

# TARA X THEATRE



## RECRUITMENT OF GENERAL MANAGER

JANUARY 2026

# WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in the role of General Manager at Tara Theatre. We are proud to be the oldest global majority led theatre company in the UK. As we approach our 50th year, in 2027, Tara Theatre remains true to its activist roots delivering work of excellence that creates a more equitable cultural landscape for historically underrepresented audiences and artists.

As our General Manager, you may have a background in the arts and culture sector, however we are open to a range of skillsets gained from working in business or charity environments and encourage applications from individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds and lived experiences.

In February 2024, Natasha Kathi-Chandra was appointed as Artistic Director. Read about her appointment [here](#).

*"My journey from Associate to Artistic Director reinforces the significance and importance this organisation has in terms of the ecology of our sector for many artists who identify like me.*

*For me, it is not just about the work we programme but it is also about how we are pioneering the development and expansion of South Asian and global majority talent both on and off stage in a local, national and international capacity.*

*My inaugural season in 2025 is exciting and dynamic filled with new writers and artists showcasing the versatility and vigour of South Asian stories and talent."*

In August 2025, Alys Beider was appointed as Executive Director and Co-CEO, joining Natasha to lead Tara forward into it's next exciting era, including a celebration Tara's 50th anniversary in 2027. Read about her appointment [here](#).

*"I am thrilled to be welcoming Alys to Tara Theatre as Executive Director and Joint Chief Executive.*

*Alys excelled throughout the rigorous recruitment process and joins Tara at an exciting and pivotal chapter leading the organisation alongside Natasha Kathi-Chandra as Artistic Director and Joint CEO. I know Alys will lead the organisation with passion, dedication and empathy, as we move towards our 50th anniversary in 2027 ensuring our commitment to deliver artistic excellence at a hyper local, national and international level."* **Sunita Pandya Malik, Chair of the Board**

The team and Board are committed to sustaining the vision and upholding the values of Tara Theatre - to a programme of artistic excellence, to creating high quality, inclusive engagement opportunities, to developing and nurturing artists and to growing the canon of contemporary South Asian theatre. We have a footprint in London, but seek to deliver a blueprint around diversity for the sector.

We are looking for an experienced operations professional to join us as a key member of our management team; we actively encourage applicants from underrepresented backgrounds in theatre.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Alys Beider**  
Executive Director and  
Joint CEO



**Natasha Kathi-Chandra**  
Artistic Director and  
Joint CEO





# RECENT PROJECTS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**“Blunt and  
thought provoking...  
fearlessly makes  
a statement”**

**West End Best Friend** on a practical guide on how  
to save the world when no one f\*\*\*ing else is

A practical guide on how to save the world when no one f\*\*\*ing else is. Photo Credit: Adam Razvi

**“Knotty and  
crackles  
with conflict”**

The Guardian  
on *Permission*



# ABOUT TARA THEATRE

Tara Theatre is the only UK theatre with a mission to produce an artistic programme of excellence amplifying the voices, stories and talents of South Asian communities, the UK's largest minority group. We create innovative, politically charged theatre harnessing the power of co-creation. We explore the complexities of our world through a South Asian lens, identifying new narratives, new ideas and new forms, building a more equal, accessible representative world. Tara Theatre has a local footprint and a national blueprint with a global reach.

Our home is in the diverse and vibrant borough of Wandsworth, which has one of the largest wealth gaps in the UK. As the only arts venue in South Wandsworth Tara Theatre provides high quality creative opportunities and experiences for our community, as well as South Asian diaspora communities across London and the UK.

Our work and creative practice centres on creating conversations and dialogue with communities and artists through national residencies, community and audience engagement programmes, a national South Asian artist development programme, mid-scale national touring, international touring and artist exchanges.

We create work collaboratively with community organisations, schools, and national and international co-producing partners. We have a strong commissioning strand and have commissioned more than 50 writers over the past three years.

The new Tara Theatre was opened in 2016 and has won a number of prestigious awards for its design and architecture as well as the Stage Sustainability Award for its green credentials. We are located just 10 minutes from Waterloo directly opposite Earlsfield station. The Foyer Bar and Garden lead into our main performance space. The 100-seat theatre is fully equipped with outstanding technical facilities, has 6m high walls of exposed London brick and a dust free earth floor. Our studio space has an audience capacity of 30 and is a fully equipped performance space. The top two floors house light and airy office spaces.

We are an Arts Council England National Portfolio organisation with a grant of £422,000 each year for the current funding period of 2023-2027. Since 2021 we have secured over £1 million in fundraised income and expect a turnover of £950,000 in 2025/26.

Tara Theatre (Tara Arts Group) is a company limited by guarantee (02059664) and a registered charity (295547). As a charity it is governed by a board of trustees.

Tara Arts Group Ltd has two trading subsidiaries: Tara Productions Ltd and Tara Enterprises Ltd. All profits from both subsidiaries revert to the parent charity.

Tara Theatre is a member of UK Theatre.

Tara Theatre is supported using public funding by Arts Council England, Greater London Authority and Wandsworth Borough Council.



Tara Theatre, Photo Credit: Harry Elletson, 2021





# OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Tara Theatre's **vision** is a world where equity and social justice is the new normal.

Our **mission** is to be the beating creative heart of our communities, exploring the world through a South Asian lens.

We make politically charged innovative theatre which creates ripples from the hyper-local to the global.

Wherever we go we embed ourselves in local communities identifying new narratives, new ideas and new artists.

We are redefining the theatre of today, tomorrow and beyond.

Our work is driven by our **values**:

- we are a catalyst and agent for change
- we tell stories which are responsive, authentic and relevant
- we work with empathy and clarity
- we strive for excellence whilst being resourceful, collaborative and open
- we are unapologetic in reimagining, reshaping and rewriting the future



# IN 2024 WE...



Employed over  
**107**  
freelance artists and  
practitioners,  
**93%**  
from  
global majority  
backgrounds.



Commissioned  
**7**  
South Asian writers  
and ran research and  
development weeks  
for new plays and  
new adaptations for  
3 additional South  
Asian writers.



Toured Silence to Leicester  
Curve, Birmingham Rep, Home  
Manchester and Queens  
Theatre Hornchurch, reaching  
over 6000 people across the  
tour with an average of  
**33%**  
of audiences being new  
bookers to the venues.

**100% of the Silence cast** and **78% of our creative team**  
were of South Asian heritage.  
**89% of creative freelancers** who worked on the project  
were from global majority backgrounds.



Delivered 2 programmes to  
support artist development,  
NOVA and Tara Theatre  
Young Company.



Raised over £1,000,000  
in fundraised income  
since 2021.



Achieved  
Theatre of Sanctuary  
status



Nominated for the  
International Award at the  
Stage Awards 2023



Winner of the Digital  
Innovation Award at the  
UK Theatre Awards 2023

# ABOUT THE ROLE

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Job Title:       | General Manager                                     |
| Responsible to:  | Executive Director and Joint CEO                    |
| Responsible for: | Duty Managers<br>Administrator<br>Senior Technician |
| Oversees:        | Freelance Hires Manager                             |
| Contract:        | Permanent   |

## OVERVIEW OF ROLE

The General Manager is a key, senior member of Tara Theatre's team; we are looking for someone to manage day-to-day operations, hold responsibility for the building including Front of House, manage events and hires, work on HR and organisational management and support programming logistics.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### OPERATIONS

- To ensure the effective operational running of the Tara building, Front of House and Bar operation
- To manage Events and Hires for the building, ensuring income targets are met and events delivered to a high standard
- To line manage the Front of House Team and Duty Managers, taking responsibility for their development and training
- Overseeing staffing administration including rotas and timesheets, supported by the Administrator.
- Ensure policy compliance and implementation in consultation with the Senior Technician including premises licensing, access policy, health & safety, risk assessment, environment policy, first-aid and fire marshal training and evacuation procedures
- Oversee IT hardware, software and systems, including service contracts in liaison with Tara Theatre's IT support
- Work with the Senior Technician and Administrator in the general management of the building including maintaining and renewing building maintenance and office supplier contracts
- Manage the practical arrangements for Board meetings and other governance activities

### HR, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

- To manage staff recruitment, induction, development and training
- To manage staff team HR records including annual leave, TOIL, parental leave and sick leave
- To ensure that HR policies and procedures follow best practice and are communicated and followed across the organisation
- To oversee all contracts with staff and freelancers
- To support the Executive Director to maintain and review the Staff Handbook and organisational policies

- To line manage the Administrator and Senior Technician, and be responsible for their professional development plan
- Manage and maintain Tara Theatre's evaluation and monitoring systems in liaison with the Marketing Officer
- To be the point of contact between departments in the day-to-day management of productions and projects to ensure efficient operation between the theatre and administration staff
- To manage and lead client relationships for external hires of the theatre and building
- To support press nights by managing lists and invitations
- Support the Executive Director as needed to prepare budgets and manage expenditure
- To ensure contracts and invoices are processed correctly and promptly

## **OTHER DUTIES**

- Engage with and advocate for Tara Theatre's mission to be a catalyst for change within the theatre industry, increase diversity and equitable access to cultural provision, creative opportunities and careers
- Adhere to, and actively contribute to, all Tara Theatre policies, including Equality (diversity, access, and equal opportunities), Environmental and Health & Safety
- Work collaboratively, with respect, kindness and compassion in line with Tara Theatre's organisational values
- Any other duties as may be reasonably required as part of the role



# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## ESSENTIAL

- Significant experience of managing a venue or similar public facing building
- Experience of working with the technical requirements of theatre and arts buildings
- Experience managing events and hires processes and delivery
- Line management experience
- Strong administration and office management skills
- Excellent organisation and planning skills with experience of working calmly and flexibly under pressure, to prioritise and to meet deadlines
- The ability to work collaboratively and form effective partnerships internally and externally
- An enthusiastic and supportive team player
- Excellent time management skills with the ability to multitask and prioritise
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Commitment to diversity, equality and inclusivity
- Passionate about Tara Theatre's mission

## DESIRABLE

- Experience of managing HR systems
- Experience increasing hires revenue for a company
- Bar/cafe management experience
- Experience improving systems and processes

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Salary              | £36,000 per annum (0.8 FTE)   |
| Contract            | Permanent   |
| Working Hours       | 4 days per week   |
| Location            | Tara Theatre, 356 Garratt Lane, London, SW18 4ES  |
| Holiday             | 25 days per annum plus all UK public holidays   |
| Pension             | Tara Theatre offers a workplace pension plan with NEST currently with 5% employee and 3% employer contributions |
| Probationary Period | Three months  |
| Notice Period       | Three months (two weeks during probationary period)   |

# HOW TO APPLY

Please send a current CV (including details of 2 referees) and covering letter (no more than 2 pages A4) outlining how your skills and experience match the person specification. Please also complete an Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

Email your completed application to Alys Beider at **[recruitment@taratheatre.com](mailto:recruitment@taratheatre.com)**. Please state **General Manager** in the subject line.

Deadline for applications is **9 February 2026**.

First interviews will take place on Monday 16 February 2026.

Second interviews will take place on Monday 23 February 2026.

## ACCESS

If you would like to submit your application in a different format we would be happy to accommodate this. Please contact **[shahreen@taratheatre.com](mailto:shahreen@taratheatre.com)**

We actively encourage people from a variety of backgrounds with different experiences, skills and stories to join us and influence and develop our working practice. We are particularly keen to hear from candidates from Global Majority backgrounds and candidates who self-identify as disabled and neurodiverse. All candidates who self-identify as disabled who demonstrate that they meet the essential criteria will be invited for interview. Tara Theatre is committed to equality of opportunity for all staff and applications from individuals are encouraged regardless of age, caring responsibilities, disability, gender, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, and sexual orientation.

If you would like an informal, confidential conversation to discuss the role please get in touch via **[recruitment@taratheatre.com](mailto:recruitment@taratheatre.com)**

