



Next Door But One - SM Callout For Christmas Show 2025

Next Door But One are seeking a Stage Manager on Book for the rehearsal and tour of their upcoming production in York, *When Robins Appear*.

About 'When Robins Appear'

This December, get ready to step into a world of wonder, sparkle and festive fun as Next Door But One brings a brand new play to life, bursting with music, puppets, and glitter — right in your local library!

Something feels a little different this year... The snow has fallen, the winter stars are twinkling, but the sparkle of Christmas seems to be missing. Can two friends, facing big changes like moving house, starting new schools and a first Christmas without grandma, find the magic again?

With the help of a magical robin, they're whisked away on a joyful journey through their favourite wintery memories! From festive food and colourful fairy lights, to joyful songs and thoughtful gifts, they soon discover that the real sparkle of Christmas isn't found under the tree — it's in the laughter, love and unforgettable moments we share together and that can live forever in our hearts.

When Robins Appear is a heart-warming, high-energy show packed with catchy songs, enchanting puppetry and plenty of audience interaction - it's a festive celebration that gently explores big feelings around change, loss, friendship and what really makes unforgettable moments!

Co-created with children and young people from across our community — including young carers, those in care, youth theatres, and disability and mental health support services — this show is as inclusive and meaningful as it is magical.

Our robin will be bringing the festivities to libraries and schools across York and we can't wait for you to help us create the magic of Christmas together!

About Next Door But One

Next Door But One (NDB1) are a multi award-winning LGBTQ+ and disability-led theatre company based in York, promoting creative skills and encouraging community cohesion, particularly with those who face barriers to accessing theatre.

Our established programme focuses on workshops and performances for and with cohorts of the community with disabilities, mental ill health, those experiencing bereavement, unpaid carers, girls and women from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, and individuals from the LGBTQ+ community. Our activity ranges from workshops to touring performances, training programmes and professional development opportunities. Our partners currently



include The Snappy Trust, Camphill Village Trust, Converge, York Carers Centre, Our Time, Explore and Clifton Green Primary School. Our mission is to connect people to their creativity and community through the theatre we make and the stories we tell. Our vision is for the arts to play an integral role in unleashing the true potential of every community; to tell every story, to hear every voice and champion the contribution every person makes.

Through theatre we can show a world where everything is possible!

In 2023 we joined Arts Council England's Investment Programme as a National Portfolio Organisation, became a Visit York Tourism Award Winner in 'Resilience and Innovation', and recently won the award for 'Outstanding Talent' in the York Mix Hero Awards, 'Community Changemaker' and 'Inclusive Business' at the 2024 York Enterprise Awards and 'Practising Well' at the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance Awards 2025. For more information visit: www.nextdoorbutone.co.uk

As an equal opportunities and [Disability Confident Committed](#) employer, and [PiPA Charter Partner](#) we are always happy to discuss solutions that allow people to balance and contribute all aspects of their identity with their working life. We will always endeavour where possible to put in place practices for all our company members to contribute their fullest. If you need any support in applying, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

The Role

Dates of contract: 24th Nov - 21st Dec, with some additional meetings beforehand (depending on availability)

Location: York

Pay: £610.00 per week plus travel (if applicable)

Key Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Compile the 'book' during rehearsals and draw up daily rehearsal notes and distribute to the production team.
- Work with the Company Manager and Director to draw up rehearsal and touring schedules and distribute updated daily rehearsal calls in advance of the next working day
- Keep a clear record of any script changes and communicate these to the wider team.
- Assist the Designer with any shopping for props etc. (The bulk of the propping will be done in advance of rehearsals starting).
- Draw up a plan for technical rehearsals with input from the production team and lead the technical rehearsal sessions.



- Taking the lead on planning for the for the get in/ fit up/get out at each venue and then leading at each venue to ensure it is carried out efficiently and safely.
- Operate sound as required during performances.
- Compile and distribute show reports & complete the NDB1 Activity log for each performance.

Skills and Experience:

Essential:

- Experience of an SM role on one or more shows at professional level.
- familiarity with creating SM paperwork,
- Experience of supporting creatives and cast in a rehearsal room.
- Strong communication skills: confident to engage with cast, director and wider creative team as well as staff at venues.

Desirable

- Experience of working on get ins, fit ups and get outs, (not essential)
- Experience of working in and touring to non traditional theatre venues
- Driver's license and happy to transport set/props

Please note that there is scope for mentorship within the role from NDB1 company members.

Application process

Please send a short email introduction to you and your experience with CV or online portfolio to janeu.ndb1@gmail.com.

Deadline to apply is Sunday 20th July.

If you are shortlisted, 30 minute Zoom interviews will be scheduled to take place the week commencing Monday 21st July.