

# HOW'S YOUR FATHER?

## Performer Brief and Application Form

Thanks for your interest in this project. Please read this brief carefully and ensure you can meet all the requirements laid out here before applying.

### **SUMMARY**

**'How's Your Father?'** is a unique partnership project that will use performance skills to create two things:

1. a powerful piece of live, applied theatre that will tour to professional settings in the social care sector and public spaces in October and early November, and
2. a lasting web-based training resource

We are now looking for two focussed, intuitive performers to help us to do this.

### **BACKGROUND**

The original HYF was produced as an amateur show by The Common Lot directed by Simon Floyd. It toured venues and professional settings in Norfolk to high acclaim in October '21.

The show was primarily created using important academic research by Dr Georgia Philip and her team at the UEA. The intention was, and is to provoke thoughtful discussion on the themes, challenges and dilemmas of working with fathers in professional settings such as social work and the courts.

It was created by four main partners: The Common Lot (as the theatre makers), The School of Social Work at The University of East Anglia, Dads Matter (Norfolk County Council) and Menscraft, a Norwich based charity men's charity.

The project has now received funding from research funders The Nuffield Foundation and from Arts Council England (to Simon F) to further develop the positive impact of the show.

A documentary about the original production can be found here:  
<https://thecommonlot.org/portfolio/hows-your-father/>.

### **DESCRIPTION**

We will be working with five professional actors to first devise and film digital training resources for the creation of a legacy website, and then to produce a show that will tour to professional settings and public libraries later this year (all dates are below)

**The website** will be an original professional development resource for professionals that work with fathers, and will include between 20 and 30 separate filmed clips of the actors in character talking to camera. To create these clips we will be working intuitively using scripted improvisation.



**The show** is a tight, fast-moving 75-minute ensemble piece that tells the stories of four challenged and challenging dads. The show requires actors to be highly versatile, playing multiple roles and to live-perform five original songs of contrasting styles.

We will be performing in local authority professional settings in Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex throughout October and early November

One show, at Norwich Arts Centre on November 5th, will be live streamed.

### **WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR**

We want to find two actors to join the three already recruited from the previous tour.

You should identify as male, and be a confident singer. Ideally you should also be able to play an instrument.

The roles are:

- **Steve** (playing age 35-50 yo) - opinionated, conventional, fun loving, He is surprised to become a dad, and finds himself having to step up to his responsibilities
- **Lee** (playing age 18-23 yo) - bright, intuitive, cynical - he has grown up in care and now finds himself under scrutiny by the same system that parented him.

**SCHEDULE** - It is very important to ensure you can attend all dates.

### **Preparation and Filming for Website Resource (Norwich) - 2 weeks equivalent**

Familiarising with character - 3 days 13-15th July

Filming for website resource - 5 days 17-21st July

Contingency days for task preparation and extra filming as required - 2 days

### **Rehearsal (Norwich) - 3 weeks equivalent**

Actors should familiarise themselves with the script before rehearsals begin.

The script and songs will be released to actors by Mon 11th September at the very latest

### **Dates in September:**

- Weds 13 to Sat 16 10 am to 5 pm
- Monday 18 to Friday 22, 10 to 5 pm
- Monday 25 to Friday 29, 10 to 5 pm

### **Preview Show/Dress Rehearsal (afternoon/evening)**

- Sunday 1 October

### **Tour Dates (daytime and/or evening tbc)**

- 2 Oct- TBC
- 3 Oct - Norfolk
- 4 Oct - Essex
- 5 Oct - Norfolk (2 shows)
- 6 Oct - Norfolk
- 10 Oct - Essex
- 12 Oct - Norfolk
- 19 Oct - Suffolk



- 31 Oct - Norfolk
- 1 Nov - Essex
- 2 Nov - Suffolk

### **FEES and PAYMENT TERMS**

Performers are responsible for their own tax and national insurance payments.

Fees as follows:

- Preparation and Filming - 2 weeks paid equivalent at £450 per week = £ 900
- Rehearsal in September - 3 weeks paid equivalent = £1350
- Show - 12 dates in October & early November @ £120 per day = £1440
- **Total project fee = £3690 payable in instalments as agreed with the director**

Travel expenses while touring (from Norwich) are covered by the company

All subsistence and travel to and from rehearsal, or independent travel to touring venues are the financial responsibility of the performer.

### **APPLICATION and AUDITION**

We will invite several actors to audition for each part.

If you would like to be considered for an audition please fill in the application below and return it to **hello@simonfloyd.co.uk** by **5pm on Mon 29 May** with two JPEG images of yourself - one head and shoulders and one full length.

***The closing date for applications is Monday 5th June.***

We will notify you if you have been called for an audition by Monday June 5th. We are sorry that we can't reply to everyone. If you do not hear by this date, please assume you have not been successful.

Auditions will be held on **Tuesday June 13 and Weds 14 June at Norwich Arts Centre**, St Benedicts St. and we will notify you of the outcome soon afterwards.

### **ACCESS and EXPENSES**

We aim to ensure everyone has a fair chance. Please let us know if you have any access needs that might be a barrier to your attending the audition and we will do our best to remove them.

We can pay travel expenses to attend the audition up to £30, but we will need to retain evidence of expenditures, so please keep relevant receipts.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

Please phone Simon Floyd (Director) on 07896 781 574  
or email him at [simonfloyd49@gmail.com](mailto:simonfloyd49@gmail.com)

***Thanks for reading.  
We look forward to receiving your application***



# How's Your Father? training video and touring show

## Performer Application

Full Name		
DOB		
Height		
Phone		
Email		
Do you play an instrument[s] / if so which?		
Please tell us a little about your previous acting experience		
Please write 100 words on why you would like to work on this project		
Do you have any access needs we need to be aware of?		
Please indicate the times that you would be available to audition at Norwich Arts Centre		
		AM
		PM
Tues 13th June		
Wes 14th June		
Please confirm you can make all dates as outlined in the Performer's Brief		

Thank you for your application. Please send the completed form and two JPEG photographs [one head shot and one full body shot] by Monday 5th June to [simonfloyd49@gmail.com](mailto:simonfloyd49@gmail.com) We will be in touch very soon afterwards.

*YOUR DATA: We will not share your personal data with anyone. This data will be deleted at the end of the audition process unless your specific permission has been obtained to retain it for future communication.*

