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For Immediate Release

With Flying Colours Pop-Up Performances

Theatre Royal Plymouth are excited to share that Plymouth Cultural Education Partnership's *With Flying Colours*, which TRP are thrilled to be part of, are launching a series of pop-up performances across 10 schools they are currently working with (primary, secondary and SEN schools).

Taking place in the weeks commencing 05 and 12 July, these pop-ups will be delivered by professional artists Stiltskin, Down Stage Write, The Barbican, and Exim Dance and Taiko Journeys (in collaboration). The artists will perform a 10-15 minute piece followed by a 45-minute skills-based workshop, with a total of 24 performances taking place in total across the schools.

Jess Blackledge, *With Flying Colours* Creative Producer said: "*With Flying Colours uses Co-Creation as its methodology to work with children and young people, which enables them to have a real sense of ownership and agency over the piece of work, and see their own words, ideas and experiences being brought to life.*"

"Many of these young people have never seen a piece of live theatre before, so these Pop-Up Performances and workshops are a way to bring the theatre to their very own school playground, giving them a chance to be inspired by the arts and fire up their creative sides. We hope this will be an exciting end-of-a-difficult-year celebration and get everyone inspired to start creating, in a time when we need creativity and the arts more than ever."

The professional artists have been commissioned to create a performance based on ideas collected from young people in some "inspiration sessions", which were part of the overall project outcome of "Co-Creation", making theatre *with* young people. The artistic companies went into the schools over the past couple of months to work with groups of young people to gather their ideas and inspiration using various themes such as community, friendship & freedom and how they see the future of the world. These



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inspiration sessions used different activities and workshop techniques of movement and dance, response to music, language, and developing characters and storylines, which the companies took and went away to develop their 10-15 minute pieces of theatre or performance which will be the “Pop-Up” they deliver in the school playgrounds.

The skills-based workshops will take a variety of forms, developed by each of the professional artists. Within these there will be a chance for the young people to; explore their own writing and learn how to turn their words into performances, experience playing the Taiko Drums and creating musical dance scores alongside generating creative dance movement, learn how to create characters and improvise some short scenes, be introduced to playwriting through games and exercises, and create characters, make puppets and learn how to use them alongside performers and professional puppeteers.

Down Stage Write said : *“To make this piece we've worked in schools to workshop ideas for the play written by playwright Kate Ellis including characters and story and now we get to take the finished piece back to them so they can see how their ideas have helped make a fun and engaging piece of professional theatre.”*

Stiltskin said: *“We're really looking forward to bringing live theatre to the schools. We have a whole host of puppets waiting to meet the children and inspire their imaginations.”*

ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on mediaandcommunications@theatreroyal.com / 01752 230439

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West’s principal centre for performing arts.



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Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.



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