

YOUNG PEOPLE'S
PUPPET THEATRE

HOW NOT TO ROB A BANK

SUMMER CAMP

29 July-3 August 2024

INFORMATION PACK

HOW NOT TO ROB A BANK summer camp

WHO: 30 children aged 8-12

WHAT: A week-long puppetry-based summer camp—learn backstage skills including lighting, set design and puppetry as you work with our team to produce amazing performances of the comedy *How Not To Rob A Bank!*

WHEN: 29th July-3rd August 2024

9.30-4.30 each day

WHERE: Trestle Arts Base, St Albans, AL4 0JQ

HOW MUCH: £180 per child

Early bird booking price available until 15 April:
£140 per child

Please note that costs do not include transport or food for the duration of the camp, which must be arranged by parents/ carers.

Bursaries are available; contact Caitlin at admin@yppt.org.uk or on 07914 830730 to discuss. Participants must be at least 8 and no older than 12 years of age on Monday 29th July 2024.

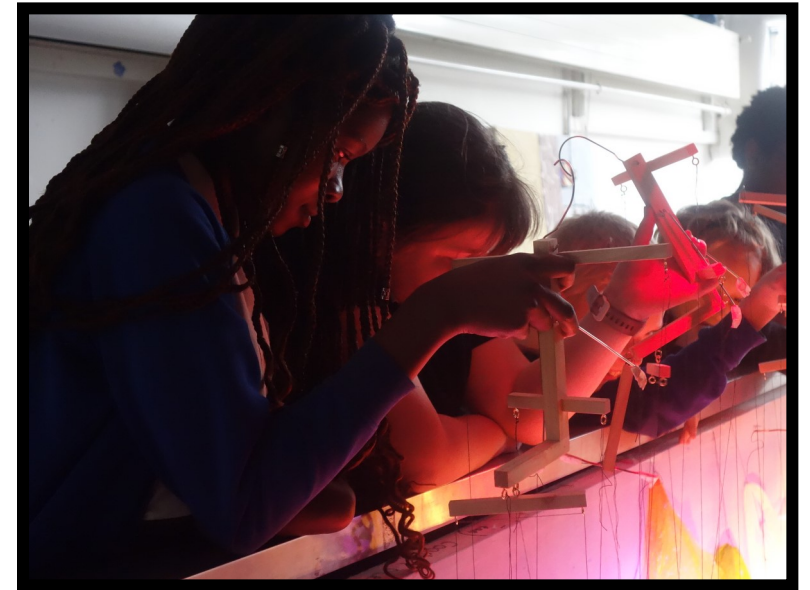


The Young People's Puppet Theatre

The YPPT is a registered arts education charity. We run large-scale puppetry and puppetmaking projects for children and young people. Our projects teach a huge range of technical and practical skills, from sculpture and painting to voice acting and puppetry as well as technical backstage skills such as lighting design and stage management. They also allow the children involved to develop key life skills including teamwork, communication skills, independence, resilience and self-confidence.

A typical project takes a class or group children right through the process of creating a complex marionette show, from puppet design and making, through set design to rehearsals and performances. Every child is involved in all stages of the process, and the final performances are run entirely by the children themselves. For this summer camp, the marionettes and sets have been made in advance by a team of older people from the community in St Albans.

The YPPT was founded in 2014 by father-and-daughter team Jeremy and Caitlin Duschenes. Since then, with the help of a team of project leaders we have run over 100 projects at schools across London, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, involving over 3000 children and young people. We are delighted to be back for our third summer camp at Trestle Arts Base.



YPPT backstage

HOW NOT TO ROB A BANK will have places for 30 children on the summer camp. Every child will take part in the rehearsals and performances. The production will be using one of our high-tech stages built by international stagebuilders Brilliant Stages, who have also built for Take That and One Direction. In our production, there will be parts for:

- Voice actors
- Narrators
- Puppeteers
- Stage crew
- Technical crew (lighting, sound and special effects)

These jobs will be shared out between the 30 children so that each child has an equally valuable role. You might end up with several smaller jobs, or one job over several scenes— you'll be able to tell us which ones you prefer!

Most of the jobs are backstage, so if you're not normally the sort of person who is confident enough to be on stage, this might just be the summer course for you! You'll learn lots of new skills in a highly professional environment and learn to work in a really close team without the fear of stage fright.



The summer camp

The summer camp will last 6 days, from Monday 29th July until Saturday 3rd August 2024. All days will be at Trestle Arts Base, St Albans. A provisional timetable is below—we will confirm the times with the parents/carers nearer the time.

Monday 29th July	9.30am-4.30pm	set design, stage construction
Tuesday 30th July	9.30am-4.30pm	set painting, blocking rehearsals
Wednesday 31st July	9.30am-4.30pm	technical rehearsals
Thursday 1st August	9.30am-4.30pm	full rehearsals
Friday 2nd August	9.30am-4.30pm	full rehearsals
Saturday 3rd August	9.30am-2pm	rehearsals
	2pm	public performance, followed by taking down the stage

Every child in the production will have an individual, vital role, so it will be important for every child to commit to attending the summer camp all day every day. This is not something you can dip in and out of. Children attending erratically will get very little out of the experience, will risk damaging the experience for other children, and may be asked to leave the project. Please note that children will need to bring a packed lunch each day.

What to expect

Applying for the course

Please fill out the registration link at www.yppt.org.uk/summercamp to register your interest. We will confirm your child's place within 2 weeks of receiving your registration, and will require payment in full within 2 weeks of confirmation.

Your data

As part of the application process, we will require a photo of each child who attends the summer camp. This is only for the purpose of helping us learn names, and the photos will not be shared beyond the workshop leaders. These photos and the data you provide here will be stored in line with our privacy policy, which is available on our website: www.yppt.org.uk/privacy-policy.

Note to parents

We rely on good communication with parents and carers to ensure that the project runs smoothly, therefore please ensure that all the forms are filled out correctly. We will email information to you to keep you informed of camp times and schedules and rely on you to make sure your child is available for the duration of the camp. Please don't hesitate to contact us should you need to discuss further any information regarding your child and their involvement in the summer camp.



Fees and Cancellations

Participation is just £180 for the week, or £140 if we receive your registration form on or before 15th April 2023. We will confirm your child's place within 2 weeks of receiving your registration form, and will require payment in full within 2 weeks of confirmation. No refunds will be possible, unless we have to cancel the camp for any reason.

Children on the summer camp will be expected to behave in a polite, respectful and cooperative manner. YPPT reserves the right to remove any child from the camp should their behaviour jeopardise the experience of others. In this situation, no refund will be offered.

Enquiries

If you have any questions, please email Caitlin at admin@yppt.org.uk.



What they said

Comments from parents and children from our 2023 summer camp (some names have been changed):

“I absolutely loved it, the experience was amazing and I had an amazing time making new friends and having fun with everyone. It was amazing and I would love to come back. I enjoyed showing my family and friends the video and seeing the back stage.”

Cecelia, aged 11

“It’s the best camp she has done in the holidays and she cannot wait to come back!”

Katy, parent

“Despite not knowing anyone on the camp, by the end of the first day she had made friends and had a great time. She is keen to do it again next year which says it all.”

Olivia, parent



FAQs

I've never done any puppetry or drama before, is that ok?

Yes! We don't expect any child on the camp to have any experience of theatre or puppetry.

How do I apply for the summer camp?

Fill in the registration form at www.yppt.org.uk/summercamp

I'm 10 and my younger brother is 7, can we both come?

Although priority goes to 8-12-year-olds, we can occasionally extend the age range—get in touch with us and we'll see what we can do.

What should I wear for the summer camp?

You don't need to wear any special clothes —just comfortable clothes that you can move around in a bit. We don't recommend wearing heels.

What do I need to bring to the summer camp?

You'll need to bring a packed lunch and a water bottle every day of the camp. For the performance days, you'll need to wear comfortable dark-coloured clothes—black or dark blue. We'll provide everything else!

See you soon!

If you have any questions about the camp,
please contact our Associate Director Caitlin:

07914 830730

admin@yppt.org.uk



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