



Unfolding Theatre

Supporter Pack



We are proud that our theatre productions and projects have a positive, sometimes profound, impact on audiences, artists and those who take part. Since becoming an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) in 2018, we have:



31,589

Delighted in bringing together live audiences of 31,589 people to enjoy our big-hearted theatre performances.



645

Delivered 645 community based workshops to people of all ages and backgrounds across the North East and beyond.



32,344

Produced and presented engaging digital content to audiences of 32,344 people.



4,560

Delivered 4,560 creative engagement through our community-based co-creation process.



4,359

Inspired 4,359 children, young people and students through our impactful work with schools, colleges and universities.



25+

Worked in partnership with 25+ community groups / organisations to co-create and co-design diverse theatre and creative projects.



53

Nurtured and developed the talents of over 53 people through internships, volunteering and mentoring opportunities.



80+

Supported the creative economy and utilised the skills and expertise of 80+ creative freelancers.

Who are we?

Unfolding Theatre inspires people through big-hearted, responsive and impactful theatre and community-based creative projects.

Based in Newcastle upon Tyne, the company was founded by Artistic Director Annie Rigby in 2008 and became a charity in 2016.

Unfolding Theatre reach people of all ages and backgrounds, specialising in engaging people that do not typically engage with theatre and the arts. Our current programme of work engages older people, children and young people (including many of whom are neuro-diverse and/or deaf), adults living in areas of low arts engagement and socio-economic disadvantage, and families.

The result of our work with communities is big-hearted theatre productions and installations that tour England and delight audiences. Recent productions include:

- A Street Like This (Performance of the Year, NE Culture Awards 2023)
- Free School Meals (**** The Stage)
- Hold On Let Go (**** The Scotsman)
- Multiverse Arcade
- Best in the World (**** The Guardian)
- Putting the Band Back Together
- Lands of Glass (**** The Telegraph).

“Unfolding Theatre is one of the North East’s most precious cultural assets, making eclectic big-hearted performance work rooted in participation and co-production.”

North East Bylines





“It has been a fantastic experience to work with Unfolding Theatre. Through our partnership with Unfolding Theatre, we are bringing more activities and services to Cowgate. This highlights the importance of taking the arts to people and speaking directly to them to unleash their stories, perspective and unique spirit.”

Kelly, CEO, Project4Change

What matters to us?

Our Vision:

Unfolding Theatre brings people together to co-create and experience remarkable theatre that builds connections.

Our Aims:

More people are leading happier, more creatively fulfilled lives; mainstream theatre better reflects England’s diversity and drives excellence; and people with different life experience are better connected.

Our Values:

Unfolding Theatre works to achieve its vision by co-creating big-hearted theatre with surprising combinations of people. We love hosting people. We value a warm welcome and good listening skills. We bring people together around theatre, music, food, laughter, good stories or all of those things at once. Our work has a positive, sometimes profound impact on the artists, audiences and community co-creators we work with.

Since 2008, we have won the following awards for our work with under-served communities:

- NCCPE Engaging Young People Award 2014
- Journal Culture Awards: Performance of the Year 2010
- Journal Culture Awards: Performance of the Year 2017
- Journal Culture Awards: Arts and Business Partnerships 2019
- NE Culture Award: Performance of the Year 2023



What do we do?

Unfolding Theatre's work is fuelled by the relationships we build with participants and the conversations that unfold.

We co-create original theatre with communities that tours throughout the UK, we deliver regular creative groups for young people to explore their creativity and we produce exciting and innovative digital projects. Recent and ongoing projects include:

Free School Meals

Inspired by Marcus Rashford's campaign to end child food poverty. This show was co-created with over 50 children living in the Byker and Walker areas of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Hold On Let Go

A poignant, personal theatre production about the gaps in our memories, Hold On Let Go asks, what do we want to pass on to future generations?

Multiverse Arcade

An interactive installation presented as part of the Great Exhibition of the North asked 18,000 children and young people to tell us what they would do when they're in charge.

East End Story Makers

A regular group for children in Newcastle's East End that uses drama, music, movement, creative writing and food to create and share stories together.

North East Deaf Youth Theatre

A new group for deaf children and young people, led by our Creative Associate, EJ Raymond, who is profoundly Deaf.

Doorstep Stories

Engaging and interactive storytelling experiences for children, young people and families that take place on doorsteps, gardens and yards!

Unfolding Theatre productions and creative projects positively impact beneficiaries and audiences, 99% of people describe our activities as fun, 99% said they enjoyed being creative and 91% felt happier after taking part.



“My daughter absolutely loves East End Story Makers. She has made lots of new friends of all ages from different schools and the staff are all so brilliant. Her confidence has massively grown since joining the group!”

Lisa, Parent to East End Story Maker participant



How can you help?

Unfolding Theatre creates remarkable theatre that tours the UK, we inspire children and young people through impactful creative projects, we run regular creative groups and we support the creative and cultural economy in the North East by utilising the skills and services of talented creative freelancers.

We're fortunate to receive regular funding from Arts Council England and the support of generous Trusts and Foundations who value the work that we do. Our grant funding is only a portion of the money we need to carry out our work. We're asking businesses that share our values and understand the importance of the work we are doing, to help us.

You can provide support the charity by making a regular donation, donating your time as support in-kind to help us carry out important business services, through gifting materials or equipment or volunteering staff time to support our work.

We hope you will consider becoming an Unfolding Theatre Supporter.

“We are delighted to do something to help Unfolding Theatre flourish as an organisation, inspiring every generation with extraordinary work and flying the flag for the region. We have loved every minute of watching Unfolding Theatre go from strength to strength. Sharing a studio cements an inspiring friendship as much as promote a supporting relationship.”

Tim Bailey, Partner, xsite architecture

xsite



“Fantastic experience. Performing was a pipe dream, impossible to happen. Meeting you guys did change my life.”

Co-Creator, Putting the Band Back Together

Become a Supporter

Can you make a one-off or regular payment to help Unfolding Theatre's important work to continue?

We've created a range of packages that we hope will suit a wide variety of businesses.

Alternatively, we're happy to work with you on an individual basis to discuss a more bespoke package to suit your needs if preferred.

Through all our packages you will be making people feel happier through their involvement in our theatre productions and creative projects, building powerful connections between people, helping to diversify the stories told on England's stages and offering creative opportunities to local residents that might not typically get access to arts and theatre.

Payments can be in full or spread over 12 months.



Bronze Package

£500+VAT

- Business name and logo placement on the Unfolding Theatre website acknowledging your support and reaching 6500 annual visitors.
- Mentions on Unfolding's Theatre social media channels acknowledging your support to our 7,500 followers.
- Acknowledgement in our Annual Report.

Gold Package

£1,500+VAT

- All benefits of Bronze Package, plus:
- Feature in Unfolding Theatre's monthly e-newsletter acknowledging your support to our 225 subscribers.
- 4 complimentary tickets to an Unfolding Theatre production.

Silver Package

£1,000+VAT

- All benefits of Bronze Package, plus:
- Feature in Unfolding Theatre's monthly e-newsletter acknowledging your support to our 225 subscribers.
- 2 complimentary tickets to an Unfolding Theatre production.

Platinum Package

£2,500+VAT

- All benefits of Bronze Package, plus:
- Feature in Unfolding Theatre's monthly e-newsletter acknowledging your support to our 225 subscribers.
- 6 complimentary tickets to an Unfolding Theatre production.
- Meet and greet with creative team and community co-creators.
- Acknowledgement in press releases as a Supporter.



Contact us

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