



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

GUIDE FOR 2026

We know how annoying it can be when working on a project to not be able to see and consider all questions and information that a company/ artist needs at once. We have created this to show you all of the questions so you feel prepared when submitting your project, give you an idea of what we are looking for and an example of how this form fits with one of our current shows!

We also appreciate it may still be very early days for your project. Please feel free to leave any questions you do not yet have the answers for, however please try to give as much detail as you can. If you have any questions after reading this, please contact us at daretoknowtheatrecasting@gmail.com

QUESTION	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE <i>(using our show 'Smoke & Mirrors')</i>
SECTION 1 - DESCRIPTION		
SECTION 2 - ABOUT YOU		
Your Full Name & Contact Email Address	Please make sure this is the name and email of who you would like us to contact about your project	
Name of your company/ group/ organisation	Please put the name of the company you are submitting the project on behalf of. If you are working on your project solely as a freelance artist, please leave this question blank	Dare to Know Theatre

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SECTION 2 - ABOUT YOU		
Please list the names and roles of any other creatives who are/ will be working with you on your project	Please put the names of any creatives who are confirmed to be working on your project, or any roles who you likely be looking to work with. If you plan to work on this project alone, please leave this blank.	Jake Talbot - Writer, Miranda Parker - Director, Eleanor Prestwich, Tom Sullivan, Isabel Ford, Laura Archer & John Joyce-O'Keeffe - Cast
Where are you based?	This can be yourself or your company	Oldham
Do you have any connections to Oldham? If so, please specify	We are looking to work with creatives with a connection to Oldham, however please don't let this put you off if you don't have a connection to Oldham, it is always also super exciting welcoming artists over here!	We are based in Oldham
Please tell us a bit about yourself/ your company	Please feel free to use your professional bio, or just write a short description about who you are and what you do, including things like work you have done before, what you enjoy about being a creative, things you hope to do etc. This is about yourself if you are a freelance artist, or your company if applicable	We are a theatre company based in Oldham, founded by Jake Talbot & Miranda Parker in 2020. We are specialists in working class and community theatre and aim to engage the Oldham community with all of work, being Oldhammers ourselves

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SECTION 2 - ABOUT YOU

Please describe the work you usually create	The same as above, however more specifically about your work! We want to know what art form/ styles you work in usually and if there are any themes your work focusses on in particular	We create professional theatre productions, all based around working class stories that resonate with the people of Oldham
Links to any social media/ website/ information about yourself	This can be any social media, a website if you have, portfolio, CV, link on another website, just anything that showcases your work online!	www.daretoknowtheatre.com
Please upload any images/ videos/ links to your previous work	Any images of you working, headshots, videos of your previous work etc	

SECTION 3 - YOUR PROJECT

Title of your project	This can be a working title if not yet decided!	Smoke & Mirrors
What art form is your project?	Theatre, Exhibition, Music etc	Theatre
What genre is your project?	Comedy, Dance, New Writing, Children's Theatre etc	New Writing
What are the key themes or ideas in your project?	Working Class stories, Mental Health, Nature, Family etc (anything your project is about)	Working Class, Art and Galleries, Abuse, Family
Who are the intended audiences for your project	Children, Young Adults, Working Class audiences, Theatre go-ers etc	Working Class Audiences, Artists

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SECTION 3 - YOUR PROJECT

Please describe your project	This can be a bio/ copy about the project or just a description of the ideas and plan. Please make sure to include details about the art form, and how the project will work	<i>Bio and short description about it being a standard theatre piece</i>
What is the current stage your project is in?	We're welcoming submissions for projects that are currently still in all phases, as we recognise the festival is still a while away! Please detail whether the project has begun, been done before, or still just an idea.	The piece has been on before last year at its debut, and is ready to be performed again
Do you have a plan for the project before/ beyond the festival? If so please add details	To understand the whole project, please share with us your current plans, hopes & dreams for the project throughout Summer. We are happy for you to be exploring the project beyond the festival and won't be using this against you at all, it is just good to get an understanding, for example whether your project is a part of a tour, will be heading to Edinburgh, or just created for the festival etc	Touring this Spring at Manchester Art Gallery, The Way and Gallery Oldham. There are no further plans beyond this as of yet

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SECTION 3 - YOUR PROJECT

If you have any, please upload any images/ videos/ links about the project	Again, this can be anything! It is just good to get an idea of the vision of your project, even if it is just a picture of a notebook page you've been working on!	<i>Rehersal images</i>
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SECTION 4 - PRACTICAL BITS

How long is your project?	An estimate is okay, just please note how long you would like the total piece to be in an ideal world	1 hour, 15 minutes
What space would your project require?	Any guide on a space that would suit your project best is good. Whether you have an understanding of the specific technical requirements, or just the vibe that would suit your project best. E.g. traditional theatre space, studio piece, playing space dimensions, in the round etc.	It is site-specific in an art gallery however can be performed in any space. The piece is set in the round, so it would need somewhere that works for this configuration
Please tick the dates you are available to share your proeject over the festival	Please tick all dates that could potentially work for your project. A final date will be discussed, this is not a decision, we just need to be aware of when things may be possible to continue with programming	

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SECTION 3 - YOUR PROJECT		
Why do you want to be a part of Dare to Create: Oldham Arts Festival 2026?	The Festival may work perfectly with your project timeline, may feel accessible financially, or it might be the perfect fit for your project! Whatever it is, we want to know why you're submitting your project	The Festival aligns with our values and purpose perfectly and fits well in our schedule
Does your work reflect or engage with Oldham's community or creative scene? If so, how?	Again, we are looking for work that connects with Oldham. However, if this is not your piece, that's okay! We need an understanding of which projects connect to the town in every way so everything fits nicely	The piece is written based on Oldham stories and aims to reflect the reality of living in Oldham. We have also aimed to work with as many Oldham creatives as possible
Is there anything else you would like to share with us?	This can be anything at all that you feel you have not yet had the chance to describe!	

We hope this helps you when submitting your project for Dare to Create: Oldham Arts Festival 2026! If you have any other information you would like to share, or if you would like to register your interest another way, please contact us and we will explore any arrangements that can be made!

We're excited to read all about your project and get to know you and your work.

The submission deadline for the form is on Sunday 5th April 2026.

Please ensure you have answered the form before then, and we will get back to you in the following weeks.