

## Young Artist Opportunities in Meanjin

Meanjin is home to a vibrant community of artists and many of these companies and individuals are focused on creating accessible avenues for Young People to engage with the arts. Below are descriptions of just a few of these opportunities in [theatre](#), [circus](#) and [dance](#). If you have any opportunities you would like to add to this list, please email the information and direct links to [info@backbone.org.au](mailto:info@backbone.org.au).

### YOUTH ARTS

#### Backbone Youth Arts:

[Backbone Youth Arts](#) is a youth-focused arts organisation based in Seven Hills that offers a variety of programs and events for artists aged 8-30.

#### Opportunities:

- [Young Creator Workshops](#) (Ages 7-18): Saturday drama classes for Young People at the Seven Hills Hub.
- [Backbone Ensemble](#) (Ages 18-30): Weekly ensemble-training program that features skill-building workshops, a dedicated devising period, and a performance outcome at Backbone Festival 2024.
- [Backbone Festival](#) (All ages): Backbone's annual festival showcasing art, theatre, music, and more by and for Young Artists. You can engage by auditioning for featured events, performing in talent shows, or attending different workshops and events. This year's Backbone Festival will run from October 11th-26th.
- [HUB Residency](#) (Ages 18 - 30): Backbone's live performance artists-in-residence program. Offers artists 100 hours of free studio space and a performance outcome at Backbone Festival.
- [On Display](#) (Ages 18 - 30): Backbone's visual artists-in-residence/ exhibition program. Offers artists access to a public glass display cabinet for 4 months to experiment with process and display their work.
- [Tech Bootcamp](#) (Ages 18 - 30): In 2024, Backbone will offer 4x paid, technician internships. After a crash course in theatre tech 101 - with mentorship and masterclasses from Steven May - participants will use their new skills to run and manage the technical aspects of Backbone Festival 2024.



# YOUTH WEEK

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## Visible Ink

[Visible Ink](#) is a Brisbane City Council youth centre in Fortitude Valley specifically for young people ages 12-25 that offers free space and resources.

Opportunities:

- [Free Rehearsal Space](#): Multiple spaces available for free hire.
- [Free Printing](#)
- [Free Computer Use](#)
- [Free Media Studio](#)
- [Zine Library](#)
- [Access to art room, tools and materials](#)
- [Equipment Hire](#)
- [Advice/mentorship](#)

## Digi Youth Arts

[Digi Youth Arts](#) is a not-for-profit arts organisation that shares the stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.

- [Internships](#): Digi offers arts internship opportunities for Young First Nations Artists who are interested in production, tech, or general business planning.
- [DYA X Butery Scholarship Program](#): Digi Youth Arts and The Buttery Music School have teamed up to provide free music lessons to First Nations Youth based in Meanjin via our new Buttery X Digi Youth Arts Music Scholarship Program. They are providing 10 weeks of weekly music lessons to two young legends in Term Two, 2024. All lessons will take place at The Buttery Music School, 217 MacArthur Avenue, Hamilton.
- [Residency Program](#): **6x** Residency opportunities for First Nations youth artists.
- This residency program will provide funding support, 1 week of space to create, and mentorship to successful applicants.



## THEATRE:

### Queensland Theatre:

[Queensland Theatre](#) is Queensland's state theatre company based in South Brisbane.

#### Opportunities:

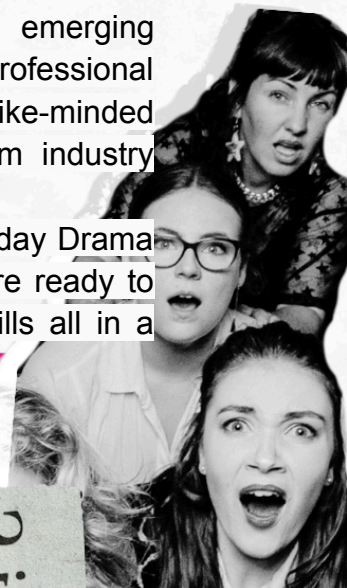
- [Young Artist Ensembles](#): Weekly, term-based ensembles for students from Years 7 - 12 to train with the country's finest theatre professionals, attend Company productions and meet artists from the 2024 Brisbane Season, and engage in a variety of performance opportunities.
- [Theatre Residency Week](#): An intensive theatre camp for students in Years 9–12. It is the longest-running theatre program of its kind in Australia and over the past five decades, young actors from all over the country have attended the camp and participated in workshops, masterclasses, and other performance activities.
- [Young Writers Ensemble \(Ages 15 - 19\)](#): An intensive year-long program for aspiring playwrights aged 15 - 19 years, this program provides an opportunity for writers to develop their craft by participating in a series of workshops, facilitated by award-winning playwright and Associate Artist, Steve Pirie.
- [Young Playwrights Award](#): Each year, high school-aged writers (Years 9–12) are encouraged to submit an original play, which is read by a panel of industry professionals. The 2024 prize winner will receive dramaturgical sessions to further develop their script, leading to a professional, public play reading later in the year. The winner will also receive an all-expenses paid trip to Theatre Residency Week in Brisbane during the September school holidays (valued up to \$1500).

### La Boite Theatre

[La Boite](#) is one of Meanjin's MainStage theatre companies based in Kelvin Grove.

#### Opportunities:

- [Assembly \(Ages 18+\)](#): La Boite Assembly is a skills development and showcase program conducted across 10 weeks designed for twenty-seven emerging actors, writers and directors aged 18+ and in their first five years of professional practice. Throughout the program, participants will collaborate with like-minded peers, create and develop a new 10-minute work, and learn from industry professionals through masterclasses and creative workshops.
- [School Holiday Drama Program \(Ages 12-18\)](#): La Boite's School Holiday Drama Program is designed for school students, aged 12-18 years who are ready to make the most of their holidays and boost professional drama skills all in a comprehensive 3-day program!



- [Artist Masterclasses](#): Four sensational artist-focused sessions across the year. These 2-hour sessions will speak about key aspects of artistic life, and practice and will be led by industry professionals sharing their advice and techniques, each culminating in a facilitated Q&A session! An excellent opportunity for artists to peek behind the scenes and audit creative practice.

## PlayLab Theatre

[PlayLab](#) is a theatre and publishing company based in Brisbane City.

*Opportunities:*

- [Incubator](#): Through workshops, mentoring, and a structured writing process, *Incubator* participants will be guided by award-winning playwright Kathryn Marquet through a range of activities designed to cultivate their own unique voice, develop their craft, and create an original new work. Participants will also receive detailed one-on-one dramaturgical feedback on this new work to emerge from the program with a professionally developed and beautifully crafted first draft.
- [Transmission](#): Transmission is Playlab Theatre's remote playwriting program that provides emerging playwrights from regional Queensland access to professional development opportunities. Participants will be led by award-winning playwright Kathryn Marquet through a series of online workshops over the course of six months. The workshops will cover a range of topics including structure, character, dialogue, and story-pitching skills
- [Sparks](#): Under the guidance of experienced artists, emerging First Nations playwrights will be led through a range of activities and workshops designed to spark ideas, introduce elements of craft, and provide strategies for activating brand-new script ideas. During the process, First Nations industry practitioners will provide professional and artistic insights to help stimulate the conceptualising and development of a new work. *Sparks* will burn brightly to its conclusion with a public reading of an extract from each of the developing new works, featuring professional actors and directors.
- [Script Assessments](#): PlayLab Theatre offers script assessments for various fees, depending on the depth of feedback requested. They offer a snapshot assessment, full assessment and process assessment.



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## Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre

[Zen Zen Zo](#) is a physical theatre company based in Fortitude Valley.

### Opportunities:

- [Actor's Dojo](#) (Ages 16+): Zen Zen Zo's weekly physical theatre training classes. The classes operate on a term basis and focus on the Suzuki Method of Actor Training, The Viewpoints, Butoh, and Composition.
- [Stomping Ground](#) (Ages 16+): A two-week physical theatre intensive/summer school at the beginning of each year. The program focuses on the Suzuki Method of Actor Training, The Viewpoints, Butoh, and goal-setting. There is an additional Stomping Ground Devising Masterclass.
- [Creative Entrepreneur Internship](#): 5-month training program mentored by Dr. Lynne Bradley (founding Director), Gina Tay Limpus (Associate Director), and Nicole Reilly (First Nations Producer), with guest sessions by industry professionals, the Interns undertake a series of intensive training units in acting & physical theatre, fitness training, directing, producing, auditioning, marketing, grant writing, administration, finance, sports psychology, devising & creating of an end-of-year show.



## CIRCUS:

### Flipside Circus

[Flipside Circus](#) is a circus company based in Hamilton.

#### Opportunities:

- [Circus Classes](#): Flipside offers a wide variety of classes for different age ranges and ability levels.
- [Holiday Workshops](#): Classes and workshops are available in school holidays.

### Circa

[Circa](#) is an Australian contemporary circus company based in Brisbane. They offer opportunities to young people through their [Circa Academy](#) program.

#### Opportunities:

- [Classes](#): Circa Academy offers exceptional training programs with one of the world's leading circus companies. Spanning from early childhood play to pre-professional development, our programs build physical and creative skills in a safe, non-competitive environment with some of [Australia's best trainers](#)
- [Holiday Program](#): A series of circus workshops, classes and open training sessions available each school holiday.
- [Aerial Nights](#) (Ages 16+): Courses from beginner to advanced across silks, trapeze, straps and lyra.
- [Youth Circus](#) (Ages 4 - 18): Saturday Youth Circus Program that introduces Circus skills such as cartwheels, backflips, trapeze, acrobatics, mini-tramp, juggling, hula-hoops and silks. Circa Academy invites beginner to advanced participants from 4 to 18 years old to join them in a supportive, non-competitive environment.
- [Adventure Time Circus](#) (Ages 18 months - 5): Classes offer games, obstacle courses, storytelling, creativity and fun movement activities Adventure Time Circus for young people. Adventure Time Circus celebrates your child's individuality and fosters creativity, expression and acceptance. Children must attend with a participating guardian.
- [Performance Program](#) (Ages 10 - 21): Circa's Performance program offers three sessions a week, where you will learn acrobatics, aerial skills and performance techniques. You will have the opportunity to create and present performances in Brisbane and beyond. To enrol in the Performance program, you must have an intermediate level of foundational strength, body awareness, and tumbling ability or transferable skills from dance or other sports.
- [Circability](#) (Ages 14+): Circability is a program specially designed by and for those who identify as living with disability. It caters to most levels of physical and intellectual capacity. With low class numbers, specialised trainers and tailored



programs, it is a great way to learn new skills, get fit, and make new friends. Sessions include ground acrobatics, circus-based improvisation and performance making, object manipulation with hoops, balls, scarves, and much more.

## Vulcana Circus

[Vulcana Circus](#) is a female, trans, and non-binary focused/led circus company based in Morningside.

### Opportunities:

- [Circus Classes](#) (Ages 5-17): You be guided by Vulcana's expert coaches with multiple years of experience in youth development through things like acrobatics, juggling, hula hoops, circus aerials, performance games and more.
- [Term Holiday Program](#): Holiday classes/workshops for children and adults of various ages and focuses.
- [One on One coaching](#): Private lessons with Vulcana artists.
- [Youth Performance Troupe](#) (Ages 9 - 17): The Vulcana Youth Performance Troupe is open to children aged 9-17 years old who want to take their skills and use them to make a show. Under the guidance of Vulcana coaches our youth troupe members learn performance skills and how to work with an ensemble. The youth troupe put their skills into practice with public performances throughout the year.



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## DANCE:

### Australasian Dance Collective

[Australasian Dance Collective](#) is one of Australia's leading contemporary dance companies based in Fortitude Valley.

#### Opportunities:

- [Masterclasses](#): An opportunity to learn from the world's best choreographers, as they generously share insight into their practice, processes and inspiration. ADC offers free company classes for artists in training, as well as heavily subsidised masterclasses with ADC's season creatives.
- [ADC Intensive](#): A five-day deep dive into exploring practice, examining process and engaging in robust conversation about being collectively creative with ADC artistic team, company artists and guest collaborators.
- [ADC Youth Ensemble \(Ages 14-19\)](#): ADC's audition-entry youth ensemble program led by Youth Ensemble Director, Riannon McLean and guest artists. The program runs over three terms, developed alongside the ADC company calendar, and features two performance seasons.

### Phluxus2 Dance Collective

[Phluxus2 Dance Collective](#) is a contemporary dance company who create innovation driven contemporary work for performance, touring and events activation.

#### Opportunities:

- **IndepenDANCE**: The indepenDANCE Project is Brisbane's leading creative development platform for independent dancers and choreographers. Since 2014 indepenDANCE has welcomed dance artists from Queensland and beyond into empty studios with the challenge to fill them with play, discovery and creative cultivation.

### Studio1

[Studio1](#) is a choreographic hub for Artists to gather, make, create, and collaborate. A micro arts precinct, it supports the day-to-day practice and ongoing development of Independent Dance and Physical Theatre in Meanjin | Brisbane.

#### Opportunities:

- [The Workroom](#): Studio 1 will offer different residencies, workshops, skills labs, and showing opportunities to champion and uplift choreographic development and research inquiry for dance and physical theatre in Brisbane and beyond. Their 2024 program is yet to be announced but be sure to follow their social media and website for updates on events and programs.

