



Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in working Altru Drama CIC.

We are currently looking to cast 8 actors to perform in our touring theatre productions in schools across the North West and more widely across the UK.

This pack includes more information about Altru, our ethos and values, what you can expect if you work for us and particulars about the actors we are looking for.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday 12th September 2018 at 5pm.

Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

Please apply in writing, enclosing your **actor's CV**, a **headshot** and a **cover letter** to tell us about yourself. Please also tell us in the cover letter whether you are a driver (how long you have been driving for) and if you have a current DBS (issued in the last 18 months and if not, that you would be willing to undertake this process.)

Please make it clear which performance you are applying for:

If you are applying for 1 of the 2 Anti-Bullying performances, please detail your workshop leading experience.

If you are applying for Alice in Wonderland, please let us know whether you play a musical instrument.

If you would like to apply for both aspects then please tell us about both workshop leading and musicality.

Applications should be sent electronically to: jobs@altru.co.uk.

Those invited to audition will be notified on Friday 14th September.

The audition will be held on Thursday 25th September in South Liverpool and will take place across the full day.

If you require any further information, please contact us on 0151 443 0333.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Best wishes,

Kate Cotterell

Founder and CEO

Altru Drama CIC

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THE ALTRU MANIFESTO

Altru Drama is a small company with a big purpose. Our aim is to give children and young people opportunities to learn, develop and grow through creativity. We achieve our aims by:

- Creating engaging, relevant theatre performances for young people which we tour to schools and other non-theatre venues. These performances are designed to explore and tackle issues and choices which affect young people's lives, offering them different ways of seeing themselves and the world around them.
 - Delivering fun, participatory and innovative workshops in schools and other education/youth settings. Our workshops are linked to National Curriculum aims and outcomes or designed to explore aspects of SMSC / PSHE. We believe children learn best when they are creatively engaged in their own learning and our workshops are planned with this in mind.
 - Working in partnership with schools on projects and programmes which engage children and young people in the long term development of their creativity and personal skills such as confidence, communication and problem solving.
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As an organisation, we have a specific passion for and focus on:

- **The importance of personal and social development** – we believe the arts and creativity can have a massive impact on the personal and social skills of an individual as well as on their social mobility. Working creatively can allow children and young people to develop their confidence and self-worth; it is our belief that confident young people make healthier, more positive choices. We want to play our part in shaping a generation of strong, confident, self-assured young people.
- **Literacy skills** – we love books, reading and stories and many of our projects are designed to engage children in developing their love of literacy. This takes many forms including: performances of classic stories; workshops which help children develop their core language and literacy skills; projects which focus on Shakespeare and his legacy; projects which develop children as writers.
- **Introducing children to theatre** – we know a theatre trip isn't a possibility for every child, and so we aim to bring theatre to children, wherever they may be. We tour schools, community centres, libraries and any venue that might give children access to high quality, relevant theatre which can have an impact on their lives.



Altru is led and managed by Kate Cotterell, who is a former teacher and a specialist in creative education. Altru's core staff team includes actors, creative practitioners, directors, project managers and drama specialists. We work hard as a team to ensure that all of our work meets the needs of those we work with and for – and we think we're doing a good job, in the 2017/18 academic year 100% of teachers said that they would recommend to us other schools.



THE ACTOR EXPERIENCE AT ALTRU

We love working with actors at Altru. Our acting teams are hugely important to us; we want everyone who works at Altru to feel happy and valued, to know that they are part of a collaborative, creative process and to feel confident and secure in their work.

To achieve this we ensure that there's always a friendly voice at the end of the phone to support you from the moment you begin working with us. And the office door is always open (and the kettle always on!) We want our actors to feel part of our team, feel connected to us and be at home in the Altru building.

We also offer every actor who works with us the following:

- a comprehensive training and support programme delivered by Altru senior management
- a full rehearsal period at Altru's building in South Liverpool
- support with transport and accommodation if necessary
- all on tour/outside of North West overnight accommodation paid by us + subs allowance where no cooking facilities are provided
- a well-managed schedule and office support throughout the tour
- your fee per day, not per show.

Many of the actors we work with return to us again and again – our longest serving actor has been working with Altru for 11 years. Touring theatre for children is hard work, but it is also very rewarding. We are always looking for actors with a great work ethic, who are passionate about producing high quality theatre that is child-centred.

We also offer progression opportunities into other aspects of the organisation. Actors who show a aptitude for workshop delivery will be offered the opportunity to train as a practitioner and join our pool of workshop and drama day practitioners.

"ALTRU'S CARE AND ATTENTION IN PUTTING TEAMS AND SHOWS TOGETHER GIVES AN AMAZING SENSE OF FREEDOM, IT NEVER FEELS LIKE 'WORK' BUT RATHER SERVES AS A BRILLIANT REMINDER OF WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO, AND WHY WE LOVE IT! I WOULD RECOMMEND BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE ALTRU FAMILY TO ANY ACTOR BECAUSE THEY EMBRACE YOU AND VALUE YOU AS FAMILY FROM THE VERY START!" **ALTRU TEAM MEMBER**

"I HAVE WORKED WITH THE COMPANY A NUMBER OF TIMES NOW AND WOULD RECOMMEND THEM TO ANYONE! ALL THE TEAM ARE LOVELY TO WORK WITH, CHILLED OUT WORK ETHIC BUT GET GREAT THINGS OUT OF YOU. YOU FEEL APPRECIATED FOR THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE AND YOU ARE WELCOMED WITH A CUP OF TEA EVERY TIME." **ALTRU TEAM MEMBER**





CASTING NOTICE

We are now casting for the following tours:

2 x Theatre in Education plays based around Anti-Bullying themes.

1 x Christmas performance based on Alice in Wonderland.

We are looking to cast 9 actors to work with some of our returning actors from last year.

‘Superhero School’ Touring schools in the South East during November

‘Alice in Wonderland’ Touring schools in the North West during December, March 2019 and possibly next summer

Details of what we are looking for are broken down below:

Road to Respect

Touring schools in the North West.

Provisional dates: 25th October – 30th November 2018

We are looking for 3 actors for this performance which will focus on hate related bullying and the impact of this on children, young people and communities. All actors need to be strong multirole performers. We are keen to hear from actors from a diverse range of backgrounds for this performance.

Road to Respect is a 45 minute performance followed by a workshop. The workshop is delivered by the actors and, as such, we are keen to hear from actors who have experience of facilitating workshops with primary school children. Full training is provided, but prior experience is preferable.

As the piece is performed in schools around the North West, we will prioritise those who are aged 25+ and have 3 years of driving experience.

Superhero School

Touring schools in the Midlands and South East

Provisional dates: 1st – 28th November 2018

We are looking for 2 actors for this performance which will focus on cyber, physical and verbal bullying and the impact of this on children and young people. All actors need to be strong multirole performers.

Superhero School is a 45 minute performance followed by a workshop. The workshop is delivered by the actors and, as such, we are keen to hear from actors who have experience of facilitating workshops with primary school children. Full training is provided, but prior experience is preferable.

As the piece is performed in schools around the UK, we will prioritise those who are aged 25+ and have 3 years of driving experience.



CASTING NOTICE

Alice in Wonderland

Touring schools and community venues in the North West and possibly across the UK

Provisional dates:

Tour period 1: 21st November – 21st December 2018

Tour period 2: 19th February – 8th March 2019

Tour period 3: Summer 2019

We are looking for 4 actors for this new adaptation of Alice in Wonderland which is currently still in development. The piece will run at an hour long, with lots of audience participation and live music played throughout the show.

It is important to state that Alice in Wonderland is not a panto, but an innovative storytelling piece of theatre which is engaging for children of all ages and families.

All actors should be strong multi-role performers with comedic and storytelling skills. We are keen for all actors to have some musical skill, the ability to play an instrument is desirable but not essential. All cast members will be required to sing.

As the piece is performed at a variety of locations, we will prioritise those who are aged 25+ and have 3 years of driving experience.



Here are the details in brief:

- Able to play a range of ages
- Comfortable performing in both naturalistic and stylised ways
- Workshop experience desirable
- Available from 7am – 4pm during week days (with possible overnight stays and some evening performances for Alice in Wonderland)
- Available to audition on **Thursday 25th September in Liverpool**
- Available for compulsory training day (date during October tbc)
- Driving is desirable but is not an essential requirement (if you are a driver you must be willing to drive a transit van including on motorways and have both parts of your licence available upon request)
- Willingness to undergo the DBS process or hold a DBS/CRB form issued within the last 18 months (we can arrange for a DBS form at your expense)
- Must be based in the North West
- Pay is £375 per week (pro rata where necessary, based on 5-day weeks)

Times and dates:

All tours will take place as detailed above and will be a full time (Mon – Fri) commitment. Final schedules are still being organised but should be available on the day of audition.

All applications must be received by **Wednesday 12th September at 5pm.**

Please state which performance you are applying for (or all 3 if you are keen to be considered for all)

