

A Place to Work

In-kind space for different stages of creative practice, in the heart of Yeovil.

The Octagon Theatre & Westlands Entertainment Venue is inspired by the professional independent creatives, artists and producing companies who create cultural experiences for Somerset's residents.

We are inviting expressions of interest from local creatives and companies who make non-commercial work professionally, to use of our spaces free of charge, subject to availability. This offer is to support professional artists to create work here in Somerset, we are unable to provide in-kind Studio space for Schools, Amateur or Community Performing Arts groups.

A Place to Meet and Dream

If you need a quiet space to read, write, draw, send emails or have meetings with colleagues, you're welcome to use our Lounge Bar. The WiFi is free and the coffee is delicious. There's lots of airy space and comfy sofas if you get here early enough too.

The Lounge Bar is a shared, public space and can get busy throughout the day when we have certain performances or events programmed. We're happy to advise on quieter or busier periods if that would help you plan your work.

A Place to Create

Regardless of which stage of the process you're at our Studio is suitable for R&D, practice, rehearsal and informal sharing's to develop new or existing work on short to medium-term use.

We may also be able to offer you an objective eye on the work you're making, if that's useful.



The Studio has:

- A light & airy feel
- PA system
- Dimensions 8.6 x 10.4m
- Capacity of up to 60
- Good flexibility for layout
- Separate & accessible toilets
- Level access

We are unable to provide front of house or technical support.

We have a busy programme of events, classes, and workshops so availability may be restricted and is on a first-come-first-served basis. We'll do our best to accommodate you, though we reserve the right to amend bookings and therefore a degree of flexibility is recommended.

Value

We anticipate you might want to include this in-kind support as match funding with grant givers and project partners. As such, we recommend using the following figures for calculating the value of our support.

- Meeting and Dreaming in the Lounge Bar: £25 per person per day.
- Creating in the Studio: £22 per hour + £50 per person per hour for an objective eye.

While we want you to be able generate as much income yourselves once the public begin engaging with your work, we are not offering free studio space for a commercial venture.

Acknowledging our support

We ask that you include our logos and the following phrase when promoting your project or work.

We're grateful to The Octagon Theatre & Westlands Entertainment Venue for their support by providing a place to create while we made [Name of Project].

Eligibility

To be eligible for this support you'll need to be:

- Aged 18+.
- An early-career or established professional independent creative or company.
- Working professionally in circus, dance, film, music, opera, painting, photography, poetry, puppetry, sculpture, song, storytelling, theatre, or another art form.
- Demonstrably committed to making work that benefits or has the potential to benefit Somerset's residents.
- This offer is only available for not-for-profit use.
- We are unable to provide in-kind Studio space for Schools, Amateur or Community Performing Arts groups.

What To Do Next

Please complete our online enquiry form to express your interest.

<https://forms.office.com/e/JDctxmqqks>

To discuss your needs further, contact Arts Engagement & Outreach Officer Nick White via nick.white@somerset.gov.uk or call 01935 462514.