



BRADFORD 2025

UK City of Culture

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Expressions of Interest (EOI)

The Railway Children Sound System Design and Supply

Introduction

Bradford Culture Company (BCC) operating as Bradford 2025 (the Company) is seeking to appoint a suitably experienced and qualified contractor (the Provider) to provide a sound system design and potentially supply sound equipment, for a production of The Railway Children.

BCC would like to invite interested providers to express their interest for this business.

Providers must meet BCCs procurement objectives:

- To ensure that procurement activities reflect BCC's approach to transparency, sustainability, value for money and equality, diversity, and inclusion.
- To ensure BCC's commitment to the communities of Bradford is reflected in the procurement process.
- To ensure BCC's duty to its funders to deliver best value for money.
- To ensure compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

Scope of work

We are looking for an experienced sound system designer to work alongside the Composer / Musical Director and Sound Designer.

We require a PA system to deliver high quality speech amplification (not reinforcement) into a challenging (non theatre) space together with a large amount of musical underscore. All the main narrations have pre-recorded musical accompaniment and both elements need to be faithfully reproduced. The show takes place in traverse (ground plan will be supplied).

The music is to run in stereo, the vocals in mono.

Previous productions have utilised this type of equipment –

10 x D&B Q7/Y7P (or similar) flown from the centre truss.
4 x 18 inch subs under stage for sfx
2 x 15 inch music subs
Quad surround system for sfx on outriggers behind the seating blocks.
Associated amps, cabling etc.
Digital desk, amps, and processing
14 x Radio mics
Offstage mic
Comms
Show relay
FOH announcements
Mac mini running Qlab with a backup in parallel and a key switch

It is possible to tender just for the system design. We would also be interested in proposals from rental companies with in house design capability who could then supply equipment for the production.

- The production takes place at Oxenhope Railway station
- The expected load in date is 16 June 2025.
- The expected load out date is 11 September 2025
- The performance space seats approx 500 people

Proposals could also include production staffing for the load in period.
Technical rehearsals start 7 July with Press night on the 15 July.

There are therefore three potential parts to the tender – design / supply / staffing. It will not be detrimental if the proposal is solely for design.

Criteria for Selection

- Previous experience of system sound design for theatrical performance
- Alignment with BCC's procurement objectives.
- Capacity to deliver within timescale.
- Local to Bradford/West Yorkshire.
- Value for money.

Please send your expressions of interest to procurement@bradford2025.co.uk by 5pm on Wednesday 4 December 2024.