



ASSITEJ

International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People

ASSITEJ Newsletter N°66, August 2015



Introduction

Why Placements?

Why do we keep reminding the TYA community to think about Placements program? Why do we urge ASSITEJ members to find ways to open up new opportunities for young artists and theatre makers, to look for fresh flow, to participate in this great and exciting global exchange?

NG Placements is in many ways a very specific programme: it is a platform that offers a variety of possibilities in individual residencies for young and emerging artists. Each and every NG Placements offer is created as a unique opportunity, different from the previous ones; as an artistic and experiential challenge for both the host and the participant, in which their biggest investment is their personal commitment. It is particularly this multiplicity of specific opportunities that makes the results of the programme almost unpredictable.

Nevertheless, previous participants' feedback reveals splendid experiences almost without exception, reassuring us that encountering colleagues and individuals willing to share and commit to one common purpose - a good theatre for all children, is something that is of special value regardless of generational, geographical or artistic background.

In NG Placement program, ASSITEJ has the role of a mediator who is inviting and encouraging its large membership to create and open these unique opportunities intended for young artists, administrators or producers. Moreover, ASSITEJ aims to make these opportunities more visible and accessible to as many interested seekers as possible, as well as to learn from the experiences of previous participants in order to enhance the program for future generations. The questions popping up after the realization of all the placements are of special interest to us: were both the host and the participant satisfied? Were there any new ideas created amid a flow of freshly shared energy? Was the match successful from the perspective of mutual, artistic understanding and recognition? Did the presence of a new, young face refresh the memories of experienced theatre makers on their beginnings, reminding them of the defining moment in their careers and strengthening their commitment to the theatre for children and young people? And did the newly established collaboration bring them to rediscover their long- fostered work and professional knowledge and pass it on to an emerging artist eager to learn? That is why we are asking all of the hosts as well as selected participants to write a report after their placement ends and share their impressions and experiences. Let us see what some of them have told us! "I can say that PLACEMENTS is a project that can help to increase the exchange between cultures and forms of arts, and as well, to open the international perspective to create new ways of artistic work", said Elena Manzo from Mexico. Elena has spent one week of February 2015 at Theatre an der Parkaue in Berlin. "The week I worked with the Winterakademie was very interesting, intense and full of creativity. I could develop my capacities as an artist and learn from the theatre team and from the work with the kids. The chance to get to know new people in theatre and to work with children and teenagers in Berlin, expanded the point of view in my work as an artist, and helped me to develop new ways of working."

[Read more.](#)

ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering 2016



Getting Closer to the Edge!

TYA-UK has already secured £260,000 to support ON THE EDGE, the World Festival of Theatre for Young Audiences and ASSITEJ artistic gathering, which takes place in Birmingham from 2nd - 9th July 2016.

It will showcase a programme of 20 inspirational companies from the UK, Ireland and across the globe and will be accompanied by a symposium led by Philip Hardy of TYA Ireland and a social programme led by Paul McEaney of TYA NI.

Nina Hajjiyanni, Chair of TYA-UK, said: "We are delighted to have secured this significant investment. It means that we can continue to plan with renewed confidence an international festival that will bring huge opportunities for the TYA sector across the world."

TYA-UK have appointed Thomas Wildish as Producer for the festival, who will work closely with the On The Edge Steering Group, comprising representatives of TYA-UK and TYA Ireland.

To keep up to date with developments visit: www.ontheedge2016.com



Symposia Strand

Where are the Pioneers? : ON THE EDGE of Practice & Research

In July 2016, the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering (AAG) will take place in Birmingham, UK under the banner ON THE EDGE focussing the world of TYA on a 9-day feast of shows, workshops, seminars, papers and more from all regions of the world.

Opportunity

The AAGs are designed to stimulate and encourage artistic activity and exchange. They take place every year in which there is not an ASSITEJ World Congress and Performing Arts Festival (which occurs every three years).

AAG16 will provide a space in which all the members of ASSITEJ have the opportunity to engage with the artistic life of the organisation and explore their own practice. It will create an opportunity to share, challenge and develop ideas; and to participate in discourse and practical demonstrations from colleagues within the field.

Besides a programme of specially chosen productions representing a diverse range of styles and forms of theatre from all continents, the Symposia Strand offers a variety of allied events for delegates to actively engage in and explore exciting developments and innovative practice.

ON THE EDGE is open to performing arts practitioners and researchers from different countries; performers of all genres and techniques, theatre directors, musicians, theatre designers, playwrights, performing arts academics, arts educators and teachers, theatre critics, arts journalists etc.

The organisers of OTE invite proposals for paper presentations, workshops, practical demonstrations, panel discussions and seminars addressing the following theme:

Where are the Pioneers? : On the Edge of Research and Practice.

[Read more.](#)



Next Generation

Call for Applications July 2nd - July 9th 2016, Birmingham, UK / On the Edge International Theatre Festival for Young Audiences

TYA UK and TYA Ireland is happy to announce the **Next Generation Programme** as part of the **On The Edge Festival/ASSITEJ**

Opportunity

International Gathering taking place between the 2nd - 9th July 2016.

The Next Generation Programme is open to young and emerging artists (under the age of 36) from any country interested in the practice of theatre for young audiences and international collaboration. A special programme will be created across the 9-day international festival for participants which will include;

- Festival performances by companies from the UK, Ireland and from all over the world
- Master classes and workshop sessions led by industry professionals
- An opportunity to examine the idea of 'cultural leadership', supporting the next generation of theatre
- Discussions around pioneering practice and research as part of the symposia strand

The residency will also include an introduction to the work of Shakespeare as part of the 400th anniversary of the playwrights death in relation to new and experimental practice.

[Read more.](#)

ASSITEJ NEWS



About Possibility of Asian Way of Collaboration

By Asaya Fujita Asian countries that gather today all have each original culture. And I suppose that what we have in common among us is that the civilizations that started from Europe and America are settled upon our own original cultures on one level or another. Our TYA also have this double standard of culture. In Japan, the first theatre ...

[Read more.](#)

This summer has seen a lot of activity from the Asian ASSITEJ centers.

The ASSITEJ Asia Network Meeting in Chennai, India was organized by ASSITEJ India and The Little Festival and was attended by centers from Japan, Korea, India and Nepal, among others.

It seems that the Asian Network will soon have its own website, we will keep you informed!

To read Asaya Fujita's keynote, go here: [About Possibility of Asian Way of Collaboration](#)



The 5th China Children's Theatre Festival in Beijing had a full program with plays from China as well as international performances from Finland, Japan, Romania and USA.



This festival was attended by ASSITEJ EC members Yvette Hardie (President), Asaya Fujita (Vice President), and Marisa Giménez Cacho (Secretary)

General) who hosted the International Salon entitled "Introductions of Production and Development Situation of International Countries."



The 23rd ASSITEJ Korea International Summer Festival held several productions from Korea and had a special focus on Spanish productions. Guest international performances were from Japan, Israel, Belgium, Germany, Canada, Sweden and Australia.

The Festival also held an International Networking Roundtable where current ASSITEJ projects were explored and Marisa Giménez Cacho talked about Mexican TYA.

The ricca ricca * festa 2015 (before International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience) had international performances from Poland, Belgium, Russia, Italy, China, Sweden, Denmark, Australia, Switzerland, Indonesia, Scotland, Spain, Korea and Germany, as well as several Japanese productions.



Within the festival there was a symposium given by ASSITEJ EC members Yvette Hardie and Asaya Fujita, entitled "The Role of Theatre for Children and Young People for Peace-Building."

To read Yvette Hardie's keynote, go here: [Theatre and Peace-building - Okinawa, 2015](#)

ASSITEJ NETWORKS



Festival di futuro, Visioni di Teatro 2016

**LA BARACCA - TESTONI RAGAZZI,
BOLOGNA, 27th February - 6th March 2016**

Call for proposals: ARTISTS MEET EARLY YEARS

Opportunity

Next year it will be 30 years since La Baracca and the Municipality of Bologna began the project Teatro e Nido (Theatre and crèche), that gave the starting impulse to the research the company has been developing on theatre for early years.

On this occasion, La Baracca, together with the Municipality of Bologna, wants to offer to a group of **young artists** (under 35) the opportunity to enter the educational facilities for children 0-3 and 3-6 years old. The artists will have the chance to "**meet the children**" presenting them a brief performance, telling a story, leading a small workshop, talking with and observing them. They will have the chance to visit one or two services during the festival.

Visioni is a theatre festival for early years and it is one of the Small size Festivals. Small size - the European Network for the Diffusion of Performing Arts for Early Years - has existed since 2005 with the support of the European Commission through the Culture Programme.

The Festival is the core of an international network which includes exchange among artists, educators, teachers, pedagogues and professionals working with the target group of early year children. During the festival it is possible to attend many different events, such as shows, training activities, meetings, lectures, conferences and seminars.

"Visioni di futuro, Visioni di teatro..." will take place at Testoni Ragazzi Theatre in Bologna (Italy) from February 27th to March 6th 2016.

This call is open to 6 artists, to whom we will offer accommodation and subsistence for 3 days.

[Read more.](#)

ITYARN in One Theatre World

In May 2015 ITYARN, the International Theatre for



Young Audiences Research Network, took part in One Theatre World, the annual TYA/USA festival, for the first time. Together with the Festival hosts, Manon van de Water organized and facilitated a panel of three scholar/practitioners from the Americas: Paulo Merisio, Universidade Federal do

Estado do Rio de Janeiro - UNIRIO / Trupe de Truões (Brasil) Aracelia Guerrero, Assitej Mexico (Mexico) Heather Fitzsimmons Frey, University of Toronto (Canada) to reflect on the theme "Dare, Dream, Do the Unexpected," drawing from their unique research and artistic practice. The presentations were followed by a roundtable discussion between presenters, ITYARN members, and general audience.

[Read more.](#)

National Centers



ASSITEJ Argentina
SCHOOLYARD STORIES
Theatre for Adolescents
2nd. Edition 2015/2017)

CALL FOR PLAYS

ATINA invites Spanish-speaking playwrights to participate in the SCHOOLYARD STORIES Project

Schoolyard Stories is an interdisciplinary project (which includes playwriting, direction, staging, exhibition and work with young people) about high school yards, dealing with adolescent topics from previous researches in secondary schools.



The 1st. Edition of Schoolyard Stories (Schoolyard Stories in IberoAmerica) was organized by ATINA in collaboration with IberoAmerican ASSITEJ Centers between 2018 and 2010 and run together with the European Project "**Platform 11+**".

[Read more](#) and [Spanish version](#)



ASSITEJ Australia - Korea

Dear friends,

We would like to tell you about a work-in-progress showing of 'This, That': our new work

of contemporary theatre for children aged 2-5, that is showing as part of the ASSITEJ Korea Summer festival, from July 31 to August 2.

A new collaboration between artists from Australia and Korea, 'This, That' work-in-progress performance is the outcome of 4 weeks of creative development, with 2 weeks taking place in Brisbane in February, and 2 weeks in Seoul in July 2015. These showings are a chance to test our ideas for this new work with audiences here in Seoul before we move into production for an Australian and Korean premiere planned for 2016.

Inspired by children's remarkable capacity to intuitively explore, investigate and generally accept the differences of others, 'This, That' is a playful exploration of the extraordinary insights that can be gained by experiencing and embracing that which is different. This project continues Imaginary Theatre's investigation into devised early-years theatre, and builds on our 10 year relationship with Korean artists.

Our collaborators include Tak Hoyoung (performer, co-devisor), Paul Matthews (Dramaturge), Sangmi Kim (Producer), Verena Curr and Nathan Stoneham (performer, co-devisors), Thom Browning (Director/Devisor), Fiona MacDonald (Producer).



ASSITEJ Germany International Directors Seminar Mannheim, July 6-11, 2015

This year's International Director's Seminar was held in Mannheim from July 6-11 with the participation of over 20 directors from different parts of the world.



List of Participants

[Read more.](#)



Call for Proposal Schöne Aussicht

Our biannual international festival for theatre for young audience SCHÖNE AUSSICHT (Bright View), produced by Junges Ensemble Stuttgart (JES), is searching for professional, outstanding productions dealing with urgent, ongoing political situations in their country of origin.

The next issue of SCHÖNE AUSSICHT takes place from June 4th until June 12th 2016 in Stuttgart.

[Read more.](#)



ASSITEJ Italy

The Children's world
International Festival of Creativity for

Children and Families.

On the occasion of EXPO-TO 2015, from the 1st to the 9th of August, many performing activities (theater, dance, circus, music and puppets), targeted to an audience of children and families, will take place in Turin.

In the very heart of the city, in the 18th century Teatro Carignano and in Carignano and San Carlo squares, companies coming from all over the world (China, Japan, Italy, France, Romania, Spain, Belgium, Russia) will perform their shows, and the public will have the chance to attend interactive workshops, street performances and many festival events.

All events are free for children under 15 years old

CASA del TEATRO RAGAZZI e GIOVANI

Full programme: www.casateatroragazzi.it



ASSITEJ Iran

22nd International TYA Festival
from October 3-8, 2015 in
Hamedan.

We are pleased to inform you that The Dramatic Art Center of Iran will hold the 22nd International TYA Festival from October 3-8, 2015 in Hamedan.

Application deadline is August 20th. You are welcome to participate in this festival with a show, workshop, seminar, or as an international guest (observer).

We would highly appreciate if you could send us an email to: minoovash.festival.iran@gmail.com.

ASSITEJ Korea

The 23rd ASSITEJ Korea International Summer Festival kicked off!



아시테지 한국본부



ASSITEJ Korea started the Summer Festival on July 21 with the opening performance "Papyrus" performed by a Spanish company, Xirriquiteula Teatre. The Summer Festival continues till August 2 presenting 13 pieces from 9 countries and offering a variety of other activities such as Gaudi Book Park, Don Quixote's Windmill Village, workshops, symposium and roundtable program.

International Networking Roundtable

The Secretary General of ASSITEJ International, Ms. Marisa Giménez Cacho was invited to the Summer Festival as a speaker of the International Networking Roundtable. In the first session of this program, she introduced the Mexican TYA and Teatro Carpa Rosete Aranda which was one of the prestigious puppet theatre companies in Mexico. In the second session, she explained the networks in ASSITEJ and informed of several opportunities that Korean companies can participate.



ASSITEJ Macedonia

5th edition: International children's theatre festival BITOLINO

Bitolino is an annual children's theater festival held in August (05.08-07.08). In organization of the Babec Theater - Bitola, Macedonia, every year professional children's theaters from all over the world participate in the festival. The main prize is the Grand Prix for best performance. The attendance for this festival has exceeded 5,000.



5th edition: International children's theatre festival BITOLINO

05.08-07.08.2015, Bitola, Macedonia

[Read More](#)

ASSITEJ Mexico

XII National Puppet Festival in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato

<https://www.facebook.com/FestivalDeTiteresDeSanMiguelDeAllende?fref=ts>



Dia	Obra	Hora	Sede
6 agosto	La Cajonera	5:00 y 7:00 pm	Auditorio M.Malo Bellas Artes
7 agosto	La Liga Teatro Elastico Mexico D.F.	5:00 y 7:00 pm	Auditorio M.Malo Bellas Artes
7 agosto	Cuenteando El Tlakuacho	5:00 y 7:00 pm	Auditorio M.Malo Bellas Artes
7 agosto	La vaca que se creia se creia mariposa	7:00 p.m.	Atrio de la Iglesia San Miguel Viejo
8 agosto	Los 3 cochinitos	5:00 y 7:00 pm	Auditorio M.Malo Bellas Artes
8 agosto	Morequetengue Jalapa, Veracruz	7:00 pm	Auditorio M.Malo Bellas Artes
8 agosto	El Pozo La Salamandra	7:00 pm	Atrio de la Iglesia San Miguel Viejo
9 agosto	Caravana de Sueños Artimatas	5:00 y 7:00 pm	Auditorio M.Malo
10 agosto	Minga Mely Ortega	5:00 y 7:00 pm	Auditorio M.Malo Bellas Artes

ASSITEJ Namibia

ChiNamibia Arts Education for Development will be performing at the CHIPABO Arts Education for Development's Children Festival in Gaborone Botswana.



ChiNamibia will take 12 children and 5 adults to Botswana to perform Namibian Cultural Dances and share knowledge of the Namibian culture with children and young people from Botswana.

The festival is schedule to take place from August 27-31, 2015.

This event aims to strengthen the relationship between the two countries and to share knowledge and skills in the Arts industry with children from both countries.

The children will prepare a play based on a folktale from each country, which will also promote the work of different authors from the two countries.

For further information please visit our Facebook page: ChiNamibia Arts Organisation for Development.



ASSITEJ Poland

19th International Festival of Theatre for Children and Young People KORCZAK

Warsaw, October 3-14, 2015

On its agenda, the Festival has theatrical events for very young children, toddlers and even

babies, and their parents. And also for all those people who are interested in this latest tendency, rapidly gaining serious attention.

As regards foreign theatres which have been invited to the Festival there is no language barrier! The shows are selected in such a way, and their presentation and translation arranged so that language is not an obstacle.

The Polish Centre of ASSITEJ, the organizer of the Festival, is inviting you all to the Powszechny Theatre – the base of important Festival events.

www.korczak-festival.pl

[Read more.](#)



Korczak 2015
03-14.X.2015



LUTKOVNO GLEDALIŠČE
LJUBLJANA

ASSITEJ Slovenia

Slovenian Festival of Performing Arts for
Children and Young People Zlata
Paličica (Golden Stick)

5th to 10th October 2015

Featuring the best achievements of the past
two years in Slovenia

The Zlata paličica (Golden Stick) Festival is a
Slovenian biennial festival of performing arts
for children and young people organised by the

Lutkovno gledališče Ljubljana (Ljubljana Puppet Theatre), Slovenski gledališki inštitut (Slovenian Theatre Institute) and Cankarjev Dom Cultural and Congress Centre. The festival was founded in 1993, when its first edition - featuring exclusively theatre performances for children and young people -, was presented to the public. Starting with this year's festival will bring a selection of best Slovenian drama, musical, puppet, dance and experimental performances for children and young people aiming to present most successful artistic achievements in the field of performing arts. The 16th festival, which is to take place from **5th to 10th October 2015** in Slovenia's capital Ljubljana, will lay its special focus on cultural education, thus pursuing its goal of establishing standards of quality within the field of theatre for children and young people and encouraging a quality, diverse and continuous production of performing arts for children and young people. Organizing this year's edition of the festival Lutkovno gledališče Ljubljana will be joined by the Slovenian Theatre Institute - dedicating itself as a National Institution to exploring and understanding of theatre culture - and the central Slovenian cultural and congress venue Cankarjev dom. One of the long term aims of the festival is to establish a systemic platform of cultural education in the field of performing arts, so the selectors' task was to prepare - in addition to their selection of performances to be presented at the festival -, a list of recommended productions with which we wish to improve the quality of cultural content within educational programmes.

Take your time and join us!

<http://www.lgl.si/en/festivals/golden-stick-festival>



**FESTIVAL
ZLATA
PALIČICA**



ASSITEJ South Africa

Call for Collaborative Productions Platform at
ASSITEJ 2017 World Congress in Cape Tow.

Given that the theme of the 2017 ASSITEJ World Congress will be "One Step Beyond : Inter-cultural dialogue", we are specifically calling for collaborative productions between African countries, and African countries in partnership with other parts of the world.

These productions need to have premiered
from 2012 onwards and must be geared for a
specific age group between 0 and 20 years

Opportunity

old. All genres and styles of performance will be considered but performances that reflect on or contribute towards our understanding of inter-cultural dialogue and exchange will be favoured. As this is our newest and most exciting category, productions that are still in development may be considered. If you are interested in exploring an international collaboration, and have ideas for such a collaboration, but are looking for partners in Africa to work with, please approach ASSITEJ South Africa for suggestions or introductions.

For more information visit www.assitej2017.org.za



Creating Access at Cape Town Fringe

ASSITEJ South Africa is working with Cape Town Fringe to create a dedicated platform of theatre for young audience. As part of our ongoing development to promote theatre for young audiences, ASSITEJ South Africa works with existing platforms, like Cape Town Fringe and the National Arts Festival to establish theatre for young audiences platforms.

During the festival the ASSITEJ SA team will be working with local schools to ensure that the correct age groups see plays relevant to their age groups.

Cape Town Fringe, which debuted last year, forms part of the World Fringe Alliance which includes Amsterdam Fringe, Perth Fringe Festival and Brighton Festival. This year the festival will take place from 24 September - 5 October and the full programme is expected to be announced shortly on www.capetownfringe.co.za.



ASSITEJ Switzerland

Final Boxenstopp 2014/15

On **October 3rd 2015**, the public Boxenstopp day in Switzerland will take place at Theater Chur (<http://www.theaterchur.ch/>), as the final event of Boxenstopp 2014/15.

The program consists of three parts:

- Scenic reading of the new texts from the two scholarship holders.
- Table-talks with general subjects of dramatic writing for a young audience. The talks will be introduced by a professional with an impulse speech.
- Subsequent workshop discussions with the following themes: translation of theater texts and mediation of theater for a young audience in school.

More information: <http://www.assitej.ch/veranstaltungen/boxenstopp.html>



theater für junges publikum
théâtre jeune public
teatro per un giovane pubblico
teater per public giuven



TYA/USA

Professional Development Presents:
Innovative Pre- and Post-Show
Engagement
Wednesday, August 19, 2015 10:00 AM

- 11:30 AM CDT (Chicago)

This webinar explores dynamic and innovative practices for engaging theatre audiences of all ages before and after seeing a production. Panelists will discuss and take questions about making your theatre lobby interactive and playful, what it means to prepare audiences for a production, creating a meaningful theatre experience for ALL ages, and how to get the most out of post-show discussions and reflections.

By attending this webinar, participants will be able to...

- Identify new strategies to engage audiences of all ages around theatre productions;
- Learn from the successes and challenges that other theatre artists and administrators encounter when creating pre and post-show engagements;
- Get inspired and brainstorm new ways to engage audiences around productions at their home theatres.

For more information and to register, go to <https://madmimi.com/s/c25a76>.



50th Anniversary Section

As part of the continuing celebrations of the ASSITEJ Jubilee, we will be including special contributions that speak about the history of our association and centers around the world.

On this occasion, we are sharing contributions on the history of ASSITEJ Russia and ASSITEJ Sweden.

Master's Legacy. Disciples' Experience. ASSITEJ Russia.

Russian theater director and actor Yury Petrovich Kiselev, laureate of the various Russian and international awards, was one of those who actively participated in bringing ASSITEJ ideas and concepts to life 50 years ago. During his career in theater Yury Kiselev occupied one of the leading



positions in the Russian office and international system of ASSITEJ and generously shared his rich experience helping to organize youth theaters in Cuba, USA, France, Yugoslavia, German Democratic Republic, Spain, and Czechoslovakia. In Russia he is mostly remembered as an artistic director of the world's oldest professional theater for children that opened on the 4th of October in 1918 in Saratov, Russia. He led the theater from 1943 until his death in 1996, and today it is known as the Saratov Academic Youth Theater named after Yu.P. Kiselev.

[Read more.](#)

Theatre for children and young people – A democratic right. ASSITEJ Sweden

By Eva Bergman

In 1974, the Swedish Government decided



on a new cultural policy. Its basic idea was that art, in all various expressions, should be available for all citizens, regardless of age or where they lived.

One of the most important and profound ambitions of this new culture-policy, was that every child or youth between the age of 7-16 should have the opportunity to see a professional theatre-performance at least once a year; a non-commercial theatre

performance.

When we started BACKA THEATRE (part of Gothenburg City Theatre) in 1978, this was our fundament. The new policy provided us with the economical possibilities. We were able to gather a group of highly professional, dedicated actors, technicians and several musicians to make our vision come true. We wanted to change the world. We put focus on our young audience. Our aim was to give them unexpected, artistic and musical experiences. We did both newly written and classical texts. We wanted them to feel "you are not alone."

The word solidarity was, and still is, the credo of Backa Theatre, now with Mattias Andersson as artistic director.

Eva Bergman, director (who together with actors Ulf Dohlsten and Maria Hedborg started Backa Theatre 1978.)

Gbg, Sweden, 18/1 2015

