

10th April 2017



Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in working Altru Creative Education.

We are currently looking to cast 3 actors to perform in our touring theatre production 'Eyes Open' in schools across the North West and more widely across the UK.

For more information please go to our website: <http://altru.co.uk/portfolio/eyes-open-drugs-alcohol-awareness/>

This pack includes more information about Altru Creative Education, 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 Monday 24th April 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 and, in particular, your workshop leading experience. Please also tell us in the cover letter whether you are a driver (how long you have been driving for, if you have points on your licence and your driving experience) 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 also tell us where you are based.



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

Those invited to audition will be notified by Thursday 27th April at 5pm.

The audition will be held on Thursday 4th May 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

Company Director



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ALTRU CREATIVE EDUCATION

THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE CASTING

PRIMARY SCHOOL TOUR

We are now casting for a theatre in education piece focusing on drugs and alcohol awareness for year 6.

The tour will be mainly in the North West with at least one date in Birmingham – possibly more. We are looking for one male and two female actors based in Merseyside.

Eyes Open is a hard-hitting, engaging piece for Year 6 pupils, which has been touring primary schools for the last 10 years. The piece is now an integral part of many schools' PSHE curricula at Year 6 as it explores the choices and consequences connected with both legal and illegal drugs.

We are casting for:

Female Actor 1, to play:

Ellie (11) The play's narrator – genuine, earnest and kind. Must believably look teenage.

Female Actor 2, to play:

Abby Ellie's 16 year old sister. Fun and likes to go clubbing. Doesn't get on with her twin brother Josh.

Jan Mum of the family. Hard working, flustered, finds life tough.

Daisy Ellie's best friend – popular and pushy.

Male Actor, to play:

Roger Ellie's Dad – silly and lots of fun.

Josh (16) Ellie's brother. Moody and difficult.

Nick (18) Only in 1 scene – Nick is Abby's boyfriend.

The successful candidates will be able to multi-role and have a passion for theatre for young people. Enthusiasm and the ability to lead effective workshops with children are also qualities we are looking for.

The duration of the show is 50 minutes and it will be performed in primary schools during school time. Performances will be followed by an hour long workshop and we are keen to hear from those who have experience of workshop facilitation.

It is essential that we have at least two drivers on the team, therefore preference will be given to those with a full, clean driving licence, especially those who have experience driving a transit van.





We are also looking for the following qualities:

- Ability to play a range of ages (but must be able to play a young person believably)
- Workshop experience highly desirable
- Available for (sometimes very) early starts until possibly 5 pm with possible overnight stays
- Available to audition on 4th May 2017
- A driving license is hugely desirable but not essential: if you are a driver you must be eligible for van rental, be over 25 and have held your license for a minimum of 3 years with no more than 6 points on your license.
- Willingness to undergo an enhanced disclosure DBS or hold a DBS issued within the last 18 months (we can arrange this for you at your expense.)
- Must be North West based or be willing to find somewhere to stay in this area.

Dates:

Monday 24th April @5pm

Closing date for applications

4th May 2017

Audition

Early June 2017

Rehearsal

14th June - (possibly) mid-July

Tour



Fee is £375 per week

To apply please email jobs@altru.co.uk with your CV, cover letter and recent headshot. Please include in your application:

- where you are based
- if you have a driving licence (how long for / experience of driving etc)
- issue date of your current DBS check.

Please note that we will only respond to candidates who we would like to ask to audition.

If we would like to see you for audition you will be notified by Thursday 27th April.





THE ALTRU CREATIVE EDUCATION MANIFESTO

Altru Creative Education is a small, non-profit 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 the 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.



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. Working creatively can allow children and young people develop their confidence and self-worth and 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 2015/16 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 of no less than 5 days at Altru's building in South Liverpool
- support with transport and accommodation as 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 9 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 particular aptitude for workshop delivery may be offered the opportunity to train and join our team of workshop 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, 2015 AND 2016**

"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, 2015 AND**

2016