



PROJECT GUIDELINES



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The Act-Belong-Commit Loungeroom Project at-home theatre and performance making challenge that's free for all Western Australians aged 13-26.

Learn, Rehearse, Perform, Win!

The Act-Belong-Commit Loungeroom Project has been created by WA Youth Theatre Company for the benefit of all young Western Australians during COVID-19 and beyond.

WITH THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



DOCUMENT VERSION 1.0

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Loungeroom Project by WA Youth Theatre Company (WAYTCo) is free at home theatre and performance making project for Western Australians.

It is an opportunity to learn from and train with professional artists in a range of theatre and performance making skills. Participants are encouraged to create a short piece of work 'in their lounge room' using whatever and whoever they have with them at home. Their performance is to be filmed on a mobile device and then submitted to the Loungeroom Project Jury.

There are eight awards up for grabs:

Loungeroom Hero Award – Junior: three awards valued at \$300 each
 Loungeroom Hero Award – Senior: three awards valued at \$600 each

Loungeroom People's Choice Award – Junior: one award valued at \$300
 Loungeroom People's Choice Award – Senior: one award valued at \$600

WHO IS IT FOR?

The Lounge Room Project is for Western Australians who are aged between 13 and 26 (you must be between 13-26 on the 1 of August 2020). The project is aimed at young people who are interested in theatre and performance and anyone within the age range in WA can take part. Previous experience and training are welcomed but not essential.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR CATEGORIES

There are two categories that your submission will be considered under:

Junior Category: for participants 13-17 years-old

Senior Category: for participants aged 18-26 years-old

Juniors and Seniors will have separate Zoom forums for each tutorial, moderated by WAYTCo.

The Junior category has some additional conditions that should be considered, please see the Submission Requirements.

HOW IT WORKS

LEARN

Each week on Mondays and Wednesdays the Loungeroom Project will publish free tutorials by professional artists who will unpack some of their creative practice for you. They will take you through activities that allow you to explore and learn these techniques. On Fridays and Saturdays there will be scheduled Zoom sessions where you can talk to the artist about their techniques. Loungeroom Project Tutors are listed below in the timetable. There will also be a Slack chat (for 18+ only) for participants to share and discuss their work with other participants. There will be a FAQ forum for Juniors to ask WAYTCO further questions about their project.

REHEARSE

Practice the techniques and skill you have learnt and use them to assist in making your own loungeroom project performance. Using whoever and whatever you have with you at home. Your voice, your story, whatever way you want.

PERFORM

Whatever you make will need to be performed in your loungeroom (or other household space or spaces) and filmed on your mobile device. You can film it as many times as you need to get it right and you will learn how to edit it ready for submission. When you are done you can submit your work to the Loungeroom Project. You can submit just ONE entry per registered participant.

WHAT YOU NEED TO PARTICIPATE

All you need to participate in the Act-Belong-Commit Loungeroom Project is:

Internet access – to access tutorials and content online

A mobile device with a camera – to record your performance

A loungeroom (or similar) to perform in – you don't have to make and perform exclusively in your lounge room. You can use other rooms and spaces at home, a balcony or garden if you have one. Bedrooms and bathrooms are not permitted if you are in the Junior Category (13-17 years-old)

A WAYTCO membership – it is free until 31 December 2020, sign up at:
www.loungeroomproject.com.au

JUDGING PROCESS & AWARDS

Once you have submitted your short work the Loungeroom Project Preselection Panel will select 20 finalists for each category, Junior and Senior.

The finalists' work will be shared by WAYTCO online and on social media. The guest Loungeroom Project Jury will then vote for the Lounge Room Hero Awards. Also, the general public will be able to vote for a People's Choice award. The Awards are:

Loungeroom Hero Award – Junior: three awards valued at \$300 each
 Loungeroom Hero Award – Senior: three awards valued at \$600 each

Loungeroom People's Choice Award – Junior: one award valued at \$300
 Loungeroom People's Choice Award – Senior: one award valued at \$600

The Loungeroom Project Jury will assess your work based on the following criteria:

- Originality of concept
- Creative use of your domestic environment and household elements
- Excellence of performative outcome

JUDGING PANELS

LOUNGEROOM JURY

Narelda Jacobs	Channel 10 reporter
Hayley McElhinney	Actor
Eva Mullaley	Artistic Director, Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company
Iain Grandage	Artistic Director, Perth Festival

PRESELECTION PANEL

Chris Edmund
 Chrisite Sistrunk
 James Berlyn
 Mollie Hewitt
 Andy Farrant
 Laura Pitts
 Luke Binetti
 Kat Shaw

WEEKLY PROGRAM

Pre-Launch & Registration for Loungeroom Project Opens 28th April 2020

Artist Tutorials are published on Monday and Wednesday each week, with video tutorials released on the project website.

Zoom Q&A sessions are held on Friday and Saturday - Juniors at 4pm and Seniors at 5pm. (Parents/guardians welcome to accompany Juniors in Zoom forum)

WEEK ONE – CREATING A STORY

James Berlyn - Getting Started

James is the Artistic Director of WA Youth Theatre Company. He is an award-winning performance maker of more than 35 years' experience. In this tutorial he unpacks some fundamental questions for anyone embarking on a new theatre/performance work.

Andrea Gibbs - Storytelling

Andrea is the co-creator of Barefaced Stories, she is a comedian, actor and radio presenter on the ABC. In this tutorial she explores the basics of storytelling.

WEEK TWO – YOUR STORY

Kiruna Stamell - Inclusivity

Kiruna is an actor, dancer, singer and disability advocate who works across theatre, film and TV based in the UK. Most recently she appeared in The New Pope on Netflix. In this tutorial she will explore the importance of inclusivity in both the creative process for artists and for audiences.

Zac James - Storytelling & First Nations Perspectives

Zac is a Wonguktha, Yamatji and Murri man. Currently he is Creative Director at Yirra Yaakin Aboriginal Theatre Company. In this tutorial he will explore and unpack cultural protocols and safety when writing from First Nations perspectives.

WEEK THREE – PEOPLE ARE FUNNY

Chris Edmund - Character Development

Chris was the head of acting at WAAPA for many years and has directed over 150 plays worldwide. He is also a writer and painter. In this tutorial Chris will focus on writing character, specifically creating character development for humans and non-humans!

Libby Klysz - Sketch Comedy in your Loungeroom

Libby is a veteran of Perth theatre, comedy and making stuff up. In this tutorial she will explore taking inspiration from the world around you, keeping the premise simple, and the different forms of classic sketch.

WEEK FOUR - ACTING SKILLS

Hayley McElhinney - Acting Skills

Hayley is a Perth-based actor who works nationally and internationally in theatre, film and TV. Currently she is a leading cast member of Channel Nine's Doctor Doctor. In her tutorial you will explore fundamental techniques that assist you to create an imaginative and powerful performance in your loungeroom.

Ben Mortley - Acting Skills

Ben is an actor, film-maker, and acting coach who has worked across stage, film, and television around the country for nearly 30 years. In his tutorial he will focus on key aspects of the acting craft including eyelines, exploring imagination and the emotional world of a character.

WEEK FIVE – MOVEMENT SKILLS

Claudia Alessi - Movement for character

Claudia is a dance and physical theatre specialist of 30 years-experience. She is a regular lecturer at WAAPA across many departments. In her tutorial she will explore movement for actors and movement for character creation.

Laura Boynes - Movement as an imaginative space

Laura is a dancer and dancemaker who works nationally as a performer, choreographer and movement director. In this tutorial Laura will explore movement as an imaginative space and movement for non-verbal story telling.

WEEK SIX – VISUALS

Tim Watts - Visual Theatre

Tim is an award-winning theatre maker, actor and puppeteer who works nationally and internationally. He is a founding member of WA's The Last Great Hunt. In his tutorial, Tim will unpack his creative process looking at creating your own theatre space, non-verbal storytelling and the basics of puppetry.

Pete Young - Lighting Performances in your Loungeroom

Pete is an emerging Western Australian lighting designer who works across theatre, dance, music and more. In his tutorial he explores lighting for performance the basics, adapted for your loungeroom.

WEEK SEVEN – DIRECTION & CINEMATOGRAPHY

Stevie Cruz-Martin - Directing

Stevie Cruz-Martin is an award-winning film director, cinematographer and tutor working across Australia. In this tutorial she will unpack the essential principles of directing a short work in your loungeroom.

Georgi Ivers - Cinematography

Georgi is an emerging media artist and theatre maker from Perth. In this tutorial she unpacks creative ways to film your project on your mobile device, including storyboarding, framing and camera movement.

WEEK EIGHT – EDITING & FINISHING UP

Jude Mcauley Cotter - Editing on your mobile device

Jude is a broadcast postproduction supervisor, editor and trainer. She is best known for her work on the '72 Dangerous' group of programs on Netflix and is an Adobe Master Trainer. She will discuss basic editing techniques using a free downloadable editing software.

James Berlyn - Finishing Up

In the last tutorial of the project, James will take you through a checklist of things to consider before you submit your original short work to the Loungeroom Jury.

WEEK NINE & TEN – MAKE & SUBMIT YOUR WORK

Participants working on finishing their final performance piece to submit to the Loungeroom Project. Once complete you will submit your work at the Loungeroom Project website.

WEEK ELEVEN – PRESELECTION

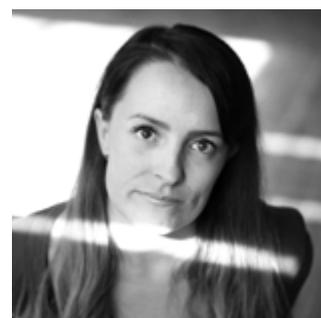
Preselection Panel will select 40 finalists, 20 in each category and publish these online.

WEEK TWELVE - PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTING

People's Choice Voting commences, and Jury Panel select winners.

WEEK THIRTEEN – AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

Winners announced end of week



YOUR PERFORMANCE

This project celebrates original creative work by young Western Australians. It challenges you to create a theatre/performance work your loungeroom. The performance should demonstrate excellence in concept, performance skill and creativity. You can use whoever and whatever you have with you at home. But if you are the registered participant you must be the principal creative. That doesn't necessarily mean you have to appear in the final filmed performance. You could be the writer and or director. You might be a puppeteer or a narrator. It is up to you – it is about your ideas, stories and creativity.

Length – Between 150 seconds (2 1/2 minutes) to 300 seconds (5 minutes)

Form – Anything original under the broadest definitions of theatre and performance. Whatever you want to create: a monologue, a play, a puppet show, a physical theatre work, a tiny musical, a stand-up routine, sketch comedy, cabaret, clowning, mime, a whodunnit, a simple story told straight to camera or some combination of the above. The form is whatever works best for you.

Filming – Once you have made it and rehearsed it you will need to film it on a mobile device (consider filming in landscape). You don't have to film it in one take. You can film in sections and cut them together.

Editing – The phone footage can be edited on your phone or computer (if you have access to one). Through the Loungeroom Project you will learn some basics about using free, downloadable editing software.

Intellectual Property – The Loungeroom Project is about your voice, your story, your creative practice. We want to support and celebrate that. You remain the owner of anything you submit. Do not include in your filmed performance the work of other artists that you do not have permission to use. (see submission requirements below).

Weekly Program – These tutorials are designed to assist you with your ideas and your process. They are designed to get you thinking, dreaming and creating. Use them as much or as little as you like. It's up to you.

Parental Consent – For Junior participants (13-17 years old) your parent or guardian will need to give their consent for you to submit your work to the Loungeroom Project.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

WHAT IT SHOULD HAVE:

- Your original ideas, themes and stories, an expression of the things that are important to you now.
- Creative use of your space(s) and household items (ie a desk lamp as a spotlight, your dog as a lead actor)
- Strong theatre-based elements
- Title pages in the final edit – you will learn how to do this in the editing tutorial (you will not be ineligible if you don't include them)

WHAT IT CAN HAVE:

- Props, sets, puppets, lights, costumes, special effects - whatever you have around your house
- Your own original sound/music/choreography/stories/characters etc
- Royalty-free music and sound (we will show you where to access that)
- Other people or pets that live in your house – as performers, assistants or props
- Other home spaces – kitchen, balcony, driveway etc.

WHAT IT SHOULD NOT HAVE

- Copyrighted material that isn't yours (music, songs, sound, video clips, film and TV scripts, Pre-existing characters etc)
- Scenes filmed in any bedroom or bathroom (for under 18s)
- References to drug use, alcohol, smoking, suicide
- Performance or filming of actual physical harm, violence or cruelty (no Parkour fail type videos, no harassment of pets or other people)
- No nudity
- No hate speech or obscenity

ESSENTIALS

- You can only submit one entry per member
- Your entry must not have been shared/published online in any format before submission or until finalists have been announced
- You will need to provide a link to your final submission either on a password protected YouTube or Vimeo account (download enabled), or as a file in a Dropbox

WHEN YOU SUBMIT

You will submit your work through the submission form on the Loungeroom Project website: www.loungeroomproject.com.au

You will need to provide a link to your final submission either on a password protected YouTube or Vimeo account (with download enabled), or as a file in a Dropbox.

If you are under 18 you will need to include a parental consent form with your submission in the online form.

A preselection panel will select 40 finalists (20 in each category) whose work will be uploaded to and shared via WAYTCO's Youtube/Vimeo, website and social media. People's Choice will be assessed through likes on WAYTCO's accounts only.

By submitting your work, you are consenting WAYTCO to distribute and promote your submission online. Copyright and ownership of the work will remain with you.

If you don't make the list of finalists you are still encouraged to post and share your submission online and with your friends and networks. Use the hashtag **#loungeroomproject** and tag **@wayouththeatreco** on Instagram and **@waytco** on Facebook so we can like it too!



CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

As part of the Loungeroom Project you will have lots of opportunities to connect with tutors and your peers online, to share your progress and to ask questions. The main channels for doing this are:

ZOOM

A moderated Q&As will be held each week with each of the tutors, one session for Juniors and Seniors with each tutor. In these sessions participants will be given the opportunity to talk to tutors about their work, ask questions, and problem solve issues you may be facing in the making process. The links and passwords for the Zoom Meetings will be shared to members via email the week prior.

Zoom Etiquette:

- You are required to join the Zoom Meeting using your (actual) first and last name in your Zoom profile.
- We ask you wherever possible to have your camera switched on. This is a social engagement, so we want to see everyone's faces!
- While you are not asking questions please keep your microphone muted to keep minimise ambient noise.
- We encourage you to ask questions by raising your hand on screen or sharing your question in the chat with the moderator and meeting host.
- Peer-to-peer chat will be switched off for these sessions, your question will appear in the public chat, or if you prefer you can send privately to the moderator (you can request the question remain anonymous)

Anyone in significant or repeated breach of the Zoom Etiquette will be removed from the session.

SOCIAL MEDIA

You are welcome to share your Loungeroom project journey on your social media channels – please use the hashtag #loungeroomproject and follow us and tag WAYTCO in any relevant posts or stories on Instagram @wayouththeatreco and Facebook @waytco.

Please DO NOT post your entry online until after the finalists have been announced or you will be ineligible.

You can ask us questions about the project on social media by sending us a direct message on either Instagram or Facebook.

SLACK

For WAYTCO members who are 18 and over there will be a moderated Slack chat available so that you can connect with your peers, share resources, and ask each other questions. Details for the Slack will be shared via email to all members who are 18-26.

Slack Etiquette:

- You are required to use your (actual) first and last name as your register for Slack chats
- In all conversations you must be respectful and kind and always adhere to the WAYTCO Behaviour Agreement
- You are welcome to share your work in progress or your ideas for your submission, but be mindful that your great idea could appear in someone else's work
- You are required to keep all conversations and shared links and resources on topic (about the Loungeroom Project)
- Slack will be moderated by WAYTCO staff in order to ensure that Slack Etiquette and the Behaviour Agreement are being adhered to.

In all interactions you are expected to adhere to WAYTCO's Behaviour Agreement online and in person. Any anti-social behaviour in a Loungeroom Project forum, Slack or social media affiliated with The Loungeroom Project will result in that person or persons being removed from the project and being ineligible for Jury Selection.

PROJECT GOALS

1. Providing access to professional online learning for young people during and beyond COVID-19
2. Encouraging emerging artists to continue creating despite social-distancing restrictions
3. Sharing the passion for theatre and performance making with our members and broadening WAYTCO's theatre network to rural and remote WA.
4. Providing financial support to working artists on this project and emerging artists through the awards program.
5. Creating an open-source resource pack for young people or youth theatre and performance groups anywhere who will be able to replicate the project in their own context.

CONTACT US

Once the project is up and running there will be a list of Frequently Asked Questions answered for you. In the meantime please send any questions our way via direct messaging our Instagram and Facebook accounts or emailing:

artsticdirector@waytco.com

More information coming soon to www.loungeroomproject.com.au

Get involved to stay connected, creative and cheery during a challenging time.