



Charity number 1177033

## Youth Volunteer & Training Outline 2024

The Basement Door (TBD) unlocks potential and provides learning opportunities for young people aged 12-22 to explore and embrace their creativity and personal development through grassroots music.

At TBD, we provide training for young people as backstage crew in lighting, on the sound desk and front of house and to young musicians, giving them a chance to perform on stage and hone their craft.

This year we have extended our training and work experience opportunities to include other areas such as filmmaking & photography.

Together we put on amazing gig nights showcasing incredible young talent both on and off the stage all in a safe, welcoming and supportive environment. For our Young Musicians and bands we put on regular acoustic and gig nights for them to showcase their talent. We also provide a wide range of training night and work experience using the AQA Unit Awards Scheme. Many have gone on to further study and achieve careers in the music industry because of the confidence and experience they gained at The Basement Door.

### Training Nights - Sound and Lighting

At our training nights young people are taught sound lighting and stage setup for those interested in a career in the theatre or music industry. We also provide front of house training as we feel interaction with the public is a soft skill worth having to build confidence, secure future employment and provide a professional entrance for our guests.

A typical training night will begin with a basic overview of a sound or lighting desk. To ensure our Volunteers have a wide range of experience and understanding of lighting and sound we use three types of desks:



The Allen & Heath Qu-24 digital mixer combines 30 inputs and 24 outputs, the Qu-24 has a fader per mono input channel and fewer fader layers for simpler, quicker workflow. Every mic input has its own fader for fast, easy control. The True Colour Touchscreen and its dedicated rotary encoder provide super-fast access to all settings and parameters.



The Yamaha analogue is a 16 channel mixer with 10 D-Pre Mic inputs for super-quiet operation. Also on the MG16XU are a bank of Yamaha SPX effects to further enhance your sound with no need to add in additional processors, and USB connectivity with included Cubase AI recording software.



The Soundcraft Ui24R is a digital mixing and multi-track recording system. It can be controlled by up to 10 devices via Ethernet or built-in dual-band Wi-Fi, making it possible to control mixing and multi-track recording wirelessly from anywhere in the venue.

Our lighting training is varied, sometimes using a desk to create an atmosphere or providing specific lighting to areas. We use a variety of lights from par cans to beams and lasers. Lighting is one of the most powerful tools in manipulating the mood and feel of an event space. It is one of the most noticeable visual aspects of any event production and can completely transform the appearance of your event space.



## Skills Development and Opportunities

The training and experience provided by TBD has helped many young people get into college or secure work in theatre or music industries. TBD uses its link to industry professionals such as Ambersphere lighting, Marshall Amps & RMS studios to help young people gain real life experience. Once we feel confident the young person has a measured approach to sound or light they will be guided at live events until proficient to run these on their own.

In addition to our music training we also provide front of house/hospitality training including barista, POS system training. This has enabled our volunteers to secure temporary and permanent work in the hospitality industry. We aim to be a recognised pipeline in local businesses for part time, summer or temp jobs throughout Richmond borough and beyond.

All our training is centred around the AQA unit award scheme, which certifies their competence. These certificates are issued once a year of training and practice has been completed to a good standard, and can add weight to applications to music college or work placements.

## Case Study

Lighting Technician, Seamus. In their own words:

*"From the get go I loved The Basement Door. One of the benefits of The Basement Door is to be able to meet people in the industry. I got to meet people, network and start working."*

*From not knowing very much I can now set up a PA system, operate sound consoles, operate the lighting consoles and with those skills I have been able to get a job in the industry at a lighting company. Without that experience I wouldn't have had the confidence to even apply at a place like that."*

Since joining the Basement Door, Seamus has found work at a leading lighting company and worked at events including Glastonbury in 2023".

There is no set amount of hours required to be a volunteer with us, and each young person is invited to select which events they attend and take part in, allowing training to be fitted around school, college or work. We do ask that they attend as many of the training evenings as possible but these are no more than one per month with most gigs at the weekends.

Please visit our website to learn more and sign up:

<https://www.thebasementdoor.org/youthvolunteer>

