

Press Release

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THE NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPORTS LEARNING WITH DIGITAL RESOURCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND TEACHERS

The National Theatre continues its commitment to supporting teachers and young people across the UK with at home digital resources and learning opportunities in 2021. From full length productions available to stream, a playwriting course, online activities for primary age pupils, resources exploring backstage theatre and the annual *Drama Teacher Conference* - now online - there is something for both students and teachers.

Free streaming for state schools

The ***National Theatre Collection*** is a digital library of 30 world-class productions available to schools and universities worldwide. Productions include adaptations such as *Small Island* and *Jane Eyre*, Shakespearean tragedies *Othello* and *King Lear*, American classics such as *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Young Vic) and productions especially adapted for primary schools.

National Theatre Collection is available free of charge for state schools and Further Education colleges across the UK through Bloomsbury Publishing's *Drama Online* platform and teachers can share log-in details with students to watch productions from home when remote learning. New learning resources added for this year include introductory teaching packs, lesson plans and workshop ideas and access to behind-the-scenes content such as rehearsal diaries.

Other academic institutions including libraries, universities, independent and international schools can access National Theatre Collection via a one-time payment for the full collection, or via an annual subscription in partnership with ProQuest and Bloomsbury.

Online learning for teachers

The NT's annual ***Drama Teacher Conference*** will be taking place digitally during the February half-term (15-20 February 2021) and is open to drama teachers across the UK. The conference includes webinars, panel discussions and live interactive sessions with leading creatives in the industry, including theatre directors **Katie Mitchell**, **Marianne Elliott** and **Matthew Xia**, designer **Bunny Christie** and actor **Maxine Peake**. Sessions are £5 each with bursaries available for state schools.

Additional digital resources

To discover NT Learning's range of digital resources including the *New Views* playwriting course with scripts, video collections about theatre-making, digital exhibitions, recorded talks and resource packs exploring NT productions visit www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/learning/at-home.

Alice King-Farlow, Director of Learning at the National Theatre said, "The National Theatre is determined to continue supporting teachers and students with resources and opportunities to learn about theatre-making, particularly while the majority of young people are learning from home. We are inspired by the way drama teachers have adapted to deliver the subject in new ways and hope the *National Theatre Collection* will give young people a chance to explore landmark productions while theatres remain closed. We look forward to connecting with drama teachers across the UK through

our virtual *Drama Teacher Conference* to explore new approaches to drama with some of the most exciting practitioners across the industry and continue growing a community of remarkable teachers to share skills and learnings together”.

Bank of America is the National Theatre's Partner for Learning.

The Mohn Westlake Foundation supports nationwide Learning programmes for young people.

The National Theatre Collection is supported by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), Fondation Hoffmann, Sidney E. Frank Foundation, The Attwood Education Foundation, The Candide Trust, The Cranshaw Corporation for Mrs. Robert I. MacDonald, Graham and Joanna Barker, The Borrows Charitable Trust, Barbara G. Fleischman, Linda Hackett and members of the NT Collection Syndicate.

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For more information please contact Rhian Bennett on rbennett@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Images for the *National Theatre Collection* are [here](#) and *Drama Teacher Conference Feb 2020* are [here](#).

About the National Theatre

The National Theatre's mission is to make world class theatre that's entertaining, challenging and inspiring – and to make it for everyone. It aims to reach the widest possible audience and to be as inclusive, diverse and national as possible with a broad range of productions that play in London, on tour around the UK, on Broadway and across the globe. The National Theatre's extensive UK-wide learning and participation programme supports young people and schools through performance and writing programmes like Connections, New Views and Let's Play, while Public Acts creates ambitious new works of participatory theatre in sustained partnership with theatres and community organisations around the country. The National Theatre extends its reach through digital programmes including NT Live, which broadcasts some of the best of British theatre to over 2,500 venues in 65 countries, and the National Theatre Collection, which makes recordings of shows available to UK schools and the global education sector. The National Theatre invests in the future of theatre by developing talent, creating bold new work and building audiences, partnering with a range of UK theatres and theatre companies.