

Why not join the National Rural Touring Forum?

NRTF is the umbrella body for organisations and individuals involved in the promotion of professional arts events with rural and other communities



promoting professional arts
with rural communities

www.nrtf.org.uk



“NRTF is a special mix of a thoroughly professional and dynamic organisation that is also friendly, informal and innovative. The annual conference is one of the best... useful, enjoyable and inspiring.”

Eden Arts



“Inclusive, organised, supportive, enjoyable. NRTF is doing a very positive job raising its profile within the industry and is now a strong force that makes a difference”

Essex on Tour



What does NRTF do?

NRTF helps its members increase access to the arts for rural and other communities by promoting the development and provision of professional arts activities.

NRTF supports and promotes:

- Programmes of professional activity that are of a high quality and appropriate to the needs of its constituents
- Opportunities for rural and other communities to engage with professional artists and for artists to work with those communities
- Collaboration and partnership with other organisations to maximise the range, breadth and quality of work taking place

How do we do it?

- NRTF has a wide influence because of its members and partners. However it is run as a small organisation with part-time paid co-ordinators and a part-time development director.
- NRTF responds quickly and efficiently to the needs of its members
- A voluntary board of touring scheme managers is elected by the membership at the annual conference. In addition the board can co-opt special expertise as appropriate
- Each region of the country has a representative on the board, all members are able to contact the board via their regional representative
- All members have access to the staffed central office who will respond quickly to queries



“It is a brilliant forum for networking with people who understand what you do, and NRTF allows you to get in touch with like-minded people who have similar goals and aims. As a member of NRTF and a touring theatre company, I can find out more about the real issues that venues across the country have.”

Hijinx Theatre Company

Why do we do it?

NRTF is committed to the principle that there should be genuine equality of opportunity for all sections of the population in the practice, appreciation and enjoyment of the arts.

NRTF believes that:

- High quality, live arts performance offers a unique experience, which is life-enhancing and sometimes life changing
- Rural isolation, poverty, social exclusion and similar disadvantages should not prevent people from having good access to those experiences
- Local people are essential actors in local arts development
- The results of successful arts promotion extend widely and contribute to personal growth and strong, sustainable communities

Benefits of membership

Be part of a network of professionals:

- NRTF supports an annual conference, regional meetings, and keeps in regular touch with all its members via email
- All members receive advance booking opportunities and reduced prices for the annual conference
- All members are able to keep in touch with each other via the NRTF members' contact database on the web site or via the message board
- All members can ask for information, help and advice from the central office and from other members

- NRTF highlights examples of good practice with case studies at conferences and in various publications
- NRTF produces a skills audit to locate members with special knowledge so that we can put you in touch with the right people

Keep up to date with new initiatives:

- NRTF forms strategic partnerships with regional and national development and funding organisations
- NRTF makes the case at national, regional and local level for rural touring and community-based arts initiatives to be incorporated into social and economic policies effecting rural life
- NRTF undertakes research to influence debate and inform good practice
- NRTF endeavours to keep rural touring on the agenda and ensure that all our members are kept up to date with any new developments that may affect their work
- NRTF produces advocacy leaflets and other publications – all available free to members

Help develop the sector:

- NRTF supports the professional development of its full members through a grants programme to encourage mentoring placements, regional meetings, and going to see new companies or performers
- NRTF collaborates with partners to develop new initiatives linked to social inclusion, diversity, international links, and the commissioning of new work
- Full members are eligible to apply for strategic development grants.
- All our members are able to benefit by working together in partnership

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete and return to:
**NRTF, Highfield, The Square,
 Yapham, York YO42 1PJ**

N.B. Do not send any money at this stage

Contact Name
Organisation
Regd Charity No
Company No
Address
Post Code
Email
Telephone
Mobile
Website

**N.B. PLEASE COMPLETE THE OTHER
 SIDE OF THIS FORM BEFORE
 RETURNING IT TO US**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION continued...

Type of membership applied for
(please tick one box):

- Full
- Associate £100
- Associate £50
- Individual

Please provide a brief description of
your organisation's work in the space
below:

**N.B. PLEASE COMPLETE THE OTHER
SIDE OF THIS FORM BEFORE
RETURNING IT TO US**

Who can join NRTF?

If you are an organisation or individual with an interest in promoting professional arts events with rural and other communities you can join us and be part of the rural touring network that is the NRTF.

- **Full membership** is open to rural touring schemes only i.e. organisations who work with voluntary local promoters to bring a range of professional arts events to rural and other communities.

Costs: Based on turnover, contact NRTF for details

- **Associate membership** is open to individuals and organisations with an interest in promoting professional arts events with rural and other communities.

Costs: £100 for an organisation with a turnover of over £20,000
£50 for smaller organisations
£25 for an individual

Fill in the membership application form attached and return to:

NRTF, Highfield, The Square, Yapham, York, YO42 1PJ

or fax to **01759 303624**. You can also download a form from

www.nrtf.org.uk and return it to **admin@nrtf.org.uk**. Please contact us on

01759 303624 if you have any queries or if we can help in any way.

Please do not send any money at this stage.

*" I find that NRTF, especially the excellent conference,
is invaluable as it gives me a chance to catch up with what
is happening across the rest of the UK in rural touring"*

North East Arts Touring



National Rural Touring Forum,
Highfield, The Square,
Yapham, York YO42 1PJ

Telephone 01759 303624

Website www.nrtf.org.uk

"NRTF is an excellent organisation well suited to serving the needs of the member organisations and of the sector as a whole. Other such umbrella organisations can learn a lot from this model"

Rural Arts Wiltshire

"Scheme co-ordinators are often isolated; this is a real lifeline and one of my most valued professional networks. Every service is useful and every service is delivered efficiently"

Creative Arts East



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