

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Assistant Stage Manager (ASM) – Brighter Still (closing event)

INTRODUCTION

Bradford 2025 marks a transformative year for our city as the UK City of Culture. Our closing event in December 2025 will be a large-scale outdoor performance in a park, bringing together over 200 community and professional dancers and welcoming audiences of 5,000+ each night. The event celebrates community, resilience, and hope, drawing on the symbolism of solstice celebrations from across the world.

This immersive performance involves intricate choreography, live music, spoken word, large-scale fire, and participatory moments for audience and performers alike.

Bradford Culture Company (BCC), operating as Bradford 2025, seeks expressions of interest from **four Assistant Stage Managers (ASMs)** to join our stage management team. The ASMs will support rehearsals and performances, ensuring the smooth running of the event and the welfare of participants.

THE ROLE

Assistant Stage Manager (ASM)

Working under the direction of the Stage Manager and Deputy Stage Manager, the ASMs will:

- Support final stages of rehearsal room activity, including set-up, rehearsal props, sign-in, and participant coordination.
- Provide assistance to community and professional performers, ensuring they are in the right place at the right time.
- Manage and track props, costumes, and other rehearsal/performance items as required.
- Act as a key link between performers, stage management, and creative/technical teams.
- Support backstage operations during performances, including cueing entrances, managing props, and ensuring participant safety.
- Assist with pastoral care and welfare, helping participants feel supported in a large-scale outdoor performance context.
- Adapt to the challenges of an outdoor event, including variable weather, uneven ground conditions, and large audience interaction.
- Contribute to rehearsal notes and communication with the wider team as required.

KEY SKILLSETS & EXPERIENCE

Essential:

- Experience working as part of a stage management team, ideally in outdoor or large-scale performance contexts.
- Strong organisational and communication skills.
- Confidence working with large community casts and professional performers.
- Calm under pressure, with the ability to think on your feet and solve problems quickly.
- A collaborative and supportive team member, able to take direction and contribute positively.
- Understanding of health and safety in performance and public event contexts.

Desirable:

- Previous experience in community-focused or participatory projects.
- Experience with outdoor or site-specific performance.

KEY DATES & FEES

- Rehearsal Period: 6–23 December 2025 (up to 6 rehearsal days to be scheduled across this period)
- Performance Dates: 20–21 December 2025

Fee: £200 per day

Engagement: 6 rehearsal days + 2 show days

Total: £1,600 per ASM

CONTRACT DETAILS

- Expenses covered, including return rail fares from home base to Bradford and accommodation if required.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

Applications close: 10 October 2025

Interviews (online): week commencing 20 October 2025

Please submit your CV and a short covering letter (max two pages) outlining your relevant experience and interest in this specific role to: production@bradford2025.co.uk.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Expressions of interest will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Demonstrable experience working within stage management in theatre, dance, or live events.
- Evidence of ability to work effectively with large community casts.
- Strong organisational and interpersonal skills.
- Adaptability and problem-solving skills, particularly in outdoor and live contexts.
- Commitment to BCC's core values of transparency, sustainability, value for money, equality, diversity, and inclusion.