



Pack

Volunteer

**Join us as a Volunteer at the King's Head Theatre.
Here, you will join a team of Ushers, Box Office
Assistants, Bartenders and Technicians to
continue the legacy of the famous King's Head
Theatre and be part of its exciting new future.**

**If you would like this information in a different format, or
would prefer to discuss the role via email or phone, please
contact boxoffice@kingsheadtheatre.com**

**Please have a good read of this information pack,
& don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any
questions!**



About the King's Head Theatre

Established in 1970, King's Head Theatre was the oldest pub theatre in London. For 53 years we were housed in the back room of the King's Head Pub on Upper Street in an old boxing ring and pool hall. On the 13th August 2023, we closed the pub theatre's doors in anticipation of moving to our new home, right behind the pub at 116p Upper Street, which opened in January 2024.

Under Artistic Director & Founder Dan Crawford, who's tenure lasted 35 years until his death in 2005, the theatre became known as a breeding ground for new talent and great work. Renowned actors like Maureen Lipman, Hugh Grant, Jennifer Saunders, Dawn French, Alan Rickman & Richard E Grant have all performed here, & a number of our productions have transferred to London's West End & New York's Broadway, premiering work from writers such as Steven Berkoff, Tom Stoppard, Bryony Lavery & Victoria Wood.

In 2010, the Olivier Award-winning company Opera UpClose Productions became the theatre's resident company for four years, & with Adam Spreadbury-Maher as Artistic Director, turned King's Head into "London's Little Opera House", winning an Olivier Award for La Boheme in the Best New Opera category. Opera remains at the core of what we do in the theatre, alongside our commitment to emerging, daring & innovative work, such as Trainspotting, the Edinburgh Fringe & touring immersive theatre hit that was developed under our roof.

Our artistic policy is joyful, irreverent, colourful & queer. King's Head Theatre showcases work across a wide range of performance styles: from plays to musicals, to opera & cabaret, to drag & comedy.

Our theatre focuses on showcasing LGBTQIA+ work which explores the full spectrum of experiences symbolised by the rainbow flag. We are a home for a new wave of diverse queer theatre makers & we love to embrace stories that haven't been told before, in ways that haven't been invented yet.

Our new venue boasts a 200+ seat theatre which can be re-configured to suit any visiting production, two bars, two large dressing rooms and a late night Cabaret Bar. The venue spans six floors, with a large lift to access all areas open to the public.



**KING'S
HEAD
THEATRE**

kingsheadtheatre.com
0207 226 8561

Why volunteer with us?

Volunteering at the King's Head Theatre is a great way to support your local theatre, meet new people, learn new skills and see lots of exciting new theatre, comedy and all the bits in between!

You will be provided with comprehensive training, led by venue staff, covering emergency evacuation and disability and accessibility awareness training.

Volunteer shifts fall mostly on evenings and weekends with a minimum of one midweek matinee. You will be able to submit your availability to our Theatre Team Manager who will allocate shifts of your choice to you.

As a volunteer, you will gain access to a wealth of opportunities, including but not exclusive to:

- **Invites to Press and Gala Nights**
- **The chance to see our extensive programme of shows for free**
- **The chance to learn and develop skills in Ticketing, Box Office, Operations and Technical theatre**
- **Access to Industry Insight workshops held by our leadership team**
- **Invites to rehearsals, rehearsed readings & discounted tickets for shows**
- **Discounts at our Bars & Bookshop**

Why Volunteer with us?

Who are we looking for?

- We are looking for friendly, approachable and reliable volunteers who can commit to at least two shifts per calendar month
- You should be dependable, open-minded and willing to follow instructions given by the venue management on shift
- The Kings Head Theatre prides itself on its dedication to diverse and accessible programming, as such we are keen to demonstrate this in our recruiting processes and ensure that the members of our team reflect this. We actively encourage applications from people who are d/Deaf, Disabled, Neurodivergent, from the Global Majority and/or those who identify as LGBTQIA+
- We are particularly interested in working with more residents of Islington and the surrounding areas
- People who may have a special skill or interest that you feel might be beneficial to the team, e.g. Fluency in another language including BSL, a great knowledge of the local area etc. please include anything you'd like to tell us in your application!

What will you be doing?

- Ushering duties such as welcoming audience members into the theatre, checking tickets, and guiding patrons to their seats in the auditorium
- Selling programmes and merchandise on our Bar and Box Office
- Delivering our infamous 'Bucket Speech' at the end of performances to encourage charitable donations which you will then collect
- Supporting with audience flow and queue management on occasions when we have multiple performances happening across the evening.
- Assisting our patrons with Access needs through the venue and to their seat.
- Providing high level customer service and engagement, helping our patrons to feel welcome and safe in our venue.
- Aiding in Emergency and Evacuation procedures, undertaking regular training and drills
- Having lots of fun in a fast-paced and friendly team, improving upon or finding new skills and getting to know our bustling venue!

How will it work?

What do we expect from you?

- To be punctual and reliable and to commit to any shifts allocated to you based on your availability
- To be smart and presentable and wear your KHT Lanyard when the building is open to the public. We have no uniform, but we recommend something comfortable and practical. No open-toe shoes please!
- To be a supportive member and uphold the values of the King's Head Theatre community, and spreading this to our patrons and the wider community
- To abide by our staff policies, guidelines, and expectations
- To participate in training as necessary and deemed appropriate by the theatre
- To keep yourself informed about upcoming events and performances at the theatre
- To let us know if you cannot cover a shift with a minimum of three hours notice
- To be available until 11pm or later when required. (If you are unable to travel that late, please let us know)

What can you expect from us?

- Rota's with your shifts released at least 2 weeks in advance
- Regular check ins and evaluations of how you are getting on with the role and what, if any, changes you would like us to make
- Full training on all emergency procedures with regular drills and practices
- At least 1 shift per position paired with a KHT Team member to ensure you are comfortable and confident when you go solo
- A fun, relaxed yet dedicated team to which you will be welcomed with open arms
- A team briefing with the Duty Manager before every shift
- Flexibility, with consideration of other commitments you may have
- References on request
- A management team who champion equality and diversity
- The opportunity to work across multiple positions within the venue, being assigned posts depending on the specific demand for each show/event

How will it work?

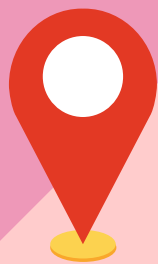
You will receive an 'Availability Form' with all available shifts coming up listed. You will simply tick the checkbox for the shifts that you are available to work. Shifts will then be allocated to you based on your availability.

If you would like to arrange your shifts in another way, please do let us know and we can work out a system that works best.

We do ask you to be realistic when signing up for shifts, as we do expect you to be available and to commit to the shift once it has been allocated to you. Please try to let us know with as much notice as possible if you are unable to work one of your shifts.

You will be invited in for at least one training session before you undertake your first shift which will include; meeting the team, a tour of the building, catch a show and talk through the role duties in more detail.

How to find us!



**Our address is 116P, Upper Street,
N1 1QN**

Our new venue is located behind the King's Head Pub, in ISLINGTON SQUARE. If you are standing on Upper Street facing the King's Head Pub, Islington Square is directly to the right through the arches and black gates. Walk into the Square and you will find the Theatre on your left through the Big Red Gates, opposite the Bewliehill Cafe.

By Rail

We are a 9 minute walk from Angel Station on the Northern Line (Bank Branch) and a 12 minute walk from Highbury & Islington Station on the Victoria Line, National Rail and Overground.

From Angel Station, exit the station and turn right. At Islington Green, veer left to stay on Upper Street. We are located in Islington Square, with its entrance arches to the right of the Kings Head Pub opposite St. Mary's Church.

From Highbury & Islington Station, exit the station & turn right onto Upper Street. Islington Square is located on the right hand side of the road, opposite St. Mary's Church.

By Bus

There are regular bus services to Upper Street from Central London & the surrounding districts. The closest bus stop to our theatre is St. Mary's Church, which is served by bus routes 4, 19, 30 & 43.

By Car

Parking in the local area is limited & where possible, we would advise arranging alternative means of travel to the venue. We recommend using Parkopedia to find local parking! There are plenty of bike lock bays on Upper St and in Islington Square, so why not try cycling to us instead!

Accessibility

Entrance into the building is level access and step free. Both of our bar & theatre spaces are located below ground level and are serviced by wheelchair accessible lifts.

The top floor where our offices are located are not currently serviced by the lift and so are not wheelchair accessible.

There are a total of 19 steps to reach the Above Bar, Courtyard and Toilets, a total of 51 steps to reach our Mezzanine Main House Entrance, Tech Box & Dressing Rooms.

There is a total of 66 steps to reach our Below bar/Cabaret House and additional Main House Step-Free access and Toilet(s).

Step free entry and exit into the auditorium is located on level -4 which can be accessed by the lifts.

Entrance and Exit to our Courtyard is step-free and wheelchair accessible.

If you have any Access Requirements that you would like to discuss, please let us know! We would love for you to join us and we will work to find a way to do that, that meet your needs.

A photograph of a theater interior with rows of red and grey upholstered seats. The text 'Thank You!' is overlaid in a large, bold, dark purple font with a white outline. The background is slightly blurred, showing stage lights and equipment.

Thank You!

**If you have any questions, please contact
boxoffice@kingsheadtheatre.com**

We look forward to having you join our team!

The King's Head Theatre Team