**GOOD TIMES**

**Farnham Maltings Community Touring Call-out: Autumn/Winter 2024**

***Who we are***

Farnham Maltings is a cultural organisation based in Southwest Surrey with a regional, national, and international reach. For over fifty years we have operated as an arts and cultural centre presenting a programme of performance and participation work which contributes to the town’s quality of life. We support theatre makers, producers, and programmers to make the best work for audiences and communities, as well as developing our own work that reflects our belief in the restorative power of the arts.

For over a decade we have made and toured theatre to smaller communities across the U.K. with limited access to the arts. We partner with the network of rural and community touring schemes that operate across the country, as well as working directly with independent promoters and programmers. Recent tours have encompassed village halls in the Lake District, libraries through Buckinghamshire, and an old Pizza Express in Weston-Super-Mare.

***The idea***

We are looking for a piece of theatre to tour to communities across the U.K. in Autumn 2024. The tour is likely to last between four to six weeks, with the majority of the performances taking place inside non-traditional arts spaces such as village halls, community centres and other social spaces.

The show must already exist and be ready to tour to communities in Autumn 2024.

The show we choose to tour may take any shape and may address any theme or issue; the work may be devised or scripted, it may play with form, or push the boundaries of what theatre can be. It should be entertaining and capable of engaging a wide variety of people. We expect it to be programmed for evening performances and weekend afternoons.

We are particularly interested in ideas that feature original writing, work that can both delight and challenge its audience, work that plays with form, and work that features live music.

**Above all, we’re looking for a show that’ll bring good times to a local community. Something that folk can pop down to, share in with their neighbours; a great night out on their doorstep.**

We expect to invest in a touring budget of up to £40,000 for this project.

***Applicants***

We’re looking for artists and makers who have an affinity for communities beyond larger towns or cities and a genuine commitment to making theatre for these audiences. These artists may themselves be from communities in rural areas, villages, or smaller urban centres. Or they may have cultivated a theatre practice that meets audiences where they are. Perhaps they have not toured to communities before but are sitting on a show they know would fly in a community café!

The artists we work with will have carefully considered the people who live in rural and marginalised communities, as well as the practicalities of performing in a wide variety of non-traditional arts spaces. We want to hear from artists who are energised by the challenges this model of touring presents and share our belief that theatre should be accessible to all.

***Timeline***

The application process for this call-out will run as follows:

* The Proposal Form goes live on **Monday 14th August**.
* Proposal Form applications will close at **9am on** **Monday 25th September**.
* Applications will be reviewed and shortlisted by an internal panel between **26th September and 6th October**.
* Shortlisted applicants will be contacted on **Monday 9th October** and invited to a further conversation for the second stage of the process. These conversations will take place between **10th and 20th October**.
* The successful applicant will be confirmed by **Friday 3rd November**.
* Our partnership with the successful applicant will begin from **January 2024**, with a planning and project development phase.
* The applicant we work with will then tour their work across the U.K. **between October and December 2024**.

***Making a proposal***

To find out more information and to make a proposal, please visit [www.farnhammaltings.com/jobs](http://www.farnhammaltings.com/jobs). The proposal form is your opportunity to tell us about your show and why you want to share it with community audiences. It’s also a chance to tell us more about your creative practice, and what has led you to make work in this way.

Alongside your proposal form we also require a budget for the tour and a video of the show you are applying with. The video does not have to be of the entire show, but we need to see some footage of the work. We recommend including a link to a private YouTube or Vimeo video in your application, rather than sending us a video via WeTransfer.

If you have any specific questions about the brief please contact Eloise Talbot-Hammond, Theatre Administrator on [eloise.talbot-hammond@farnhammaltings.com](mailto:eloise.talbot-hammond@farnhammaltings.com).

Applications will be selected by a small curatorial panel and decisions will be based on:

* the artistic idea
* the capacity to engage communities, both its practicality and authenticity
* the compatibility with Farnham Maltings’ [organisational values](https://farnhammaltings.com/about/impact)

We are particularly interested in receiving applications from Global Majority, Working Class, d/Disabled and LGBTQ+ people, along with other groups currently underrepresented in our workforce and on the community touring network.

**The closing date for applications is 9am on** **Monday 25th September**. Please email your completedproposal form,outline weekly touring budget and equal opportunities monitoring form to[eloise.talbot-hammond@farnhammaltings.com](mailto:eloise.talbot-hammond@farnhammaltings.com).

Finally, we know that making applications such as these can be time-consuming and incur an emotional cost. With this in mind, we advise you not to apply if, realistically, the opportunity is not relevant to you and your art.

If you are not interested in touring your work to communities or your work has been made with more of a commercial focus, this opportunity is probably not for you. If your application is not a good fit, we won’t be able to support you in the way we’d want to, so please read the details of what we’re looking for carefully before applying.