



LEEDS PLAY HOUSE

BRASSED OFF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

PAID OPPORTUNITY

If you require this Recruitment Pack in a different format, please contact the HR & Learning team on 0113 213 7280 or recruitment@leedsplayhouse.org.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





QUARRY THEATRE
850 CAPACITY



BRAMALL ROCK VOID
100 CAPACITY



COURTYARD THEATRE
420 CAPACITY

QUICK FACTS

3 THEATRES

5 MAIN REHEARSAL & STUDIO SPACES

£195,000

AUDIENCE PER YEAR

OVER 19,500 PEOPLE

CONNECTED THROUGH PLAYHOUSE CONNECT

10M

TURNOVER



- Restaurant and café
- Two bars
- Conferencing and events
- Public gallery space
- Dedicated space for young people

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WHO WE ARE

Leeds Playhouse has been one of the UK's leading producing theatres for 55 years. We are an award-winning cultural hub, a place where people come together to share stories, spark creativity and experience world-class theatre in the heart of Yorkshire.

At the heart of our purpose is a belief in the transformative power of theatre. We are driven by a social mission – to create work that speaks directly to the people of Leeds, reflects their lives, and opens up new possibilities for everyone who calls this city home. Our productions, projects and partnerships are rooted in the belief that culture should be accessible to all, and that theatre can be a catalyst for change.

The Playhouse has a proud history of inclusive practice, community connection and civic responsibility. We work closely with people across our region to ensure our work is representative, relevant and resonant. Our commitment to inclusivity is embedded in everything we do, from our artistic programme to our participation work and building design.

This warm, open approach has been recognised nationally. In 2022, **Leeds Playhouse** was named **Most Welcoming Theatre** at the **UK Theatre Awards**, a testament to our commitment to creating an accessible, inclusive and creative space at the heart of the Leeds City Region. Our productions continue to receive national acclaim, In 2025, our production of *Animal Farm* won the **UK Theatre Award** for **Best Revival** and a range of our productions were nominated for **Olivier, Black British Theatre, Asian Media** and **What's On Stage Awards**. For three consecutive years, Playhouse performers have won **Best Performer in a Musical**, and in 2024 our production of *Oliver!* was named **Best Musical**.

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ADAPTED BY **PAUL ALLEN**
BASED ON
THE SCREENPLAY BY **MARK HERMAN**

BRASSED OFF



THE ROLE

We are looking for an Assistant Director for our upcoming production of *Brassed Off*, adapted by **Paul Allen** from the film by **Mark Herman**, and directed by **Amy Leach**.

ABOUT BRASSED OFF

Thirty years after the much-loved British film first struck a chord with audiences, Leeds Playhouse brings *Brassed Off* back to the stage. The heartening story of a community standing on the brink – where music becomes a defiant act of hope.

In the heart of Yorkshire, the mining community of Grimley is under threat. The colliery faces closure, jobs are at stake, and with them the identity of a town and its people. At its heart is Danny, leading a band of brass playing miners who must find a way to keep their community spirit alive. Enter Gloria, flugelhorn in hand, carrying both the past and the possibility of something new. As tensions rise, relationships change, and pressure mounts, the band battles to reach the National Championships at London's Royal Albert Hall.

Featuring live music from local brass bands, this is a powerful celebration of courage, camaraderie, and the big brass spirit that refuses to be silenced.

Creative audio description will be available via headset at all performances from press night.

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DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

THE MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS ROLE ARE:

- Working in collaboration with the Director and Creative Team to realise the artistic aims of the production.
- Attending, supporting and participating in production meetings and creative team meetings, rehearsals, technical rehearsals and preview performances.
- Completing pre-production research and preparation.
- Supporting the Director with the creative delivery of the production through until Press Night.
- Running rehearsals and warmups when required.
- Working with the Director and Stage Management team to create rehearsal schedules.
- Contributing to keeping the cast and creative team moving forwards positively, embracing changes and working collaboratively and inclusively.
- Overseeing understudy/cover rehearsals and ensuring that the understudies/covers are ready to perform to a professional standard throughout the run of the production.
- Working with and supporting the young people from the Playhouse Youth Theatre who will play the child characters in show.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Leeds Playhouse is keen to welcome applications from artists who are from communities consistently under-represented in UK theatre. This may be because of barriers arising from ethnicity, sexuality, gender, having caring responsibilities, and being deaf and/or disabled. Given the subject matter of *Brassed Off*, we are particularly keen to hear from artists who identify as working class or are from a low socio-economic background.

EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

ESSENTIAL

DESIRABLE

Early career/established director: experience working on a professional production (can be of any scale as a director, associate director, assistant director or similar)

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Knowledge of production process and practices

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Experience of working creatively with young people

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Understanding of Brass Bands

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Knowledge of and interest in Mining Communities and History

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PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Team player who enjoys collaborative working

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High level of organisation and attention to detail

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Demonstrable alignment with core culture and values of Leeds Playhouse <https://www.leedsplayhouse.org.uk/about-us/>

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Enthusiasm for theatre and the arts

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Someone who is excited by the creative process and interested in working with people of different experiences

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DATES AND TIME COMMITMENT

The Assistant Director will be required on a full-time basis throughout the rehearsal process, technical rehearsals and previews up to and including Press Night. They will also undertake a half-day preparation session with Amy Leach before rehearsals begin.

Rehearsals: Thu 14 May – Tue 9 June 2026

Technical Rehearsals Commence: Wed 10 June 2026

First Preview Performance: Thu 18 June 2026

Press Night Performance: Tue 23 June 2026



TERMS SUMMARY

WHAT'S THE DEAL?

- You will receive a fee of £4000 plus up to £200 towards your travel expenses.
- You will be contracted as self-employed and be responsible for paying your own tax and National Insurance contributions.
- In keeping with the aims of our Furnace programme to support local artists, we strongly encourage applications from those based in West Yorkshire and/or the Leeds City region. For more information about Furnace, visit: <https://www.leedsplayhouse.org.uk/for-artists/personal-development/>

HOW TO APPLY

TO APPLY FOR THIS ROLE, PLEASE SEND US THE FOLLOWING:

- **A summary of your directing credits:**

This can be in your preferred format: CV, paragraphs or bullet points.

- **Your answers the following questions:**

1. What excites you artistically about working with **Amy Leach** on *Brassed Off*?
2. Why would this opportunity be useful for you? We want to understand how this opportunity could help you develop your career as a director.
3. Why do you think you might be the right person for this opportunity? Think about the 'Who are we looking for?' section above when answering this question.

Please either write your answers to these three questions (no more than one A4 side of writing) or make an audio or video recording (in English or BSL) lasting no longer than 3 minutes. We're interested in what you say rather than how you say it.

- **Your personal information**

- Name
- Pronouns (optional)
- Address
- Email
- Phone Number
- Current Postcode (must be within West Yorkshire).
- The names and contact details of 2 references we can contact to discuss your suitability for the role.
- Successful appointment is subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS check for the [child or child and adult] workforce. Please confirm whether you currently hold an enhanced DBS certificate and/or are subscribed to the DBS Update Service.
- Please confirm that you have the legal right to work in the UK.
- Please share any access requirements you have. Information you provide will not form part of the decision-making process.

- **Complete our inclusion and diversity form by clicking this link:**

<https://forms.office.com/e/RvvDRQG5ni?origin=IprLink>

Send your application to Naomi.Sumner@leedsplayhouse.org.uk. In the subject line put "Application for Brassed Off Assistant Director". Naomi can also help you with any questions you might have about the application process or the roles.

**The deadline for this application is
10AM on Tue 14 April 2026**

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- We will create a shortlist from everyone who has submitted an application.
- If you are shortlisted, you will hear from us by email or phone. You will be invited to an informal interview. The interviews will be held on **Mon 20 April**.
- If you are not shortlisted, we will let you know soon after the application deadline.
- After the interviews we will let all candidates know whether they have been successful or not.

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

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Page 2: *Oliver!*, photography by Robling Pix

Page 6: *Small Island* photography by Pamela Raith

Page 12: *The Lives We Carry* at Furnace Festival, photography by Steffi Njoya



THANK YOU

FIND US AT

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