

# StagEHd Open Call For Performance Proposals

Ross Bandstand at Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh

**Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 May 2022**

StagEHd is inviting applications from solo performers and groups involved in theatre and the performing arts to form the programme for the first StagEHd Festival, 2022.

## Key Dates

Application Deadline: **17 Dec**

Applicants Contacted: **by 21 Jan**

Performance Slots Assigned: **by 4 Feb**

## Eligibility

- Open to applications from companies, collectives and solo performing artists
- Open to performing artists whose main base is in an EH postcode
- Open to amateur/community groups, and performing artists at any stage of their career

## How To Apply

Application can be completed online here: <https://forms.gle/kEMKay72QJgaN4TV9>

- The application will ask for a photograph or graphic representing you or your company, this can be a production photo, press shot, or a logo/image designed to represent you/your company.
- It will also ask for a link for any online video and/or reviews. This is not compulsory, but is advisable.

**Application deadline: Friday 17 December 23:59**

Application questions may be answered via a video or audio format if so desired: such applications can be emailed to [stagehdfestival@gmail.com](mailto:stagehdfestival@gmail.com) with the subject line "StagEHd Performance Proposal". A PDF version of the application questions may be reviewed on the StagEHd website **staghedfestival.com**

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the StagEHd organisational team via email at [stagehdfestival@gmail.com](mailto:stagehdfestival@gmail.com).

## **What is StagEHd**

StagEHd is a grassroots theatre festival with the goal of strengthening the bonds of Edinburgh-made theatre and diminishing barriers to participation for audience members and creatives alike. Launching its first season in Princes Street Gardens, the festival will move to other locations around the city with annual events.

Born out of a conversation about the commercialisation of Edinburgh's public spaces, StagEHd is an open access, free-to-attend festival of theatre, featuring the best of Edinburgh's independent, grassroots and community theatre companies.

## **Who We Are**

StagEHD is currently being presented under the umbrella of Edinburgh Graduate Theatre Group (EGTG) and overseen by a small team of core volunteer organisers and a volunteer Community Steering Group made up of local theatre company representatives and enthusiasts.

## **What To Expect**

**Selection Process:** The festival is open to grassroots and independent theatre companies, as well as amateur and community theatre groups. Interested parties should complete a StagEHd performance proposal application by **Friday 17 December**. Applications will be reviewed by volunteer organisers and the Community Steering Group. There is no application or performance fee associated with the festival process, however StagEHd will not be able to cover any costs associated with rehearsing and producing individual shows. This includes performance rights, cast and crew stipends, design materials, props, travel, insurance, etc.

Priority will be given to projects that can make creative use of the non-traditional theatre space, have simple technical needs, and have content appropriate for audience members aged six and above. There are no restrictions or expectations to the size of cast, genre of production, or spoken language, but the performance should last between 40-90 minutes. Curatorial decisions may be made to ensure as varied of a programme as possible. Successful proposals will be notified by **Friday 21 January** and be supplied with a performance agreement.

**Leading Up To The Performance:** Performance agreements will contain further information pertaining to venue specifications, festival marketing and press details, volunteer recruitment, etc. In general, the StagEHd team will handle press and marketing for the

festival, communication with venue management, recruitment of Front of House volunteers, and any additional fundraising. Performing groups will be expected to recruit their own stage management and crew to assist with the performance, as well as supply any promotional material requested such as rehearsal photos and cast lists. Performance slots, including a call time, will be provided by **Friday 4 February**.

It is important to note that there is no availability for any technical rehearsal or run through prior to the performance. Additionally, only a general wash and basic stage amplification will be provided. While the performance space is sheltered, there is the possibility that the front of the stage could become affected by weather.

**Performance Day:** Performing groups will be expected to arrive and check in with the Production Manager by their call time generally 30 minutes before their performance. Groups are guaranteed at least 15 minutes of access to the stage to set props and get acquainted with the space prior to the performance, and 15 minutes afterwards to strike. StagEHd volunteers will oversee donation points in the audience, with all donations pooled and split equally amongst performing groups following the festival.

**Following The Festival:** Following the final performance of the festival, StagEHd volunteers will oversee the complete strike and clean up of the venue and surrounding area. A closing party for all participating companies and volunteers will be held at a location and time yet to be determined. Donations will be released to all company leaders to be used as individual groups see fit. Participants will be sent feedback forms to help evaluate the festival's processes and execution.

### **What About Covid-19?**

A Covid risk assessment has been created by the StagEHd organisers and will be reviewed in line with government updates. In the event that outdoor events are unable to proceed in May 2022, an attempt will be made to agree to alternative 2022 dates with the venue and funding partner. If the festival is unable to run in 2022, applicants will be given first refusal for new festival dates in 2023. As of now there are no plans to move the festival online.