

# it's our theatre: norfolk

## What's the project about?

**it's our theatre: norfolk** will empower young people to lead and produce their own cultural events, developing and owning their own arts infrastructure throughout Norfolk.

The project will initially involve young people across Norfolk starting in Sheringham, North Walsham, Norwich and Great Yarmouth.

By providing strong role models we will deliver skills based workshops and Slam Night talent contests. This will develop a new breed of cultural leader and creative entrepreneur who will be empowered to produce their own piece of high quality touring Hip Hop theatre.

This new piece of 'event' based theatre will articulate who our young people are, exploring their ambitions for the next ten years and ask them what the cultural landscape of Norfolk will be 10 years from now.

To ensure a long-term legacy for **its our theatre: norfolk** we will cement the learning of the young people through Arts Award accreditation leading to the development of new progression routes to both education and social enterprise.

The young people involved will perform at the first ever International Youth Theatre Conference in Liverpool in July 2008.

## What are the aims and objectives of this project?

- To create the professional artists of the future by providing a legacy of cultural leadership and creative entrepreneurial practice
- To provide hugely enjoyable activities in a number of stages with clear progression for each participant, including a conduit to a career in the performing arts using the Arts Award scheme
- To provide positive role models by using a team led by young professional Hip Hop practitioners who are also creative entrepreneurs
- To provide an alternative path for young people who are isolated, disadvantaged, at risk, unengaged or uninspired
- To act as a national pilot project to disseminate its findings nationally through: web based social networking sites; a documentary DVD; specific

sharing and dissemination events created and led by young people and a national press campaign

### **Who will we be working with?**

This project will target the isolated, youth at risk and disadvantaged young people integrating them with those who are already engaged. We anticipate that we will initially engage 150 young people as participants and over 1,000 will be reached as audience members.

### **Why Hip Hop?**

Hip Hop is cross art form encompassing dance, music, spoken word, sport and visual arts. It is dynamic, accessible and as an art form, is clearly "owned" by young people. It is intrinsically linked to the notion and practice of entrepreneurship.

### **When is it happening?**

February 2008 to January 2009.

### **Who's running it?**

The project will be led by:  
THEATRE IS... pioneering new ways of making theatre for, with & by young people, empowering them to become the cultural leaders of the future...

[www.theatreis.org](http://www.theatreis.org)

The Sheringham Little Theatre, Sea Change Trust, the leading Arts Development agency for Great Yarmouth and The Garage, Norwich's leading creative arts project for young people.

Throwdown Events made up of some of the best of British breakdance talent consisting of dancers with a wide range of skills, from powerhouse b-girls, to world champion b-boys along with human beatboxers and MCs.

### **Want further information?**

Call us on 01707 281 100 or email us at: [itsourtheatre@theatreis.org](mailto:itsourtheatre@theatreis.org)