



**LYRA YOUNG COMPANY X
CREW ARE AUDITIONING
FOR NEW MEMBERS!!**

Do you like making shows, performing or working backstage?

Want to meet new friends, work alongside professional artists and develop life-long skills?

...then Lyra Young Company x Crew is for you!!



What is Lyra Young Company x Crew?

The Lyra Young Company x Crew are an ensemble of teens based in Greater Craigmillar and we collaborate with professional artists to make dance-theatre shows with live music.

We meet every Tuesday for training, rehearsals and making shows! As well as making our own work, we also build skills and creative practice through Guest Workshops, Exchanges and Mentoring from our amazing creative team.

The company is led by Dance Artist, Natalia Barua with Musician/Composer, Caitlin Mulgrew and Crew Lead Lauren Desjardin. Natalia, Caitlin and Lauren are professionals in their field and have over 40 years of experience between them!

We are currently recruiting for musicians, dancers, actors and backstage crew to join our company and we want to hear from you!!

Interested?

Text us on 07517 773 780 to confirm your place at the audition.

**The AUDITION will be on Tuesday
14 January 2025 from 5pm -7pm**

About Lyra

Lyra is your local, award-winning arts in organisation. We run Artspace (Niddrie Mains Terrace) which is the only venue in Scotland that is dedicated to theatre and performance for children and teens!



Questions?

Does it cost anything to take part?

No, **Thanks to Lyra's funders, participation in Young Company x Crew is completely FREE of charge** for everyone who takes part.

Do I need to play an instrument, have experience in dance or backstage skills to audition?

No, we're looking for people with enthusiasm and a spark for making shows, but you don't need to have experience. (of course if you do, that's great!)

What do I have to do for the audition?

We ask everyone to perform a short piece of music or choreography. Or if you're trying out for Crew, we'll ask you to do a short interview.

Anything else?

don't hesitate to get in touch with us by email or text/whatsapp if you have another question. (anna@lyra.co.uk; 07517 773 780)

What happens after the audition?

If you are successful in receiving a place after your audition, we will invite you and your **Parent/Carer to the Welcome Session on Tuesday 18 February 2025 from 5pm - 7pm**. After this point, you'll get stuck into the weekly sessions! (See the schedule below)

This year we look forward to...

- welcoming new recruits!!
- working on our music, dance and performance technique through skills training and guest artist workshops.
- making a brand new show that will premiere at Artspace in October 2025.



"I feel privileged to be part of Young Company, especially as some people didn't get in. You meet a lot of new people, you can express yourself and I just feel amazing because I love to dance. I didn't know the shows were going to be such a big deal, I thought only our parents would be in the audience, but there were so many other people there to see us perform."

-Past Young Company Member

Terms Dates and Plans for 2025!

Weekly sessions take place every Tuesday from 5pm - 7pm.

In addition to the weekly sessions, we will also meet over some weekends and school holidays for longer rehearsals or 'residency days', as well as the production week. These are highlighted in **GREEN** on the schedule:

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2025

Tue 18 February, 5pm - 7pm - Welcome Session (parents/carers to join!)

Fri 21 February, 1.30pm - 6.30pm

Sat 22 February, 11am - 4pm

Sun 23 February, 12.30pm - 5.30pm

Tue, 25 Feb, 5pm - 7pm

Tue, 4 Mar, 5pm - 7pm

Tue, 11 Mar, 5pm - 7pm

Tue, 18 Mar, 5pm - 7pm

Tue, 25 Mar, 5pm - 7pm

Spring break - no sessions

APRIL / MAY / JUNE 2025

Tue 22 Apr, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 29 Apr, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 13 May, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 20 May, 5pm - 7pm

[Trip to see a show at the Edinburgh International Children's Festival time TBC]

Wed 4 June, 4pm - 7pm

Thu 5 June, 4pm - 7pm

Fri 6 June, 2pm - 8pm

Sat 7 June, 12pm - 6pm

Sun 8 June, 12pm - 6pm (Summer party at Lyra)

Tue 10 June, 5pm - 7pm

Fri 13 June, 2pm - 6pm

Sat 14 June, 11am - 4pm

Tue 17 June, 5pm - 7pm

Friday 20 June, 2pm - 6pm

Sat 21 June, 11am - 4pm

Sun 22 June, 11am - 4pm

Tue 24 June, 5pm - 7pm

Summer Break

JULY / AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2025

Tue 29 July, 11am - 4pm

Wed 30 July, 11am - 4pm

Thu 31 July, 11am - 4pm

Wed 6 Aug, 11am - 4pm

Thu 7 Aug, 11am - 4pm

Fri 8 Aug, 11am - 4pm

Tue 19 Aug, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 26 Aug, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 2 Sep, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 9 Sep, 5pm - 7pm

Mon 15 September, 11am - 4pm

Tue 16 Sep, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 23 Sep, 5pm - 7pm

Tue 30 Sep, 5pm - 7pm

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2025

Tue 7 Oct, 5pm - 7pm

PRODUCTION WEEK:

Mon 13 - Sat 18, times TBC (Technical & Dress rehearsals)

PERFORMANCE WEEK:

Tue 21 Oct, 5pm - 8pm (dress rehearsal)

Wed 22 Oct, 5pm - 8pm (performance at Lyra)

Thu 23 Oct, 5pm - 8pm (performance at Lyra)

Fri 24 Oct, 5pm - 8pm (performance at Lyra)

Sat 25 Oct, 5pm - 8pm (performance at Lyra)

Fri 7 & 8 Nov, time tbc (possible tour date)

Fri 14 & Sat 15 Nov, time tbc (possible tour date)

Fri 21 & Sat 22 Nov, time tbc (possible tour date)

Tue 25 Nov, 5pm - 7pm (show wrap party)

Tue 2 Dec, 5pm - 7pm (Christmas party)

What can you/your child expect from Young Company x Crew?

- FREE weekly training sessions with professional Dance, Music and Theatre artists.
- Opportunities to perform on community and professional stages, in some of Edinburgh and Scotland's most renowned theatres.
- Regular trips to see professional performances, networking and exchange opportunities.
- Mentoring and guidance from Lyra's experienced staff team.
- Loads of fun, and the chance to make new friends and have new experiences with existing friends.
- To create your own shows – the Young Company x Crew is all about collaboration between teens and professional artists. The lead artists treat the teens as professionals and your stories, writing, choreography and scores all become part of our professional shows.
- Access to classes and workshops across Scotland.

"From the point of view of applying for Law, Medicine and Vet Medicine, the types of softer skills that pupils can build up from Lyra's activities are absolutely invaluable. It also demonstrates that they have outside interests outside of school which they can talk about on their personal statement."

-University of Edinburgh Widening Participation Team

"We work closely with Lyra at Castlebrae and fully support any student who attends the programmes. We notice that pupils who attend Lyra or other performing activities, build and develop their confidence and self-esteem in a supportive and real-life environment... The skills learnt in this live environment are completely transferable to life, learning and into the work place."

-Mrs Duncan, Curriculum Leader of Expressive Arts Castlebrae High School

"Hey guys, I just wanted to let you know my exam results cause yesterday I got 4 As and a B [...]"

Honestly, thank you so much for believing in me. It means so much to me and I am so grateful for having you in my life"

-Results day text message from a Past Young Company x Crew Member

What are the educational and life-long benefits of taking part?

- Improved confidence, self-esteem and resilience
- Problem-solving and learning to manage pressure in a healthy way.
- Teamwork, leadership and communication skills
- Raised aspirations for the future
- New connections with like-minded peers and friends.
- Experience of working in a professional company,

All of these skills will really stand out in future job interviews or when applying for further studies after you finish school!

"In the competitive landscape of UK university admissions, standing out from the crowd is vital. One of the most effective ways to achieve this is by engaging in extracurricular activities. In the United Kingdom, universities take a holistic approach when evaluating applicants, recognising that academic success is just one piece of the puzzle."

-Crimson Education