

Polka recruits for young influencers to be part of their panel

Theatregoers aged between 8 – 13 years are urged to apply to be part of a panel of influential young people at the heart of Polka Theatre.

For the last three years, Polka Theatre's **Young Voices Panel** has met on a regular basis to discuss all matters of theatre production and to offer their opinions on the work that is created at the south London venue. This unique initiative; set up specifically to involve young people within the organisation, is looking to expand this year as Polka recruits for even more young people to take part and get their voice heard by professionals within the industry.

Panellists will have the opportunity to get involved in a number of projects coming up next year which will cater to the specific interests of the individual. They will have access to resources within the theatre, be able to watch in on rehearsals; meeting the cast and creative team, and give vital feedback on how Polka is run. They will also be asked to write reviews and blogs of Polka shows which will be published on Polka's website and other relevant sites and publications.

Members of the Young Voices Panel form a vital part of the theatre as they ensure that the work created at Polka for young people remains exciting and relevant. 2012 is an exciting year to be part of the panel as it looks set to expand both in size and in influence on what the panel get to do and say. For more information on how you can apply to be on the panel, please contact Clare Mason on 020 8545 8349 or email clare@polkatheatre.com or visit www.polkatheatre.com/editorial/young-voices-panel

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Notes to editors:

About Polka Theatre

Polka Theatre opened in south London in 1979, and was the first theatre in the UK dedicated to work for children. With an international reputation, rooted to the local community, Polka have produced thrilling world-class theatre and creative learning experiences for ages 0 – 13 for over thirty years. 85,000 children come through Polka's doors each year to be inspired by live theatre, often for the first time. With shows, storytelling, youth theatre, workshops and education projects, they also aim to reach as many people as possible locally and across London through their community engagement programme.

For all press enquiries, please contact Elise Neve on 020 8545 8354 or email elise@polkatheatre.com