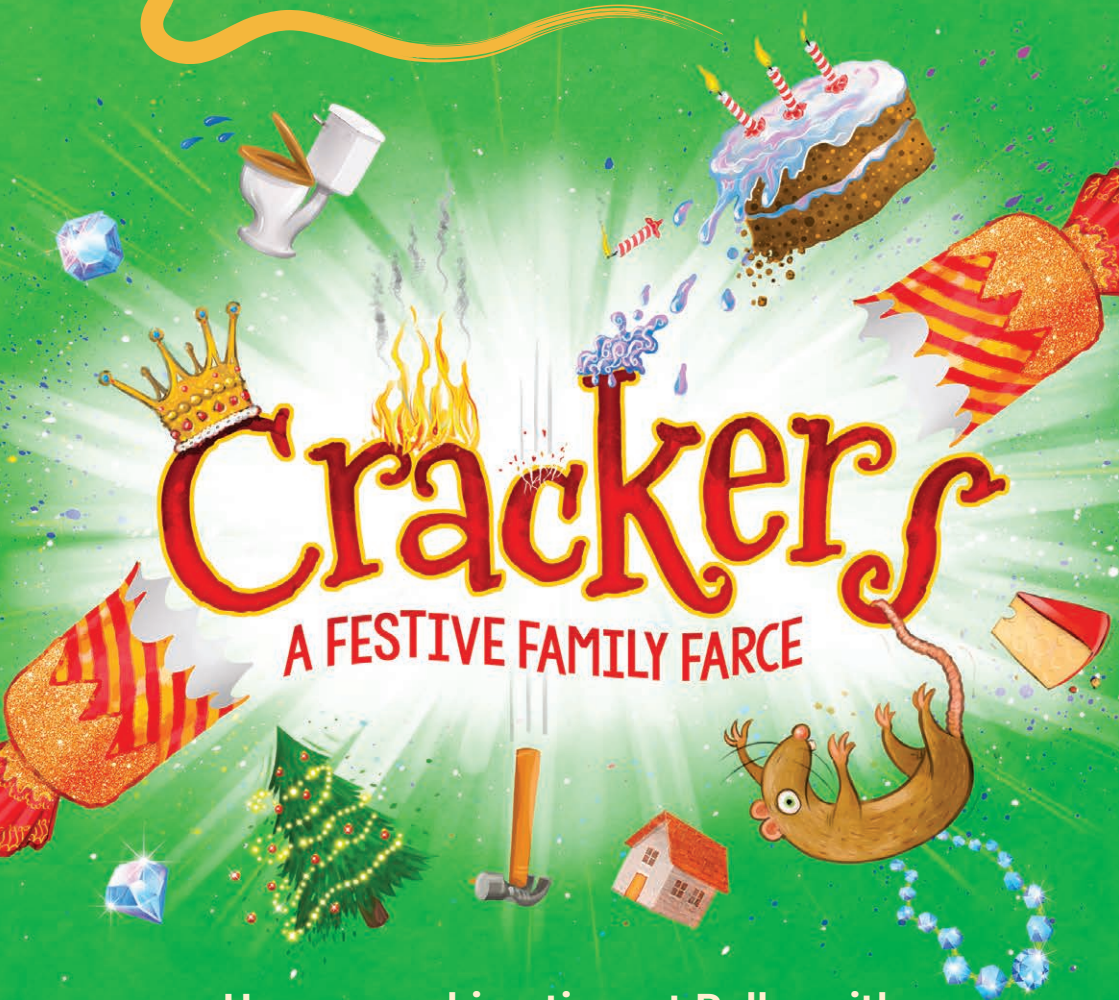


POLKA

Where Theatre Begins

SEASON
BROCHURE
AUG 2022 -
FEB 2023



Have a cracking time at Polka with
our spectacular winter production, *Crackers*.
It's going to go off with a bang!

Welcome to Polka Theatre's new season



We have a treat in store with a bumper selection of 16 productions for you to enjoy over the coming months, alongside our popular Take Part weekly workshops, Saturday Club, and Holiday Workshops. Something for every child from 0-12 years.

We are delighted to be presenting our first Festival of Early Years Theatre **BIG DREAMS**, which welcomes companies from Sweden and Ireland alongside some of the best work for 0-6's in the UK.

We also have an extensive visitors season in the Autumn which includes **Underwater**: a beautiful dance production for 0-2's, the return of **English Touring Opera** with **Tutankhamun's Shoes**, captivating puppetry by **Little Angel Theatre** with **We're Going on a Bear Hunt**, and a moving new adaptation of **Michael Morpurgo's Little Manfred** by the **Soldiers Arts Academy**.

As the Christmas season approaches, we have two exciting Polka productions. For ages 5+ we have **Crackers**, a new and hilarious festive family farce by award-winning playwright **Charles Way**, and for younger children, we present **Grandad, Me and Teddy Too**, by **Sarah Argent**: a story about a long-distance relationship between a girl and her grandfather, described by The Guardian as '*quietly brilliant*'.

Plenty for you to choose from but you don't necessarily need a ticket to come to Polka. From Tuesday - Sunday you can pop in at any time to enjoy our free indoor and outdoor play spaces, take a browse around our inspiring shop or enjoy a treat in a train carriage in our wonderful café.

I hope you enjoy browsing through our new season and discovering all Polka has to offer.

We can't wait to welcome you.

P. Glanville

Peter Glanville

Artistic Director and Joint CEO



Top to bottom: *We're Going On A Bear Hunt*, *Grandad, Me and Teddy Too* and *Underwater*.
Photos: Celia Topping, Little Angel Theatre



www.planetpositive.uk

This publication is certified carbon neutral, printed by an eco-accredited factory to ISO 14001 on a certified carbon neutral press.

The Paper Dolls

**Ages
3-7**

On now - Sun 7 Aug

Directed and Adapted by **Peter Glanville**

Adapted from the acclaimed picture book created by former Children's Laureate **Julia Donaldson** with award-winning illustration by **Rebecca Cobb**,

The Paper Dolls comes to life with stunning puppetry and original music in Polka Theatre's much-loved production.

This play is based on the original book *The Paper Dolls*, written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Rebecca Cobb. Published by Macmillan Children's Books © 2013.



Performances

Toddler Friendly
performances available
for 2+ yrs.

Visit polkatheatre.com for a full list of performances

Tickets*

Adults & Children: from £14
Concessions: from £11

Schools from £9

Adventure Theatre

Approx. 45 mins

Access Performances

Relaxed: Sat 25 Jun 3pm
BSL: Sun 26 Jun 1pm

A Polka Theatre production

POLKA

the PIRATE, the PRINCESS and the PLATYPUS

Sat 18 Jun - Sat 20 Aug

Written and Directed by **Daniel Clarkson**
and **Richard Hurst**

Once upon a time there was a pirate who wanted to be a princess, a princess who wanted to be a pirate, and a platypus who was happy being exactly themselves!

Join us this summer
for a hilarious new
musical fairy tale
adventure.

From the
incredibly
silly minds behind the
Olivier-nominated global hits
Potted Potter and Potted Panto.



Performances

Visit polkatheatre.com for a full list of performances

Tickets*

Adults & Children: from £10
Concessions: from £10
Previews: from £10

Schools from £10

Main Theatre

Approx. 65 mins

Access Performances

BSL: Sun 3 Jul 2pm
Audio Described: Sun 24 Jul 2pm
Relaxed: Wed 27 Jul 11am
Captioned: Sat 13 Aug 2pm

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to phone
& online bookings

**Ages
5+**

POLKA

BIG DREAMS

EARLY YEARS THEATRE FESTIVAL

Wed 24 - Sun 28 August 2022



Ready, Steady, GO!

A Mapping
co-production

Thu 11 – Thu 25 Aug Ages 3-6

Back for a pre-festival run following its successful Polka premiere in Jan '22 and a European Tour. Join Sofia and her mum in a race like no other where natural environments are brought to life through textures and light.



We Touch, We Play, We Dance

Wed 24 – Thu 25 Aug Ages 0-3

Ages 0-18 mths: 10.30am Ages 1-3: 2pm

Sit back and watch or join in with this engaging, fun and mesmerising dance show created by UK based award-winning company **Second Hand Dance**.



Club Origami

Fri 26 – Sat 27 Aug Ages 0-5

Enter a land made of paper and play with pioneering new dance experience **Club Origami** created by UK based artist **Takeshi Matsumoto**. See what we can make with a single square of paper!

This inaugural festival is also part of Mapping, a Creative Europe funded programme which explores the aesthetics of performing arts for Early Years. mapping-project.eu



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union

Something special is coming to Polka this summer! Join us for an exciting programme of events, plus plenty of free activities, at Polka's first ***BIG DREAMS Early Years Theatre Festival***. Be immersed in an Irish performance in the morning and scintillated by a Swedish show in the afternoon!

BIG DREAMS is a biennial festival curated by Polka Theatre which showcases and celebrates Early Years Theatre by leading UK and International companies. With inspiring shows for children, and fascinating talks and workshops for adults, this festival celebrates early years theatre for everyone.



Rothar

A Mapping
co-production

Sat 27 – Sun 28 Aug Ages 4+

In the little bike shop at the end of town, a world of adventure awaits. Irish company, **Branar**, bring a joyful non-verbal production where two boys and their bikes travel the world.



Dreamy

A Mapping
co-production

Sat 27 – Sun 28 Aug Ages 1-3

A room that transforms, it grows big and then small again. Swedish company **Teater Tre** create a dream play and invite the youngest audience and their adults to a fantasy world inspired by dreams.

Workshops & Talks

Alongside our programme of shows, we'll be hosting a selection of workshops offering professional development opportunities for artists, educationalists, students and peers. Visit our website for more information.

Tickets (per person)

Multi-show offers:	Workshops: £20
1 show £9	Workshop and any show ticket £25
2 shows £15	Two workshops for £35
3 shows £21	Talks: FREE
4 shows £26	
5 shows £30	

*A £1.50 transaction fee applies to telephone and online bookings. Multibuy offer valid across different shows only i.e. one ticket per show.

We're Going on a Bear Hunt

**Ages
3-7**

Wed 5 - Sun 16 October

Adapted by **Peter Glanville & Barb Jung**

Music and Lyrics by **Barb Jung** Directed by **Peter Glanville**

Based on the book by **Michael Rosen**

A family go on an expedition of a lifetime - running down the grassy bank, wading through the cold river, squelching over the oozy mud, stumbling into the dark forest, then peering into a cave... what will they find?

Little Angel Theatre brings **Michael Rosen's** thrilling and funny adventure to life in this entrancing puppetry production.



"You couldn't wish for a sweeter introduction to theatre."

TimeOut

We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. Illustrations from the book copyright © 1989 Helen Oxenbury. By permission of Walker Books Ltd, London.

Performances

Wed - Fri: 10.30am & 1.30pm

Sat - Sun: 11am & 2pm

Sat 15 Oct: 11am, 2pm & 3.30pm

Tickets*

Adults & Children: from £10

Concessions: from £10

Family ticket discount available

Schools

Wed - Fri from 5 - 14 Oct, from £10

Visit polkatheatre.com for a full schedule.

Main Theatre

Approx. 45 mins

Booking

Box Office: 020 8543 4888
polkatheatre.com

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to phone & online bookings



A Tangled Feet and Half Moon co-production

Half Moon

tangled
feet

BUTTERFLIES

Ages
4-8

Thu 13 - Sun 16 October

Three friends embark on an exciting adventure to chase their butterflies away. They cross new seas to uncharted lands on a journey filled with discovery. The only trouble is they're all a bit worried about it! During their voyage the group ride the waves, walk high bridges, skirt deep caves and climb to the sky, before reaching dry land braver than ever before.

Created in response to young children's experience of anxiety, **Butterflies** is an uplifting tale of friendship, courage and facing your fears, told using innovative staging, breathtaking physicality, the power of play and an original musical score.

Butterflies is a co-production between award-winning theatre ensemble **Tangled Feet** and **Half Moon**, the UK's leading small-scale theatre company creating work for young people.



**"Children's theatre that
tackles a difficult subject with
admirable ambition."**

The Stage

Performances

Thu - Fri: 11am & 2pm

Sat - Sun: 11.30am & 2.30pm

Tickets*

Adults & Children: £10

Concessions: £9

Family ticket discount available

Schools

Thu 13 – Fri 14 Oct, from £8

Visit polkatheatre.com for a full performance schedule.

Adventure Theatre

Approx. 45 mins

Access Performances

Every show is a relaxed performance



Booking

Box Office: 020 8543 4888

polkatheatre.com

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to phone
& online bookings

LITTLE MANFRED

Sat 22 - Sun 30 October

It is the summer of 1966. Charley and her little brother Alex are walking their dog Manfred on the beach when they notice two older men staring out to sea. A chance encounter brings them together. Slowly, Charley and Alex learn of their mother's past, and of the friendships that can be formed in difficult circumstances. In 1945, their farmstead home was a posting for German prisoners of war, and their mother Grace was just a little girl...

The cast for this production includes serving and veteran military personnel and their family members. With stunning puppetry and original storytelling, this is an unmissable production adapted from **Michael Morpurgo's** much-loved story.

Based on the book by
Michael Morpurgo

Adapted by **Damian Cruden**
and **Amanda Faber**

Directed by **Damian Cruden**
Puppetry by **Marc Parrett**

Performances

Tue - Sun 11am & 2.30pm

Tickets*

Adults & Children: from £10

Concessions: from £10

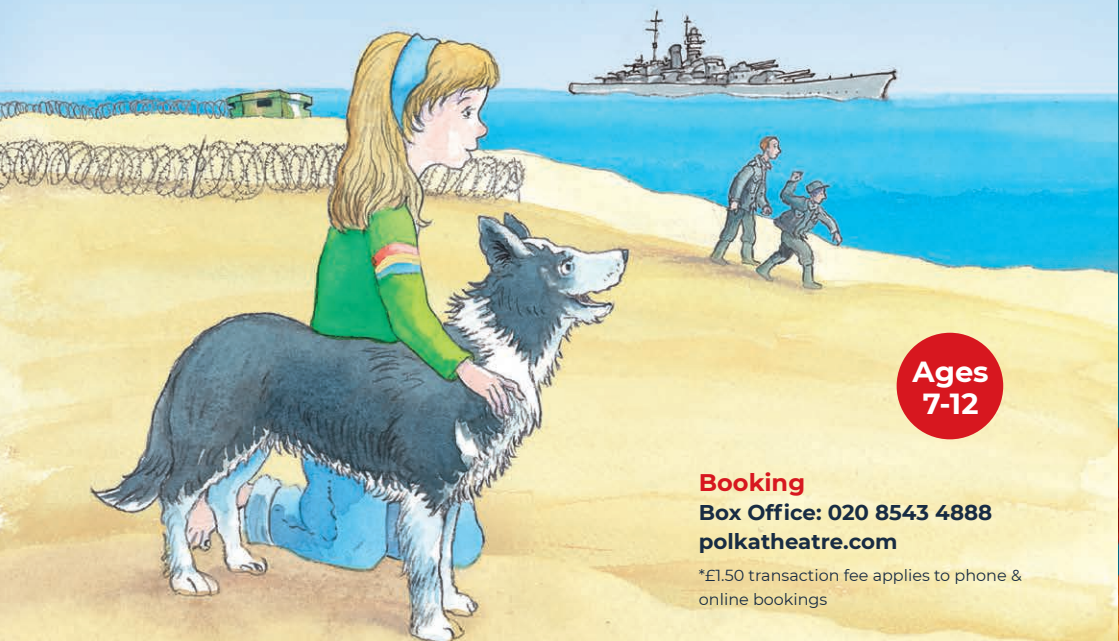
Family ticket discount available

Main Theatre

Approx. 1 hr 40 mins (including interval)

Access Performances

Relaxed: Tue 25 Oct 11am



**Ages
7-12**

Booking

Box Office: 020 8543 4888
polkatheatre.com

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to phone & online bookings

An English Touring Opera production

ENGLISH TOURING OPERA

TUTANKHAMUN'S SHOES

Ages
7-11

Wed 19 - Sun 23 Oct

English Touring Opera takes families on a new adventure to Ancient Egypt and the Roaring Twenties.

The opera will be an interactive and participatory experience where children will get to meet Tutankhamun himself, and other surprising characters along the way while learning about the ancient world, archaeology, mummification and more.

*Written by new ETO General Director, Robin Norton-Hale
and composed by Rosabella Gregory.*



Performances

Wed – Thu: 11am & 1.30pm

Fri: 1pm & 4.30pm

Sat – Sun: 11.30am & 2pm

Tickets*

Adults & Children: £12

Concessions: £9 Schools: from £9

Family ticket discount available

Adventure Theatre

Approx. 55 mins

A Garlic Theatre production

OLDILOCKS AND THE 3 BEARS

By Garlic Theatre

Ages
3-7



**Tue 25 -
Sun 30 Oct**



One winter, Oldilocks finds a teddy bear in the park and remembers a delicious bowl of porridge she tasted years ago in the woods. Something else happened but she can't quite remember what... so she sets off for the forest. Will she find the bears house and what will happen then?

A wonderfully funny and warmhearted celebration of the classic story from Garlic Theatre with lovingly crafted puppets, music and some steaming bowls of porridge.

Performances

Tue – Sun:

10.30am & 2pm

Adventure Theatre

Approx. 45 mins

Tickets*

Adults & Children: £12

Concessions: £9

Family ticket discount available

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to phone & online bookings

Created by **Xenia Aidonopoulou** and **Georgia Tegou**. Co-produced with **GREEK NATIONAL OPERA**
Alternative Stage, funded by Stavros Niarchos Foundation. Commissioned by Belfast Children's Festival,
Watford Palace Theatre and The Lowry, Salford. Supported through public funding by Arts Council of England.

underwater

A magical immersive dance theatre show,
for babies and their grown ups.

**Ages
0-2**

Wed 9 - Sun 20 November

Come with us on a magical journey into the deep blue sea in this beautiful dance theatre piece, created especially for babies aged 0-2 and their parents or carers.

A ballerina wakes from a dreamy sleep and finds herself in the ocean, a comforting world of blue lights and bubbles. As she explores her gorgeous new home, she meets an octopus – and the pair quickly form a loving friendship beneath the waves, dancing a duet to a twinkling soundtrack that features some familiar melodies.

This multi-sensory show is sure to engage and stimulate your baby's imagination – and there's plenty for adults to enjoy too!

Performances

Wed - Fri: 10am & 11.30am

Sat - Sun: 10am, 11.30am & 2.15pm

Tickets*

Adult: £9

Baby: £9

Adventure Theatre

Approx. 35 - 40 mins

Booking

Box Office: 020 8543 4888

polkatheatre.com

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to
phone & online bookings



POLKA

The Big Bash!

Sunday 4 December, 2pm - 5.30pm

A special gala party for families followed by a festive Polka show.

Choose from either: **Grandad, Me and Teddy Too** (ages 2-5)

or **Crackers** (ages 5+).

PLUS

VIP Party | Roaming Entertainment | Fun and Games
Live Music | Christmas Present Auction | Winter Picnic
Raising vital funds for Polka Theatre's work with children

Tickets* from £60 (including a £15 donation)

Book Now at polkatheatre.com / 020 8545 8368

£1.50 transaction fee applies to online and phone bookings. Polka is a registered Charity no. 256979.

Access

We are committed to making Polka accessible and inclusive to everyone

Facilities

All public and backstage areas of our venue are accessible, with step-free access to all levels and clear signage throughout.

Accessible, gender-specific and all gender toilets are available as well as baby changing facilities.

Tickets

Reduced rate tickets are available for those with access requirements plus complimentary tickets for a companion/carer.

Please contact our friendly Ticketing team for tickets and any access requirements.

Photo: Clownfish Studios

Performances

We are committed to providing Relaxed, BSL, Audio Described and Captioned performances for as many of our shows as possible. Please check our individual show pages for details on available access performances.

For more information or to discuss any access requirements, visit polkatheatre.com/access or contact us on 020 8543 4888 boxoffice@polkatheatre.com



A Polka Theatre production

**Ages
5+**

**Sat 19
November –
Sun 15 January**

Written by **Charles Way**
Directed by **Nicky Allpress**

Meet The Crackers. They're trying to get ready for Christmas Day, but it's not easy when the family pet shop is going out of business, Great Gran's expecting a visit from royalty and Napoleon the rat is on the loose.

Join us at Polka for a festive family farce like no other, written by award-winning playwright Charles Way.

Performances

Previews Sat 19 -
Sun 20 Nov
Visit polkatheatre.com
for full listings of
performances from
Wed 23 Nov- Sun 15 Jan





POLKA

Save
£10 with a
family of
4 ticket*

cker

MILY FARCE

Schools

Selected dates from
Wed 23 Nov - Thu 15 Dec
& Wed 11 Jan - Fri 13 Jan
From £9

Visit polkatheatre.com
for a full schedule.

Main Theatre

Approx. 2 hours
(including interval)

Tickets*

Adults & Children: from £10
Concessions: from £10
Previews: from £10
*Family ticket discount
available*

Groups 8+: £1.50 off per ticket
Groups 10+: £2 off per ticket

Access performances

Audio Described:

Sun 11 Dec 2.30pm

Relaxed: Sat 7 Jan 2.30pm

BSL: Sun 8 Jan 2.30pm

& Wed 11 Jan 1.45pm

(school performance)

Booking

Box Office: 020 8543 4888

polkatheatre.com

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to
phone & online bookings.

T's and C's apply

A Polka Theatre production

Granddad, Mia and Teddy Too

**Fri 2 December -
Sun 29 January**

Written and Directed by **Sarah Argent**

Join us at Polka as we transform our Adventure Theatre into a wintry world of imagination with magic carpet rides, journeys to the northern lights and a twinkly, snowy garden in a show made especially for ages 2-5.

Mia loves her Granddad very much. He lives far away, on the other side of the world, but finally, he's coming to visit and Mia's excitement is growing. When Granddad arrives he brings with him adventurous stories and games which set Mia's imagination alight - together they explore the whole world without ever leaving her playroom. Join Granddad, Mia (and Teddy Too) as they share an unforgettable adventure to wherever their imaginations take them.

A heart-warming show that celebrates the special place grandparents have in young children's lives.



“Quie

Bring your own teddy
or toy when you see the
show. Share your pictures
with us #BYOBear and
our favourite wins a
special prize!

Ages
2-5



tly brilliant"

The Guardian

Performances

Previews Fri 2 - Sat 3 Dec

Visit polkatheatre.com for full
listings of performances from
Wed 7 Dec - Sun 29 Jan

Tickets*

Adults & Children: from £14

Concessions: from £11

Previews: From £12

Family ticket discount available

Groups 8+: £1.50 off per ticket

Groups 10+: £2 off per ticket

Schools

Selected dates from

Fri 2 - Fri 16 Dec &

Wed 11 Jan - Fri 27 Jan.

From £8.

Visit polkatheatre.com for a
full schedule.

Adventure Theatre

Approx. 40 mins

Access performances

BSL: Sun 15 Jan 2pm

Relaxed: Sat 21 Jan 11.45am

Audio described: Sun 22 Jan 2pm

Booking

Box Office: 020 8543 4888
polkatheatre.com

*£1.50 transaction fee applies to
phone & online bookings



A Polka Theatre production

POLKA



**SOMETHING BIG IS COMING
TO POLKA IN 2023...**

**A new spin on the traditional tale of
Jack and the Beanstalk.**

ON SALE SOON!

PolKA Shop

Take the memories with you

A visit to Polka isn't complete until you have explored our beautiful new shop. Whether delighting in a show-related souvenir or browsing for a unique gift, there is something for everyone.

- * Pocket-money toys
 - * Cards and Gifts
 - * Books
 - * Fancy Dress and Accessories
 - * Stationery
- And much more...



A unique Café, open to all

Open Tuesday - Sunday, with both indoor and outdoor seating areas, Polka's Café is the perfect place to enjoy an ice cream in the sunshine, grab your morning coffee, or enjoy lunch in a train carriage!

- * Locally roasted coffee & babyccinos
- * Tasty treats & healthy snacks
- * Freshly made hot or cold lunches
- * Ice cream
- * Beer & wine

PolKA Café



Heroes Wanted!

Every year, Polka has to raise at least £500,000 to provide our extensive programme of shows, Creative Learning projects and free community activities for children. We are a registered charity and without donations this work simply cannot happen - we need your support.

Every gift, no matter the size, will make a positive difference to a child's life:

**£5 per month
or £60 per year**

could provide a sensory bag and creative workshop for a child who has a learning disability



**£10 per month
or £120 per year**

could help provide a free theatre trip for a group of child refugees and their families



**£500
per year**

could help provide a free creative summer school for a child on our Freefalling programme for 9-11 year olds who are at risk of social exclusion due to challenges at home or at school



Please
donate today at
Polkatheatre.com



Everyone who donates automatically joins Polka Heroes and receives priority booking to our fundraising events and insights into our work, for example invitations to work-in-progress sharings.

For more information contact: Gwen Hanauer, Individual Giving Manager, 020 8545 8368, gwen@polkatheatre.com



KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL
WIMBLEDON

With a rich tradition in drama and annual off-site productions, King's College School offers abundant opportunities for pupils to fulfil their creative potential.



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RC | Russell
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**A more thoughtful
approach to law**

Pleased to support the
Polka Theatre

russell-cooke.co.uk



TAKE PART Weekly

Baby Explorers

**Adult & baby, every Wed,
0 - 12 months**

Autumn Term: 21 Sep - 30 Nov

(no session 26 Oct)

Spring Term: 11 Jan - 22 Mar

(no session 15 Feb)

→ 9.30 - 10am → £80 per term
for adult and child

Plenty of songs and movement for you and your baby to laugh, explore and play together.

Mini Explorers

**Adult & toddler, every Wed,
1 - 2 years**

Autumn Term: 21 Sep - 30 Nov

(10 weeks - no session 26 Oct)

Spring Term: 11 Jan - 22 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 15 Feb)

→ 10.45 - 11.30am → £80 per term
for adult and child

Action-packed songs and stories, building your child's confidence, communication and social skills.

Creative Explorers

**Adult & child, every Tue or Fri,
2 - 4 years**

Autumn Term: Tue 20 Sep - Tue 29 Nov

(10 weeks - no session 25 Oct)

Autumn Term: Fri 23 Sep - Fri 2 Dec

(10 weeks - no session 28 Oct)

Spring Term: Tue 10 Jan - Tue 21 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 14 Feb)

Spring Term: Fri 13 Jan - Fri 24 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 17 Feb)

→ 10.45 - 11.30am → £80 per term
for adult and child

Using imagination to create and explore stories through drama, movement and song.

Act 1

**Child only, every Sat,
4 - 6 years**

Autumn Term: 24 Sep - 3 Dec

(10 weeks - no session 29 Oct)

Spring Term: 14 Jan - 25 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 18 Feb)

→ 9.30 - 10.15am or 10.30 - 11.15am →
£85 per term

A gentle introduction to drama, using storytelling, role-play techniques, movement and imaginative games.

Act 2

**Child only, every Sat,
7 - 9 years**

Autumn Term: 24 Sep - 3 Dec

(10 weeks - no session 29 Oct)

Spring Term: 14 Jan - 25 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 18 Feb)

→ 11.30am - 12.30pm → £95 per term

Explore acting and performance skills with improvisation and role-play, as well as discovering new characterisation and movement techniques.

Youth Theatre

**Child only, every Wed,
9 - 12 years**

Autumn Term: 21 Sep - 30 Nov

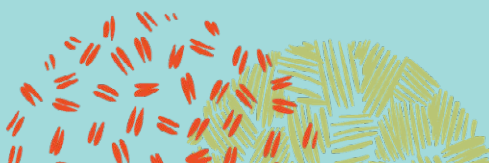
(10 weeks - no session 26 Oct)

Spring Term: 11 Jan - 22 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 15 Feb)

→ 4.30 - 6pm → £115 per term

Work with leading theatre professionals and receive expert drama training, while developing a new piece of theatre that reflects the creativity of the young people involved.



Workshops

Home Ed Drama Club

**Child only, every Tue,
4 - 8 years**

Autumn Term: 20 Sep - 29 Nov

(10 weeks - no session 25 Oct)

Spring Term: 10 Jan - 21 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 14 Feb)

→ 1 - 2pm → £75 per term

Learn new stories and styles of theatre, including improvisation, characterisation exercises, performance skills and lots more!

Home Ed Drama Club +

**Child only, every Tue,
9 - 12 years**

Autumn Term: 20 Sep - 29 Nov

(10 weeks - no session 25 Oct)

Spring Term: 10 Jan - 21 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 14 Feb)

→ 2.15 - 3.45pm → £95 per term

During these weekly sessions, children will have the opportunity to work on a variety of acting techniques in order to enhance their storytelling skills and develop new pieces of theatre to share at the end of term.



Drop-in Sessions

Hum, Jig & Jiggle

**Adult & child, every Tue,
6 months - 3 years**

Autumn Term: 20 Sep - 29 Nov

(10 weeks - no session 25 Oct)

Spring Term: 10 Jan - 21 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 14 Feb)

→ 9.30 - 10.15am → £10 per session

for adult and child

Get rocking to the beat using rhythm games, music and songs to experiment, be creative and have fun!

Rhyme & Sign

**Adult & child, every Thu,
12 months - 4 years**

Autumn Term: 22 Sep - 1 Dec

(10 weeks - no session 27 Oct)

Spring Term: 12 Jan - 23 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 16 Feb)

→ 9.30 - 10.15am → £10 per session

for adult and child

Storytelling workshops using rhymes, actions and simple British Sign Language (BSL) for you and your child to experience and enjoy.

Morning Story

**Adult & child, every Fri,
6 months - 3 years**

Autumn Term: 23 Sep - 2 Dec

(10 weeks - no session 28 Oct)

Spring Term: 13 Jan - 24 Mar

(10 weeks - no session 17 Feb)

→ 9.30 - 10.15am → £10 per session

for adult and child

Interactive and multisensory stories for you and your child to take part and enjoy through drama, songs and role-play.

TAKE PART Holiday

At Polka, we offer a wide range of creative activities and workshops during the school holidays. Whether your child is interested in drama, dance, or arts and crafts, we'll have the workshop for you. Visit our website or contact our Box Office for more information.

October Half Term Workshops

Autumn Adventures!

This Autumn, let's go down to the woods today and take part in a multisensory experience of walking in the woodlands, moving through thick mud and splashing in the river in our playful drama and movement workshop based on *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

Tue 25 Oct

Ages 0 - 12 mths → 9.30 - 10am

Ages 1 - 2 yrs → 10.45 - 11.30am

Ages 2 - 4 yrs → 2 - 2.45pm

£10 for adult and child



Grooving with Goldilocks

Led by a professional Polka musician, this music-making workshop will have your child chanting, stomping and grooving to Goldilocks' beats! Children will use a variety of objects to create their own musical instruments exploring different rhythms and chants.

Wed 26 Oct → Ages 4 - 7 yrs → 10am - 12pm
or 2 - 4pm → £20 child only

Power Poets Returns!

Led by our Spoken Word artist and theatre facilitator, this workshop is back by popular demand! Get to grips with words before mixing it up and creating new playful yet powerful poems to share in front of each other, family, and friends.

Thu 27 Oct → Ages 8 - 12 yrs → 10am - 4pm →
£45 child only

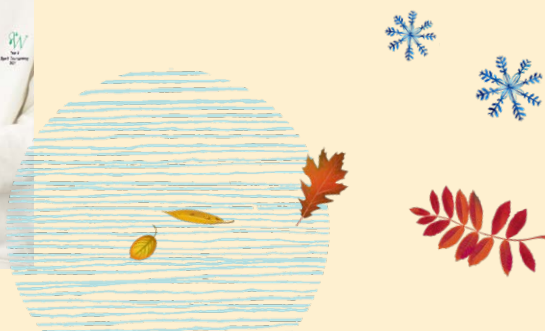
Christmas Holiday Workshops

Christmas Crackers

Join us this holiday time to decorate your own Christmas cracker in our magical, snowy sensory space! The perfect treat for you and your children to enjoy spending special time together before watching our festive farce show *Crackers*.

Fri 9, 16 & 23 Dec - 5.15pm (show at 6pm)

All ages (adult & child) £3 per person - only to be sold in conjunction with tickets to see *Crackers*.



Workshops

Teddy Bear Tales

Bring your favourite teddy to Polka and join our specialist storyteller who will take you on a drama adventure based on the production of *Grandad, Me... and Teddy Too*.

Mon 19 Dec

Ages 0 - 12 mths → 9.30 - 10.15am

Ages 1 - 2 yrs → 10.45 - 11.30am

Ages 2 - 4 yrs → 2 - 2.45pm

£10 for adult and child

Comedy Act!

Still cracking up from Polka's Christmas show *Crackers*? Then join us to learn more about what makes a cracking comedy act! This workshop looks at comedic timing, improvisation skills and physical theatre techniques used when creating and performing laugh out loud comic scenes.

Tue 20 Dec

Ages 4 - 7 yrs → 10am - 12pm (2 hours)

£20 for adult and child

Ages 8 - 12 yrs → 1 - 4pm (3 hours)

£30 for adult and child

February Half Term Workshops

Boogie on up the Beanstalk!

This drama and dance workshop explores the tale of a poor boy who discovers a magic portal through a beanstalk where everything becomes giant. Boogie on up the beanstalk with our movement director and watch our sensory studio space unfold into a giant fantastical world!

Tue 14 Feb → Ages 4 - 7 yrs → 10am - 12pm
or 2 - 4pm → £20 child only

Make-Up Magic

Come to Polka and "make up" your own theatrical character in this practical design workshop. Dab a hand in Polka's stage make-up box and try on a show costume ready for opening night!

Wed 15 Feb

Ages 8 - 12 yrs → 10am - 4pm

£45 child only

Mind, Body and Soul

To mark Children's Mental Health Week in this February half term break, these multisensory musical workshops will offer a space for you and your child to relax, unwind and let your cares melt away.

Thu 16 Feb

Ages 0 - 12 mths → 9.30 - 10am

Ages 1 - 2 yrs → 10.45 - 11.30am

Ages 2 - 4 yrs → 2 - 2.45pm

£10 for adult and child

£1.50 transaction
fee applies to
phone & online
bookings



Young & Younger Voices

Looking for Polka ambassadors...

Polka Theatre already has an established group of children aged between 8 to 12 years called Young Voices. This group was launched in 2001, and specifically set up to ensure that children contribute directly to Polka's creative processes of developing new theatre. These young people have a passion for theatre, the creative arts and want to have their voices heard!

We have now opened up a Younger Voices group for children aged between 4 to 7 years and are keen to hear from more enthusiastic potential members.

All participants will have the opportunity to take part in a range of workshops, watch our productions, share views and opinions with the creative teams and provide feedback on all areas of the theatre. They will have a say on the decisions that get made and influence how Polka runs!

All members of Young & Younger Voices groups will be invited to:

- Watch Polka productions, give feedback and write reviews
- Exclusive backstage tours of the theatre
- Attend meetings with Polka staff and Trustees
- Work alongside our artists and attend R&D sessions
- Look at how we market our plays through our website and print
- Take part in Polka holiday workshops (offers and discounts subject to availability)
- Make new friends who have the same interest in theatre
- Be a Polka ambassador!

How to apply for our Young or Younger Voices groups:

Email Heidi on heidi@polkatheatre.com for an application form or you can download one from our website, polkatheatre.com



Photo: Antonia Lenon

Saturday Club

Family fun every first Saturday of the month!

Join us for a fun creative morning for all the family to enjoy together. Take part in an exciting and varied programme of activities listed below.

Come Listen to Stories (Miva se Gli Loo) 1 Oct 2022

Celebrate Black History Month with a vibrant and active storytelling session, sharing folk tales passed down through the years.

Crackle and Craft 5 Nov 2022

Get your craft on at Polka and mark Bonfire Night another way this year by creating ornamental fireworks and crackling candle-holders to light up the night!

Jingle Bell Rock 3 Dec 2022

Join us before Christmas to jingle and rock to some funky festive tunes that all the family will enjoy!

Crackers Comedy 7 Jan 2023

Start the new year laughing and learning something new with the art of comic timing and improvisation with your family and friends.

Lunar Tales 4 Feb 2023

Honour the Year of the Rabbit in a fun, interactive storytelling and puppet-play workshop.

Explore the Natural World 4 Mar 2023

Time to get out into the great outdoors and step into spring in Polka's sensory garden! Help us plant a bulb or two while learning fun facts about nature and gardening.

Time: either 10.30 - 11.30am or 2 - 3pm
- check website for details

Cost: £5 per person, per session

Under 3s require a ticket to attend: £1

£1.50 transaction fee applies to phone & online bookings

Re:Sound

Autumn Term

Thu 22 Sep - Thu 1 Dec (10 weeks - no session 27 Oct)

Spring Term

Thu 12 Jan - Thu 23 Mar (10 weeks - no session 16 Feb)

Time: 4 - 5pm → 5+ years

Cost: £45 for the term

£30 per additional family member

£5 per session on a drop in basis

Our community choir has become a firm favourite in our programme, ideal for families looking for an after-school shared activity or for people who would like to meet new friends and develop a skill. The choir covers a range of styles and there is an opportunity to perform every term.

Everyone is welcome, there is no need to audition, no need to read music and no experience is required!

Please note that all singers under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Babies in arms and younger siblings are welcome to attend.

Re:Sound is a subsidised community choir and there are fully funded places available, to enquire please contact Fran, Community Engagement Manager on fran@polkatheatre.com

IN THE HEART OF

Wimbledon Village



A creative and progressive prep school for girls, always nurturing and proud to be non-selective at Reception.

Join us for our open morning on Saturday 1 October 2022.



The Study Prep
WIMBLEDON



Registered charity No. 271012

Information

Polka Opening Times

Tuesday - Friday:

9am - 5pm

Saturday - Sunday:

9.30am - 5pm

(excluding Bank Holidays)

We open later when we have evening shows.

Polka Theatre, 240 The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1SB



Want to book tickets?

Our Box Office at Polka is open Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm, Sat - Sun 9.30am - 5pm. Tickets are available to book online at polkatheatre.com. To book via phone, please call the Box Office on 020 8543 4888, available daily from 9am to 5pm. A £1.50 transaction fee applies to online and phone bookings.

Concessions

We offer concessions for those aged 65+, in receipt of income-based benefits and those with access requirements. Concessions are available for selected performances and subject to availability.

Group Bookings

Discounts are available for those booking more than 10 tickets for the same performance. These discounts are not available to book online, please contact the Box Office for more details.

Age Policy

We offer age recommendations for every performance. All children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult or young person aged over 16.

General T&Cs

Tickets are non-refundable once purchased. Everyone must have a valid ticket to enter the auditorium. Full Terms and Conditions are available on our website.

Access

We offer reduced rate tickets for those with access requirements, and a complimentary ticket for a companion/carer. Please get in touch with our Ticketing team to discuss any access requirements and to book tickets, on 020 8543 4888, or email boxoffice@polkatheatre.com.

Please see individual performance pages for details of access performances.



Sign up to our newsletter to be the first to hear about any offers, news or exciting announcements!



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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Registered charity no. 256979

POLKA

A unique space for the whole community

Hires

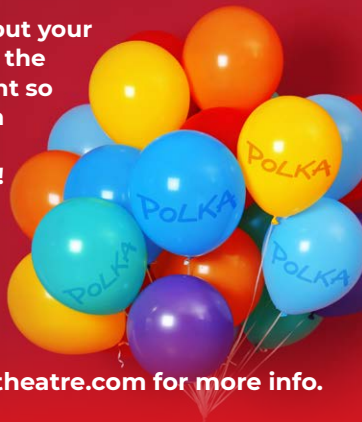
- Award Ceremonies & Presentations
- Rehearsals
- Meetings
- Clubs & Classes



Birthday Parties

Be the star of the day and make magical memories with one of our stress-free Party Packages.

Let us put your child in the spotlight so you can join in the fun!



Contact the Visitor Services team at [hires@polkatheatre.com](mailto: hires@polkatheatre.com) for more info.

Name A Seat

For your child at Polka

Use your inscription to mark a special birthday, anniversary or memory and receive:

- Your child/grandchild's name in Polka production programmes
- Your personal inscription on your chosen seat for 10 years
- Free tickets for your family and for a family in need plus much more



Join Polka Super Heroes from £1,200 per year to name your child's seat and help children from low income areas to experience a life long love of theatre. Please contact: gwen@polkatheatre.com 020 8545 8328

Polka is a registered charity no. 256979