

THEATRE IS...

It's Our Theatre roadshow success

There was an audience of over 1,900 young people in the It's Our Theatre roadshows which held at various Thurrock schools in September.

150 of them will be selected for workshops this October and could have a chance to put on their own events and create a brand new piece of Hip Hop theatre, with 20 of the most talented being selected at a Slam Night on Thursday 29 October at the Thameside Theatre, Grays.

Cllr Sue MacPherson, Thurrock Council's Cabinet member for Children's Services said: "It's great to see Thurrock's young people engaging in positive activities that will have a lasting impact in their lives.

"For those going through to the workshop stage, I wish them all the best and look forward to seeing the winners at the Slam Night."

There was excellent feedback from the teachers. Sam Sorrell, Head of Dance at Palmers College said: "The crew were so cool and energetic they even picked our most cynical students up. We're really pleased with the progress of the project to date."

Thurrock Council in partnership with THEATRE IS... and the Thurrock Thames Gateway are organising these events for young people aged 13 to 19 in Thurrock through the It's Our Theatre project, which uses Hip Hop (dance, beatboxing, rap, music) to engage young people in positive activity. The activities will be led by young, professional Hip Hop artists from Throwdown UK.

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Notes for editors

It's Our Theatre is a project managed by **THEATRE IS....**

Commissioned by Thurrock Council and the Thurrock Thames Gateway Development Corporation, the project empowers young people to lead and produce their own cultural events (eg theatre, dance and music shows) and to develop and own the local arts infrastructure.

THEATRE IS... inspires and ignites the artistic leadership of the 21st Century developing young people's artistic talent and ideas.

Throwdown UK, sponsored by Eastpak, runs monthly dance battle events in London, hosts the National Breakdance Championships and regularly tours Europe with the Eastpak Throwdown crew.

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