

Streatham Theatre Company position - June 2016

The re-development of the former Megabowl and Caesar's site in Streatham Hill by London Square (www.londonsquarestreatham.co.uk) will include a new theatre space, which is to be available for community use. Due to open in late 2017, the operator of the space is to be chosen by tender in a process which is currently underway.

Streatham Theatre Company welcomes this new theatre and hopes to make good use of the venue for productions and events, and to work with the chosen operator. We hope to see a sustainable venue, providing a wide range of its own and visiting professional productions, as well as hosting local amateur productions on favourable terms.

Streatham Theatre Company (STC) has considered whether to bid as operator but decided not to do so. It would require more resources than a volunteer-run organisation has available, and would be a distraction from our primary objectives.

As STC will want to work with whoever is chosen as operator, we will not be supporting any particular organisation's bid. Therefore we have summarised our needs below to assist bidders.

Streatham Theatre Company is Streatham's own local open access theatre company (www.streathamtheatre.org.uk). Run as an association on the amateur model, we welcome anyone 18 or over with any level of experience in theatre and the performing arts, professional, amateur or novice. We collectively have many years practical experience in producing and staging theatre in a range of venues, which we share among members to help their development.

We currently produce 3 to 4 shows a year, each typically requiring a venue for a week with around 4 performances. These shows are in a variety of genres and we like to try new things. One of the shows will usually be as part of the annual Streatham Festival. These shows are performed in pop-up venues we create in local venues, or in school theatres. We see the new theatre as a great venue for future shows needing a fully equipped theatre, and a potential opportunity to stage more shows as we would no longer need to 'create' a theatre as well as the show.

We also run a programme of workshops, visits, readings etc. at least once a month, some of which we see would be held in the new venue (e.g. in the theatre, rehearsal room or foyer). There is an opportunity for the venue operator and visiting companies to provide workshops, Q&A's etc. as part of this programme. We would also arrange group visits to public shows and events being put on at the venue.

We will also offer our considerable experience of producing and staging shows to assist the appointed operator in the detailed design of the theatre and its operating model to ensure it can be used effectively and efficiently.

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For more information on STC: www.streathamtheatre.org.uk.

All enquiries: info@streathamtheatre.org.uk or 020 3432 5710