



## **FAQs: Young at Art (YAA) Collective**

### **1. How much does it cost for me/my child to take part in the YAA Collective?**

It is **FREE** to join the YAA Collective! All sessions, including tickets for live performances and art galleries, are covered by Young at Art (YAA) through funding from the Ragdoll Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation and core funding from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

The only element that isn't covered is transportation to and from the workshop sessions. We will provide a bus for a theatre/cultural visit if it is outside of Belfast.

### **2. How often does the YAA Collective meet?**

The collective will meet twice a month from March 2023 – March 2024, with a break in July & August.

### **3. When and where does the YAA Collective meet?**

Wednesday evenings, from 3.30 – 5.30pm will be the regular meeting time for YAA Collective workshops, discussion and think tank sessions. However, some special trips (like going to the theatre or art gallery) may take place outside of that set time.

The MAC Belfast (10 Exchange St, West, Belfast BT1 2NJ) will serve as the home for YAA Collective with all discussion and think-tank sessions taking place there. Some workshop sessions and cultural visits will take place in other arts venues throughout Belfast, and Northern Ireland.

### **4. How long are the sessions?**

A standard workshop or discussion session will last for 2 hours. Times may vary for cultural visits.

### **5. Are the sessions supervised?**

Yes! Jazzmin McClure will be the lead artist on the project, and along with a support artist will supervise the sessions. This means parents/carers are not required to stay during the session. Jazzmin and the support artist are Access NI checked.

Over the year, there will be additional artist facilitators running workshops for the collective, but Jazzmin will still be there to supervise.

YAA's Education and Engagement Officer, Jackie Fauteux will oversee the project and will act as the safeguarding point of contact.

## **6. What kinds of things will the YAA Collective be doing?**

We want the YAA Collective to gain as much experience as they can with lots of different types of art! So, the collective will have workshop sessions, discussion/think-tank sessions, and visits to cultural venues.

**Workshop sessions:** The workshops will cover a variety of artistic mediums from drama to dance, puppeteering to painting and everything in between! The workshop focus will be decided in collaboration with the YAA Collective members – what interests them, what skills they would like to learn.

**Discussions/think-tank sessions:** These sessions will be led by the YAA Collective's Lead Artist, Jazzmin McClure. This is where the collective can feedback their thoughts on the workshops, the cultural visits, and propose what areas in the arts they would like to explore. They will have fun and engaging conversations about what interests them in the arts and what they would like to see more of in Northern Ireland's arts scene.

**Cultural Visits:** There will be a selection of cultural visits – meaning visits to arts venues across Belfast either for workshops or to see live performance or art exhibitions. Again, all visits are free!

## **7. When is the YAA Collective starting? And when does it finish?**

The 2023 YAA Collective will have their first session on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March** from **1 – 3.30pm**. The session will begin at the MAC, and then the Collective will have the opportunity to see performances as part of the Belfast Children's Festival.

There will be continued opportunities for the first YAA Collective to take part in workshops and cultural visits after their first year, when they become 'alumni'. Until 2025, they will be invited to take part in a selection of sessions with each new YAA Collective.

## **8. How many young people will make up the YAA Collective? What is the age range?**

We are looking for about 15 young people for the YAA Collective, who are in p4, p5, and p6.

## **9. Are the sessions accessible to all young people?**

Yes, ALL young people in p4, p5, and p6 are welcome at the YAA Collective. The MAC, where the collective will often meet, is an accessible building and any trips taken elsewhere will consider the needs and abilities of those in the collective.

## **10. What is code of conduct for the YAA Collective?**

Together with the guidance of lead facilitator, Jazzmin, the collective will agree to the YAA Collective Code of Conduct. This will be a set of expectations and rules to follow as a collective to ensure that everyone is respected, that all ideas are valued, and that we create a safe, judgement free space.

## **11. What is expected of the YAA Collective?**

The aim of the YAA Collective is for young people to have a space where they feel listened to, valued, and empowered – putting the child's voice at the centre of what we do at YAA.

To do this, we will ask the collective to actively engage in the workshop sessions, to offer honest critique of the creative experiences, and to openly express their opinions, while remaining respectful of their fellow collective members. Most importantly we want the YAA Collective to feel apart of the fabric of cultural life in Belfast, to see themselves at the centre of Young at Art and to have lots of fun!