



Set in beautiful Epping Forest with easy access by rail or road, the Big Youth Theatre Festival 2008 is four days of workshops, performances and celebrations!

As well as performances, discussions, workshops, games and special events, BYTF

2008 will offer opportunities to work with some of the UK's foremost and distinct theatre arts practitioners.

So if you fancy a fun time, meeting other youth theatres, experiencing new ideas and learning new skills why not come along?

Keep up-to-date with all the latest festival news with NAYT's monthly newsletter Onstage and our website at www.nayt.org.uk.

BYTF is an alcohol and illegal drugs free event.

Please let us know if you would like this information in another format, eg large print.



NAYT (National Association of Youth Theatres) supports the development of youth theatre and young people's involvement in theatre through a professional programme of training, advocacy, information services and events.

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NAYT gratefully acknowledges financial assistance from:



department for
education and skills



Information is accurate at time of going to press.
* Quotes from festival participants

“the atmosphere was fab”

“the performances were exceptional”

bytf

Supporting the development
of youth theatre

nayt

GILWELL PARK SCOUT ACTIVITY CENTRE

Epping Forest
17-20 July 2008

bytf

NAYT's flagship event for young people

What is BYTF?

The Big Youth Theatre Festival is a fun-packed four-day celebration of youth theatre, giving young people the opportunity to participate in a high quality workshop programme and providing youth theatre groups with a platform to showcase their performances as well as the chance to see professional work.

BYTF 2008 will be the 15th festival and will provide creative opportunities for young people and highlight youth theatre's effectiveness in enabling young people to have a voice and to push the boundaries of art-form.

BYTF is one of NAYT's strands of work, enabling us to achieve our vision, which is to ensure that every young person has the opportunity as a right to take part in safe, empowering, challenging theatre of excellence.

When is it?

12.00pm on Thursday 17 July 2008 to 2.00pm on Sunday 20 July 2008.

How much does it cost?

Camping in own tents (Thu-Sun) £80 per person. This includes all activities but not food or travel. A limited number of bursaries are available. Priority will be given to individuals experiencing financial hardship, those working with groups from BME communities, rural areas, young people with disabilities and groups of young people who are considered hard to reach. Contact the NAYT office for details.

What do I eat?

You can self-cater or use the on-site catering facilities. Please note NAYT has no control over the price or quality of food provided by the on-site caterers.

Where is it?

At Gilwell Park, national headquarters of the Scout Association. Gilwell Park is approximately 2 miles from Chingford on the outskirts of London. It is near the M25 and there are regular trains from Walthamstow and Liverpool Street.

Where do I sleep?

In your own tents. For an additional fee of £20pp NAYT can provide a limited number of 2 & 6 person tents. These will be issued on a first come, first served basis and **you will be responsible for erecting these tents yourselves.**

Who should come?

BYTF is open to any group registered with NAYT that uses theatre in its work with young people, outside formal education. **The minimum age is 14. The maximum group size is 24 young people and 4 leaders.**

Can I bring a show?

Yes! We encourage all attendees to share their work. NAYT provide 2 fully-equipped indoor venues, an outdoor amphitheatre and opportunities for promenade performances. The maximum performance length is 60 mins (get in and get out time will be in addition to this). They will be programmed to start on the hour and half-hour. BYTF 2008 is non-competitive. It is not compulsory to bring a show. Please contact the office for more details.

How do I book?

Booking forms are available from the NAYT office or at www.nayt.org.uk. **Bookings open on Wed 6 February 2008** and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Bookings can only be accepted with a booking form and deposit. Demand will be high so book early to avoid disappointment! The booking deadline is Wed 30 April 2008 (but we cannot guarantee places will be left by this date).

Notes for leaders

The main youth theatre leader must be **at least** three years older than your oldest young person. Workers must be youth theatre leaders, not older members from within your group. All workers must be aged 18 or over and have a satisfactory Enhanced CRB check (we recommend this is not more than two years old).

To encourage the necessary levels of support there is 1 free group leader/support worker place per 6 young people.

It is compulsory for a youth theatre leader to attend leaders briefings at the event. **Responsibility for the supervision and welfare of groups remains with youth theatre leaders at all times.**