo and Juliet production is quite large. There will be a bursary available to cover things such as access and expenses to support participants’ engagement in the production.

**Q: What are the intensive rehearsal/performance dates?**

A: The intensive rehearsal/performance dates are:

* Romeo and Juliet performances: Friday 21 February – Saturday 8 March 2025 (Various afternoons and evenings)
* Ensemble Show - Rehearsals and Tech Week: Monday 7 July – Saturday 12 July 2025 (Days and evenings)
* Ensemble Show – Performance: Week commencing Monday 14 July (exact evening TBC).

**Q: There are a few dates listed in the schedule that I cannot attend. Can I still apply?**

A: Attendance at the intensive rehearsal/performance dates (listed above) are mandatory. For some other rehearsals outside of this, we can be flexible with enough notice and reason. Please let us know in your application with an indication of any date(s) you anticipate you can’t make.

**Eligibility**

**Q: What is the age criteria?**

A: Applicants must be aged 19 – 30 years old at the programme start date, 17 September 2024. For example, if you are currently 18 but turn 19 by the start date of the course, you are welcome to apply.

**Q: Do I need to be based in the Midlands to take part?**

A: Yes, the Belgrade Ensemble is an opportunity specifically for people living in Coventry or the Midlands. We ask that you live within easy commuting distance of the Belgrade Theatre (max 35 minute drive time / max 35 mile radius from the theatre).

**Q: Do I need to have acting, singing or performance experience to take part?**

A: You do not necessarily need experience - we’re looking to see your performance ability and potential and will judge this from what we see from your self-tape and audition, if you are invited to the next stage. However, it is helpful for us to hear what experience you’ve had, if any, in your application.

**Q: Do I need to have experience in classical text (e.g. Shakespeare or Greek text) to take part?**

A: No, you do not need to have experience in classical text. However, a willingness to learn and explore is essential.

**Q. I am training / have trained at drama school (at BA Hons and above). Am I eligible to apply?**

A: Unfortunately, you are not eligible to apply. This programme has been created for people who are not currently in training or have not previously completed full time training at drama school (at BA Hons and above).

**Q: I have applied to the Belgrade Ensemble before. Am I eligible to apply?**
A: Yes, if you have applied to the Belgrade Ensemble before but been unsuccessful, you are eligible to apply again this time.

**Q: I completed the Belgrade Ensemble last year. Am I eligible to apply?**

A: Unfortunately, you are not eligible to apply.

**Application Process**

**Q: How do I apply?**

A: Please apply via the [**online application form**](https://forms.gle/Kao5SLvR7xHCnLAc9) (you will be prompted to sign into Google). There is space to upload your Self-tape and CV in the form.

Alternatively, if you prefer, you are welcome to complete the **offline application form** (downloadable from our website) and submit by email to **communityadmin@belgrade.co.uk**. Please make sure you also include your Self-tape and CV in your email.

**Q: When is the deadline for applications?**

A: Applications close on Wednesday 18 September 2024 at 8am. Unfortunately, we’re unable to accept any late applications.

**Q: When is the audition, and what can I expect?**

A: If you are invited to audition, this will take place on Saturday 21 September at the Belgrade Theatre (CV1 1GS) with Creative Director, Corey Campbell and Associate Director, Jay Zorenti-Nakhid. The format will be a group workshop and will involve movement and ensemble-style exercises.

**Q: If I can’t make the audition date, can I audition at another time?**
A: Unfortunately, due to team capacity, we are unable to offer another audition date.

**Q: Can I have feedback on my application?**

A: As we are a small team, managing a large volume of applications, unfortunately we are not able to offer feedback.