

Mind Out Theatre – Second Nature

Writer Call Out

Audio version of Second Nature Writer Call Out:

<https://on.soundcloud.com/xhXubmgYX12EEBO7hH>

KEY INFORMATION AT A GLANCE:

- Total fee: £1,500.00
- Type of engagement: Temporary freelance – you will be responsible for your own national insurance contributions and tax.
- Working hours: Flexibly agreed based on mutual availability.
- We have a modest budget for access requirements and will endeavour to use this to remove any barriers that applicants may experience when applying, and to enable the appointed writer to carry out their role to the best of their ability. If you would like to discuss your access requirements, please email Simrun at mindouttheatre@gmail.com

KEY RECRUITMENT DATES:

- **Midnight, Tuesday 9th September:** Deadline to apply
- **Wednesday 10th September:** All Writers notified if shortlisted
- **Thursday 11th September 6-7 pm:** Shortlisted Writers to attend an informal workshop interview with young people at The Broadway Cinema, Nottingham
- **26th September:** Writer appointed. Appointment will be subject to references.

PROJECT OVERVIEW & JOB DESCRIPTION:

We are looking for a writer to collaborate with our Second Nature Focus Group of young people (between the ages of 14-18 years old) to deliver their vision for the story of Second Nature - an online Choose Your Own Adventure experience.

- The writer will be engaged to write an 11-minute extract that includes questions for the online audience to engage with, in the 'Choose Your Own Adventure' format.
- It will be an online digital theatre piece. The 11-minute script will be filmed and directed by Evie Osbon. These pre-recorded scenes will be hosted online and programmed by Joe Strickland into a series of web pages, with different pre-recorded videos being shown based on the different routes that the audience member chooses to take.
- Summary of the story so far: *In this dystopian world, when people die, some are selected to join 'The Forest' both virtually (their voice & mind) and physically (their DNA is distilled into seedlings), creating a living archive of the deceased. Set against a backdrop of government-enforced rewilding in a rural, working-class town, our protagonist, grieving her late Mother, is forced to make life-altering decisions. Supported by the audience—our “survivors”— she is faced with questions of immortality, eugenics, and what limits you can be pushed to in the wake of grief and loss.*

DRAFT TIMELINE:

We will be flexible with the availability of the Writer, finding suitable times for all!

- Throughout Oct - Nov 2025, the writer will get feedback from the young people via either online or in-person meetings.
- Writer's deadline: Dec 2025/Jan 2026 (to be agreed)
- In Dec 2025/Jan 2026, we will have design workshops for young people to shadow and gain work experience in the creation of sets, costumes and props needed for filming.
- This will be followed by filming the 11-minute extract in Dec 2025/Jan 2026, with young person shadowing opportunities available.
- We will share the 'Choose Your Own Adventure' extract online in partnership with The Broadway Cinema in Jan/Feb 2026 - there is flexibility here too.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Due to the nature of the play, we actively encourage applicants who have experience of digital theatre and/or working with or a passion for climate change. As digital theatre is a fairly new medium, if you have not got direct experience of writing for this form, we don't want this to deter you from applying, as we have an experienced team to support you with this medium. These include: Joe Strickland, Nathan Penlington and Paula Varjack.

In the development of Second Nature to this point, we have run workshops with groups including Unanima and Saplings from Bulwell Forest Gardens - these groups have brought an array of lived experiences from across Nottinghamshire to the making of Second

Nature. To honour their involvement and ideas, we are particularly keen to hear from working-class and Disabled writers who are based in Nottingham/Nottinghamshire.

We are a Queer and neurodivergent led company. Due to systemic barriers that the Theatre industry perpetuates, we are particularly keen to hear from Queer Artists from the Global Majority, Queer Disabled Artists, and Queer Artists identifying as working class.

Unfortunately, we don't have the budget to support commuting, so it is important that you are happy to travel to Nottingham city centre for a minimum of two short sessions. We have the option to work online with the young people's Focus group throughout the writing and feedback process, but the Midlands lived experience, particularly knowing Nottinghamshire, is important to the story.

WHO ARE MIND OUT?

Mind Out Theatre, a vibrant theatre company set up in 2017, champions new writing and innovative storytelling. We believe in the power of theatre and its ability to empower voices and communities. For information about our aims and previous Mind Out shows, please visit: **www.mindouttheatre.com**

On our home page, you can find a video that goes into more detail about who we are and what we do, or you can click the image below:



Our Second Nature team is comprised of experienced creatives who are diverse in gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability and age. For more insight into our values and ways of

working, please see our [Way of Working](#) document. This can also be found in the Policies link at the bottom of our webpage.

HOW TO APPLY?

To be considered for this role, please send:

- A CV detailing your experience, past work and skills,
- A covering letter **no longer than 1 side of A4** detailing what experience you have relevant to this position and why you would like to be involved,
- Confirmation of availability for the interview on 11th September and the draft timeline,
- And finally, please complete our equality and diversity monitoring form:

<https://forms.gle/xSLirmnhKaiRqRZu9>

We are happy to receive your application in the format that you feel most comfortable with, including a video or audio version no longer than 3 minutes.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: MIDNIGHT, TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Please send your application to **Simrun at mindouttheatre@gmail.com** with the Subject Title: **Second Nature Writer**

Feel free to email Simrun if you have any questions or if you have any other access needs in relation to applying for this role.

PERSON SPECIFICATION:

Essential	Desirable
● Established experience in devising &/or R&D processes. ● Experience working with young people from a range of backgrounds. ● Experience and proven ability in teamwork. ● Excellent communication skills (including face-to-face and online). ● Strong understanding of spoken and written English. ● Take a creative approach to problem-solving. ● Able to prioritise work, especially when under pressure, and when working within a large group. ● Ability to work weekday evenings and/or weekends for 1-2 hr online or in-person meeting with the young people's Focus Group ● An understanding of Safeguarding principles when working with children and young people. ● Commutable distance to Nottingham city centre	● See the 'Who are we looking for?' section of this document. ● We actively encourage applicants who have experience of climate change impacts, collaborating with young people on storytelling projects, and/or digital, immersive gaming theatre. ● A current Enhanced DBS check, or are happy for us to support you to apply for one (cost covered by the project)