

1. Artistic Assessment

Please evaluate the artistic quality of the event, with particular reference to the strengths and weaknesses of the following:

Artform	Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
All	Vision and imagination of work - Quality of ideas, skills in execution; if you've seen the work of this artist(s)/ company before, please comment on the comparison.	Excellent	<p>This event demonstrated that, since its relatively recent inception, Promote YT has taken a huge leap forward in terms of strategic leadership, understanding of the needs of the youth theatre sector and provision of quality benchmarking.</p> <p>It was clear that young participants were given excellent opportunities for ideas exchange, self expression, networking and skills development.</p> <p>Tutors also had opportunities to network, discuss issues, exchange practice and work with young participants.</p> <p>The schedule was intense over the 3 days and very well organised and executed.</p>
All (if relevant)	<p>Curatorial/ programming vision/ selection Please indicate how the event originated eg from the exhibiting/ producing organisation, artist-led or commissioned.</p> <p>If the event is part of a Festival, please say how it contributes to the overall programme.</p>	Excellent	<p>The Festival is a key event in the annual Promote YT calendar. It provides and opportunity to galvanise the sector, showcase work, implement advocacy agendas, uncover development needs and evaluate sector progression.</p>
All	<p>Success of event against stated aims - in the programme or other printed material, including how well it communicated the artistic themes.</p> <p>Education events – see ¹below for guidance</p>	Excellent	<p>Website Information: <i>Scotland's National Young People's Theatre Festival, celebrating the invigorating, relevant, and vibrant work created by young performers in Scotland today.....we are delighted that so many artistic and creative partners join with us annually in producing this high profile national event...a tribute not only to the outstanding work being created by the young people of Scotland, but also to the value of nurturing the theatre performers and audiences of tomorrow.- Here's what the participants had to say...</i></p> <p><i>Dude, I loved all of it! EVERY SECOND! See you next year! – Brunton Youth Theatre. I enjoyed performing to other performers with the same interest, the feeling of unity that we are all in it for the same thing – Toonspeak. It rocked! Tron Skillshops. I enjoyed taking part in a workshop with people from loads of other youth theatres, learning a new skill and making new friends – V Good! RSAMD</i></p> <p>Given responses from young people and from my own experience of the event I would say that the event met its aims extremely well.</p>

¹ Education is a bridge between artform excellence and increased access and participation, and it is people centred. Providing opportunities for learning and progressing in an artform or using an artform to address other, non-artistic, outcomes are equally valid; in either case a high quality strategic approach is required in order to benefit the participants and the organisation. Delivery can be through workshops, post/pre-show discussions, outreach work, etc aimed at any age group.

Artform	Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
All	<p>Performers/tutors - technical standard, performance skills and ability to communicate and engage.</p> <p>Where performers are not trained, please reflect this in your comments.</p>	Excellent (overall)	<p>Events viewed:</p> <p>Entertainment from Junction 25/RSAMD Youth works. Informal promenade scenarios which engaged guests as they entered the reception area. Had a <i>surreal party</i> feel to it. Provided a vibrant, creative and celebratory atmosphere to the festival opening event. It also gave you a sense of ownership by the young participants. Rating good.</p> <p>Lyceum Youth Theatre - DNA: A high calibre piece of theatre. Challenging script for young performers which they delivered with great skill. Strong direction. Interesting staging. Rating excellent.</p> <p>The Lab: This event showcased short pieces/works in progress from Tron Skillshops, Birnham Youth Theatre, Falkirk Children's and Youth Theatre, West Lothian Youth Theatre. It provided an opportunity for groups to experiment with devising and receive feedback from their peers. The work presented ranged from competent to good. This event played a strong role in demonstrating the range of work/ideas happening in Scotland as well as the range of skills being developed with young people. My rating of excellent reflects the vision of The Lab.</p> <p>Leader Discussion: This discussion led by Michael Richardson (Artistic Director of WLYT) followed directly on from <i>The Lab</i>. This provided an excellent opportunity for Youth Theatre Leaders to use the Lab events to discuss and share practice. This event had the potential to support less experienced tutors to develop their craft and also to encourage all tutors to think of a wider range of approaches to developing high quality, innovative, relevant work with young people. I am rating it as competent as I feel it did not provide sufficiently structured chairing/ direction to achieve clear training/mentoring outcomes. Having said that, it was a pilot and quite exploratory so there is scope to develop it further.</p> <p>Arts Factory – The Circle Of The Asylum Seeker: A superb, intelligent and skilfully performed reflection on what it is like to be an asylum seeker in Scotland. A talented group of young women (who are asylum seekers) provided an insightful, moving (and at times hilarious) dramatic account of true events around their extremely hard journey in life. This inspiring show had a huge impact on the young audience (they received a standing ovation). Rating excellent.</p> <p>Generate: Finale performance involving some</p>

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			participants who had been working with a group of tutors in set workshops over the 3 days of the event. Based on the theme of <i>being young in Scotland</i> this provided a fantastic opportunity to show how creative and confident young people in Scotland can be. A show with <i>attitude</i> and innovation. Well done to the tutors who helped them pull off such an entertaining event in such a short space of time. Rating excellent.
Dance, Theatre	Choreography/Use of choreography - originality, use of space, number and use of dancers, length of piece, etc	N/A	
Theatre	Script – particularly in relation to new work or second productions. Relevant to classics where the original has been substantially changed.	N/A	
Theatre, Dance	Direction - Concerns issues of interpretation, casting and presentation.	N/A	
Dance, Theatre	Use of music – appropriateness and effect of sound or music (whole/part, live/ recorded) to the production.	N/A	
Dance, Theatre	Design – costume, set, lighting. Take into account how appropriate the design is in relation to the venue and, where appropriate, the touring schedule.	N/A	
All	Quality of Presentation/Engagement Performing Arts - technical presentation of the production (eg lighting and sound cues, etc). Crafts/Visual Arts - Use of equipment, space and overall layout/hang Education events - relevance/ appropriateness of presentation and teaching methodology (one to one, group, child centred); details of participant group and activity, including genre.	N/A	
All	Audience Performing Arts - appropriateness of the production for the audience/participants; estimate the size and reaction Crafts/Visual Arts – time spent, interest, activity, and visitors' books comments, number of visitors/ participants at the time of visit Education/learning – pre-event involvement, participants/ schoolteachers reaction, understanding, commitment, enthusiasm, number involved, etc		The large numbers of young people provided huge support for each other through the attention paid to each others' performances and the applause given. Between events there was a creative <i>buzz</i> , giving the impression that this event was providing a positive and relevant experience.
All	Additional Interpretative activity – what activities were available to enhance the experience of the event eg workshops, artist's talks, discussion groups? Please indicate age-groups targeted.	N/A	I did not view any workshops with young people however resulting work (<i>Generate</i>) suggested that a high quality process had been provided.
All	Outcomes of education activity – what learning/skills development took place? What did participants take away with them? Are education resources being provided for follow up work? Is it strategically linked to the curriculum (formal or informal)?	N/A	As above.

2. Management of Event

Please evaluate the way the event was presented/organised by the organisation and the venue, with reference to the checklist below, including additional comments/observations. Please try to view the venue and the services, and interpretative material as though you had never visited it before eg if you did not know the venue's location, how easy would it be to find your way there, and to find your way around once you had arrived?

Criteria	Comment
Suitability of the venue for the event	An excellent venue for the event. The only point I would make is that the tutors' workshop was constantly interrupted by the comings and goings (and rehearsals) of RSAMD students given that it was placed in a hallway area.
Information/ interpretive material at venue - programmes, displays etc.	Clear, detailed programme.
Publicity/ pre-publicity – leaflets, posters, websites, etc. What is produced, is it easy to understand and where can you get the information? Please be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event and comment on the company/organisation's website.	A range of email and web based information.
Ease of booking and payment	Good. Delegate pass organised.
Location of venue – eg is it easy to find? Is it on a main transport route?	Good central position.
External signage and signposting	Fine.
Internal directional signage	I did get lost a couple of times.
Access and provision for disabled people – what can you see?	I do not recall seeing a disabled toilet however I would imagine that there is one re legislation. Lifts available
Timing of the event – was the length appropriate? Did the start and finish time seem to be appropriate for the audience?	Appropriate.
Customer service - quality and efficiency of staff (e.g. box office, front of house, bar and/or catering)	Promote YT and RSAMD staff very helpful and pleasant.
Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council Funding ²	Acknowledged on programme, invitation, emails and website.

² In press releases, at launches, on all published materials (including leaflets, brochures, programmes, posters, company's website, notices display, exhibition materials, websites and advertising, recordings, publications, video, broadcasts, computer programmes etc.) Where the event is publicised in the programme brochure of another organisation (eg venue, gallery, etc) then SAC acknowledgement should appear against the particular programme entry for this event.

3. Organisation's Comments (optional)

This is the organisation's opportunity to respond to points raised within this assessment. Please do not feel obliged to fill this section in. In the spirit of the Quality Framework, we would ask that any comments are self-evaluating, providing an insight as to why, if there is, a major disagreement of response between the organisation and the evaluation, in a constructive way.

This will not alter the rating given by the assessment, but will allow the organisation the opportunity to give their opinion/feedback. The Scottish Arts Council reserves the right to edit comments if they are deemed to be libellous or defamatory.

As the Scottish Arts Council implements the Quality Framework internally, we intend to publish artistic evaluations on organisations that we support regularly on our website. The final artistic evaluation, including the organisation's response will be published on a quarterly basis on our website.

Please keep your response to max 500 words. If we do not hear from you in 15 days, we will assume that you do not want to respond.