

National Youth Theatre Company

National Youth Theatre Company takes first steps with “Growing Up”

The National Youth Theatre Company (NYTC) is a new theatre company aimed at providing a platform for emerging young artists from all cultural backgrounds including indigenous communities living across NSW to develop their skills in a professional capacity.

NYTC Founder and Artistic Director, Lindsay Farris is an established artist and is a respected and talented teacher lecturing regularly at schools nationally and at dramatic events including the NSW State Drama Camp, NSW Riverina School’s Drama Camp, NIDA Young Actors Studio, NSW State Drama Company and the NSW State Drama Ensemble and is a regular tutor at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts.

“I founded the National Youth Theatre company with the aim to foster the creativity of Australian youth in a supportive, challenging environment, to assist in the ongoing creative growth of Australia’s creatives, to help fight the battle against losing this country’s next Cate Blanchett and Hugh Jackman to inaccessibility” Farris said.

The NYTC is open to 15 - 25 year olds and nurtures exceptional young talent through industry exposure, mentorships and training with working arts practitioners and will present their debut performance *Growing Up* at Sydney’s CarriageWorks from August 31 - September 5.

After a series of hands-on workshops the NYTC will perform ‘Growing Up’, a collection of vignettes that meditate on the theme ‘Growing Up’. The stories were devised out of a world of Steampunk, a sub-genre of science fiction and speculative fiction, from the ideas conceived by the actors themselves and presented to a team of professional Australian playwrights who developed them into a dynamic collection of individual narratives culminating in an intelligent, brooding and thrilling theatrical event.

“Australian youth need to be given every possible chance to succeed, both as students and artists, to go on and make their mark in this creative, competitive, and rewarding industry.

“I come across many young artists who don’t know where to find the guidance they need to nurture their talent and provide them with practical opportunities to support them in achieving their immediate and long-term artistic goals” he said.

Also involved in the NYTC is Sunny Abberton of BRA BOYS fame who is making a documentary on a character driven piece of students from all backgrounds overcoming the odds to achieve their potential. Acclaimed writer and artist James Millar is the Artistic Associate.

Sydney’s CarriageWorks will host a series of performances commencing August 31 whereby the students, writers and crew on-sell tickets and take 80% of all proceeds for themselves.

More information or to make a booking please visit: www.nytc.com.au

For media inquiries please contact Alice Collins from Insight Communications on 02 9319 3844 or alice@insightcommunications.net.au.

Background Notes

NYTC MISSION:

The National Youth Theatre Company is committed to mentoring and educating Australia's next generation of theatre-makers through the provision of high quality initiatives for young people. NYTC develops and maintains accessible platforms for the continuing education and promotion of young artists, with a vision to sustain an enriching and vibrant theatrical community.

Upcoming Productions

Growing Up

- Tue 31 August 2010 - Sun 5 September 2010
- Venue: Carriageworks
- Ticket Price: 32.00 / 26.00 with artist discount

The National Youth Theatre Company consists of 24 emerging artists under the age of 25 from all across NSW. After a series of hands-on workshops, this exciting new company will perform a collection of vignettes that meditate on the theme 'Growing Up'. The stories blossom out of a world of Steampunk, the ideas conceived by the actors themselves then presented to a team of professional Australian playwrights who have developed them into a dynamic collection of individual narratives culminating in an intelligent, brooding and thrilling theatrical event.

Playwrights include: Van Badham, Alex Broun, Jason Childs, Lindsay Farris, Jono Gavin, Virginia Gay, Ned Manning, James Millar, Kirby Medway, Kate Mulvany, Lachlan Philpott, Mary Rachel-Brown, Rebekah Smith, Georgina Symes and Lucie Stevens.

Outback - Regional Showcase

- Thu 2 September 2010
- Venue: Carriageworks
- Ticket Price: 32.00 / 26.00 with artist discount

A series of pieces from regional Australia, performed by regional Australians. The showcase includes a selection of the best HSC performances, devised scenes and monologues. It aims to bridge the theatrical gap between regional areas and the metropolis by providing a platform for performance for exciting, emerging regional artists.

Mud

- Fri 3 September 2010 - Sun 5 September 2010
- Venue: Carriageworks
- Ticket Price: 32.00 / 26.00 with artist discount

National Youth Theatre Company's Junior Ensemble consists of nineteen emerging artists aged between fourteen and eighteen. The ensemble showcase new Australian writing, starting with a series of excerpts from Alex Broun's epic short play cycle 'Sixteen Scenes for the New World'.