

# REGIONAL FINAL (NORTH) 2025



# NATIONAL YOUTH MONOLOGUES

SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
LYCEUM THEATRE, CREWE

**Supported by:**



*methuen* | drama



# Welcome to the National Youth Monologues 2026

The National Youth Monologues was created to provide an accessible and ambitious platform for young performers aged 9–19, celebrating solo performance and championing the next generation of actors.

Following a successful first year, the 2026 competition saw extraordinary growth, with nearly 4,000 entries submitted from across the UK. Young performers entered across four categories — Classical, Contemporary, Screen and Devised — representing schools, colleges, youth theatres and independent training pathways from every region of the country.

The Regional Finals bring together a selection of outstanding performers recognised by our judges for the quality, creativity and individuality of their work.

Alongside the finalists performing today, we also celebrate those whose monologues were Commended or selected for the Regional Shortlist as part of this year's competition.

The National Youth Monologues is proud to work in partnership with Trafalgar Entertainment, Methuen Drama, the Federation of Drama Schools and Actor's Nest to support and develop young performers and help create accessible opportunities within the performing arts.



**Key Stage 2 & Key Stage 3**

**12.30pm**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

## Results

At the end of Act Two the prizes for both age groups will be announced.

## KEY STAGE 2

### Contemporary: Group 1

**Paige Olivia Brearley** (Churwell Primary Academy) - Flowers in the Desert

**Olivia Gibson** (Morrison's Academy) - Florence Nightingale

**Isla Gray** (Livingston Village Primary School) - Matilda

**Neve Mills-Ward** (North Cave CofE Primary) - My Mother Said I Never Should

### Contemporary: Group 2

**Sid Norton** (Kelvindale Primary School) - Cider With Rosie

**Perdie Rolfe** (Hunsley Primary) - The BFG Stage Play

**Harley Tidy** (Freddie Vokes School of Performing Arts) - Matilda

**Emily Wallbank** (The Courthouse Kids) - Wendy and Peter

### The PQA Be Yourself Award for Original Monologues

**Ela Bahceci** (PQA Rugby) - Listen up

**Leo Baker** (Davenham CofE, Northwich) - Greatest Footballer in the world, Almost

**Paige Olivia Brearley** (Churwell Primary Academy) - Friends

**Darcie Delilah Stainze** (PQA Rugby) - What Happened?

## Classical

**Celia Brass** (St George's RC Primary School, York) - A Midsummer Night's Dream

**Poppo Jones** (Ella Jones Drama @ NULS) - Macbeth

**Emily Riddell** (St Brides Primary School / NISMAT) - Romeo & Juliet

**Darcie Delilah Stainze** (Premier Studios PA & Barlows Primary School) - Macbeth

**Aaron Taylor** (Leicester Grammar Junior school / Elms Studio) - Edward II

## Screen

**Jack Cole** (Liverpool College) - Wonder

**Ruby Hall** (West Yorkshire Drama Academy) - Harry Potter

**Flora Marks** (Abbey Gate College) - Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

**Elsie McCabe** (All Stars Variety School) - Little Women

**Lyla Rolfe** (Get Your Wiggle On, Shrewsbury / Tilstock Cof E Primary School) -

The Worst Witch

# KEY STAGE 3

## Screen

**Arko Bhattacharya (HbActing) - A Few Good Men**  
**Ava Masterson (Wallace High School) - Good Will Hunting**  
**Neva Moores (Poynton High) - Barbie**  
**Amira Mwambingu (Abbey Gate College) - Stargirl**

## The PQA Be Yourself Award for Original Monologues

**Aiyalah Halfpenny-Thornley (PQA Chester) - Not What They're Looking For**  
**Beatrice Silcock (PQA Chester) - Just a Girl**  
**James Hopkins (Formby High School) - Puppet On Strings**  
**Lucas Lees (Home Educated) - What OCD Means To Me**  
**Lauren Rodgers (PQA Rugby) - What the Hell is Wrong With This World**

## Classical: Group 1

**Bo Reef Davies (King's Priory, Tynemouth) - Henry V**  
**Sonny Freeman (Kinver High School) - King John**  
**Bethan Hill (Ackworth School) - Othello**  
**Polly Sibley (Nottingham Arts Theatre Youth Group) - Romeo & Juliet**  
**Neva Moores (Haberdashers Adam's Grammar) - Hamlet**

## Classical: Group 2

**Darcey Rhodes-Finney (Ackworth School) - A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
**Beatrice Silcock (Ackworth School) - Much Ado About Nothing**  
**Holly Rose Turnbull (Stokesley School) - As You Like It**  
**Maxwell Whitelock (State of the Arts Academy) - Oedipus Rex**  
**Solomon Horta (Millington Primary School Portadown) - Edward II**  
**Natalie Lloyd (Westonbirt Senior School) - Romeo & Juliet\***

## Contemporary: Group 1

**Vida Adler (Ackworth School) - Blood Harmony**  
**Tabitha Buck (Westholme School, Blackburn) - Girls Like That**  
**William Churchill Evans (Abbey Gate College) - The Roses of Eyam**  
**Hope Day (The Mount School) - Dance Nation**  
**Erin-Mae Goodwin-Samuels (Haberdashers Adam's Grammar) - Ballet Shoes**

## Contemporary: Group 2

**Joseph Hampson (First Act Arts) - The Play that Goes Wrong**  
**Ben Hayes (Sheridians Stage School) - The Wizard of Oz**  
**Amira Mwambingu (Abbey Gate College) - The Tragedy of Nan**  
**Alfie Webster (Hummersknott Academy) - Jonesy (Jumper for Goalposts)**

*\*Selected for the Regional Final (South) and still competing from that region.*

**Key Stage 4 & Sixth Formage 3**

**6pm**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

## Results

At the end of Act Two the prizes for both age groups will be announced.

## KEY STAGE 4

### Contemporary: Group 1

**Holy Carter** (The County High School Leftwich) - Follow Follow

**Katie Clark Gorry** (N/A) - John Proctor is the Villian

**Harry Connor** (HbActing) - Burying Your Brother in the Pavement

**Maia Holmes** (Newcastle under Lyme School) - DNA

**TJ Fair** (Northampton School for Boys) - Listen to Your Parents

### Contemporary: Group 2

**Elizabeth Jennings** (Hymers College) - Shakers

**Ava Kearsley** (Woodmill High School) - The Visitors

**Alice McWilliam** (Formby High School) - Adult Child/Dead Child

**Amelia Reynolds** (Abbey Gate College) - A Scent of Flowers

**Harrison Turner-Hazel** (South Hunsley School) - Private Peaceful

### The PQA Be Yourself Award for Original Monologues

**Harry Davies** (HbActing) - Man Up

**Esmae Dixon** (St Christopher's CfE High School) - I Know Ya Love Me

**Cora Hamer** (PQA Rugby) - Ice Cream

**Amber Lacey** (PQA Chester) - Untitled

### Classical: Group 1

**Neve Boyles** (West Bridgford School/Nottingham Arts Theatre) - As You Like It

**Lucy Brown** (Withington Girls School) - King Lear

**Serafina Campolucci-Bordi** (Thorp Academy) - A Midsummer Nights Dream

**Jamie Steel** (Lambstail Youth Theatre) - Hamlet

### Classical: Group 2

**Arthur Stevens** (Lambstail Youth Theatre) - Henry IV Part II

**Maddie Clamp** (State of the Arts Academy) - As You Like It

**Amelia Reynolds** (Abbey Gate College) - All's Well That Ends Well

### Screen

**Freya Gray** (West Lakes Academy) - Stranger Things

**Leila Morley-Knight** (Saint Aidan's CofE High School) - La La Land

**Zetta St Louis Johnson** (Chorlton High School) - Shameless

**Oliver Jensen** (Rossall School) - Stranger Things

**Eva Watras** (Sheridan Stage School) - Little Women

# SIXTH FORM

## Screen

**Maya Clarice Cooper (Boston High School) - Saltburn**

**Elizabeth Ross (Dance School of Scotland/Knightswood Secondary) - Pearl**

**Zach Rout (N/A) - Adolescence**

**Rose Wenje (Southfield School for Girls) - The Vampire Diaries**

## The PQA Be Yourself Award for Original Monologues

**Annabelle Charles (Rossall School) - He Said**

**Joe Johnsonn (Sir John Deanes Sixth Form College) - Morecambe and I**

**Leah MacDonald (Elmaz Productions) - Just Check the Lock...**

**Kiera Miller (HbActing) - Untitled**

**Yeva Pukas (Ackworth School) - Fireworks**

## Classical: Group 1

**Olga Buckina (N/A) - Macbeth**

**Freya Deakin (CAPA College) - Measure for Measure**

**Marcus Ettinger (Abbey Gate College) - King Lear**

**Charlotte Fisher (St Leonards) - Othello**

**Freddie Garnham (Stage Works College) - Two Gentlemen of Verona**

## Classical: Group 2

**Maya Minocha (Sir John Dean's Sixth Form College) - The Comedy of Errors**

**Holly Osbourne (The Glasgow Academy) - Henry VIII**

**Sammy Wakayu (Rugby School) - Two Noble Kinsmen**

**Madelaine Shenton (N/A) - Julius Caesar**

**Laura Kieran (Sheridan Stage School) - Measure for Measure**

## Contemporary: Group 1

**Kaitlin Olivia Fleming (New College Durham) - First Shadows Of My Mind**

**Sophie Kay (Abbey Gate College) - Boys**

**Lily Montgomery (N/A) - In Doggerland**

**Patrick Murena (Notre Dame High School ) - Consensual**

**David Okodeh (The Manchester Grammar School) - For Black Boys Who Have Considered Suicide When the Hue Gets Too Heavy**

## Contemporary: Group 2

**Holly Osbourne (The Glasgow Academy) - Layla's Room**

**Sophia Ramos-Raw (HbActing) - Port**

**Ekene Udeaaja (Saint Ambrose College) - Ma Rainey's Black Bottom**

**Huck Whittle (Elgin Academy) - Office Hours**

**Nestor Sharma (Beaumont School) - TBC\***

*\*Selected for the Regional Final (South) and still competing from that region.*

# Regional Shortlist

The following students made the Regional Shortlist (North) in this year's competition:

## Key Stage 2: Classical

Harry Carter\*  
Emily Riddell\*  
Isabella Morgan

## Key Stage 2: Contemporary

Saffy Boyle\*  
Max Chaloner\*  
Sammy Ambrose  
Darcey Barnett  
Paige Olivia Brearley  
Paige Olivia Brearley  
James Campbell-Buchanan  
Arabella Hunter  
Perdie Rolfe

## Key Stage 2: Original

Dorina Kecskes\*  
Eilidh McKerracher\*

## Key Stage 2: Screen

Elsie McCabe\*  
Thea Moran\*  
Paige Olivia Brearley

## Key Stage 3: Screen

Joseph Hampson\*  
Solomon Horta\*  
Tilly Baker  
Lyla Edgar  
Noah Gardner  
Isla Levell  
Venise Moodley  
Marlo Nicholson-Outhart

## Key Stage 3: Contemporary

Holly Shiel\*  
Megan Aguiar  
Amber Hargreaves  
Belle Hunt  
Belle Hunt  
Ava Marl  
Jonah Maynard  
Jane McCourt  
Joshua O'Callaghan  
Rafael Pellacani Muller  
Daniel Rhodes  
Polly Sibley  
Elena Walker

## Key Stage 3: Original

Serrena Ahara  
Tabitha Buck  
Lauren Catom  
Sophie Grant  
Joseph Hampson  
Erin Harris  
Alec Martin  
Evelyn Tomlinson  
Sophia Waterhouse  
Stevie Willims  
Polly Youren

## Key Stage 3: Classical

Tabitha Buck\*

### **Key Stage 4: Classical**

**Xander Neumann\***  
**Vinnie Britton**  
**Jarvis Cobb**  
**Alyssia Crawford**  
**Harry Davies**  
**Maya Greening**  
**Lizzy King**  
**Phoebe Martin-Connor**  
**Blossom Murdoch**  
**Cara O'Hare**  
**James Oswald**  
**Bear Yates**

### **Key Stage 4: Contemporary**

**Freya Gray\***  
**Neve Boyles**  
**Lucy Brown**  
**Rachel Burch**  
**Serafina Campolucci-Bordi**  
**Libby Gerrard**  
**Elspeth Hill**  
**Poppy Hudson-Croker**  
**Olivia McPheators**  
**Rosanna Nealon**  
**Cara O'Hare**  
**Isobel Reynolds**  
**Poppy Scutt**  
**Alfie Turner**  
**Isla Urquhart**

### **Key Stage 4: Original**

**Jamima Hussain\***  
**Freya Somerset\***  
**Lauren Brickman**  
**Vinnie Britton**  
**Hannah Cooley**  
**Oliver Degg**  
**Corin Hodgson**  
**Sofia Nahavandi-Nejad**  
**Cara O'Hare**

### **Key Stage 4: Screen**

**Velvet Harrison\***  
**Sophie Tarbuck\***

### **Sixth Form: Classical**

**Harnek Sahota\***  
**Joshua Wright\***  
**James Bartholomew**  
**Macey Blackledge**  
**Maya Clarice Cooper**  
**Thomas Else Else**  
**Charlotte Fisher**  
**Holly Harney**  
**Emily Johnson x2**  
**Erin Matthews**  
**David Okodeh**  
**Alexandra Paton**  
**Logan Spence**  
**Katie Tomlinson**  
**Stella Tserkezie-Tunncliffe**  
**Huck Whittle**  
**Elliott Winhall**

### **Sixth Form: Contemporary**

**Maya Clarice Cooper\***  
**Annabelle Carmichael**  
**Julia Colgan**  
**Freya Deakin**  
**Marcus Ettinger**  
**Dan Faulkner**  
**Claude Ham**  
**Miriam Hart**  
**Alara Kilic**  
**Erin Matthews**  
**David Okodeh**  
**Alexandra Paton**  
**Marci Patterson**  
**Blanca Perez Sanchez**  
**Elizabeth Ross**  
**Emilia Tyrrell**

### **Sixth Form: Original**

**Leah MacDonald\***  
**Lottie Curry**  
**Ella Earle**  
**David Okodeh x2**

### **Sixth Form: Screen**

**David Okodeh\***

# Commended Students

The following students had their work Commended by our judges in this year's competition:

## Key Stage 2: Original

Lily Ansell  
Milena Castravet  
Amelia-Rose Charles  
Sofia Cutts  
Olivia Davis  
Luna Deeley  
Ava Gohil  
Daya Rupal  
Dotty Shipton  
Daisy Turner  
Maddie Wreakes  
Leon Zacheshigriva

## Key Stage 2: Screen

Eloise Capers  
Eliza Holmes  
Anya Ketchin  
Elloise McGregor  
Isabella Morgan  
Annabelle Scott  
Darcie Delilah Stainze

## Key Stage Three: Screen

Elif Allison  
Thomas Barley  
Marta Cooper-Jarzynka  
Amelia Gutkowska  
Faith Gyan  
Lucie Haseler  
Holly Howson  
Isabella Massey  
Jane McCourt  
Hermione Milsom  
Kyla O'Brien  
Ashleigh Whitby  
Maxwell Whitelock  
Jessica Williams

## Key Stage Three: Original

Evie Ansell  
Ava Ardito  
Felicity Aslett  
Flossy Bottino  
Oliver Brennan  
Harry Brown  
Monika Fletcher  
Rachel Fowkes  
Lucy Greenwood  
Ava Houghton  
Will Howgate  
Evie Hughes-Browne  
Eva Ihtimanliyska  
Matilda Jackson  
Amy Jennings  
Laycie Larque  
Caoimbe Martin  
Jane McCourt  
Amelie Pritchard  
Sophie Riches  
Laura Rutowska  
Kyla Seeney  
Eloise Tranter  
Lily Welsh  
Jesse Williams  
Lyra Woodward-Hughes

## Key Stage 3: Classical

Esther Fitzpatrick  
Scarlet Haughey  
Rose Roberts

# Commended Students

The following students had their work Commended by our judges in this year's competition:

## Key Stage 3: Contemporary

Lauren Begley  
Elsa Charlton  
Clodagh Conlon  
Daniel Crozier  
Theo Graham  
Rose Kennedy  
Tilda Kiernan  
Meelie Lambert  
Laycie Larque  
Jacob Line  
Zara Markey  
Issac Marlin  
Iris Morris  
Roy Negrut- Griffiths  
Sarjan Sandhu  
Aoife Scullion  
Polly Sibley  
Herbie Summers  
Ava Symes  
Maxwell Whitelock  
Polly Youren

## Key Stage 4: Screen

Vinnie Britton  
Lilya Dawson  
Adrian Douglas  
Mabel Holder  
Lana Jelley  
Étienne Monnerat  
Cara O'Hare  
Sapphire Stead  
Caleb Stubbington  
Bridget Whiteside

## Key Stage 4: Original

Oscar Crossley  
Poppy French  
Charlie Gill  
Ollie Shaw  
Caitlyn Sinclair  
Amelia Spelman  
Evelyn Stubbs  
Charlie Whittle

## Key Stage 4: Classical

Katie Clark Gorry  
Carys Dorset  
Caitlin Fowkes  
Nancy Holyhead  
Jaya Pitter

# Commended Students

The following students had their work Commended by our judges in this year's competition:

## Key Stage 4: Contemporary

Aiza Atif  
Neve Boyles  
Maddie Clamp  
Maddie Clamp  
Joel Dawson  
Anna Dodman  
Carys Dorset  
Annabel Fikkert  
Ben Fletcher  
Caitlin Fowkes  
Scarlett Gannon  
Nancy Grant  
Connie Hazel  
Benji Latham  
Otto Lloyd-Baker  
Jason Lo  
Grace Manby  
Erin Margrave  
Matilda Mills  
Elicia Peckover  
Aamna Qazi  
Poppy Richards  
Taya Skepska  
Abbey Smith  
Reeve Syverson  
Libby Thomas

## Sixth Form: Contemporary

James Bartholomew  
Amy Conroy  
Thomas Else  
Charlotte Fisher  
Paula Ilagha  
Maya Minocha  
Jenna Moon  
Jack Rushfirth  
amber Schofield  
Alex Summers

## Sixth Form: Original

Oliver Mitchell

## Sixth Form: Screen

Jenna Moon  
Yeva Pukas  
Jack Rushfirth  
Beth Watt

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## **School & Group Prize 2026**

The Methuen Drama School & Group Prize is awarded to the National Winning school or group, recognising the overall standard and quality of monologues submitted by their students.

The winning school or group will receive the National Trophy, £250 worth of Methuen Drama books, invitations to the National Final, and more.

Methuen Drama, an imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing, has been publishing plays and books on acting, theatre and practice for over 100 years. They are home to 8 Nobel Prize winners and cutting-edge critical studies, research and practical guides, as well as Drama Online, Bloomsbury Publishing's award-winning Digital Library.

## **Regional Commendations 2026:**

### **East Midlands**

**Lambstail Youth Theatre**  
**Wootton Park School**

### **North East**

**Cramlington Learning Village**  
**Thorp Academy**

### **North West**

**Abbey Gate College**  
**Formby High School**  
**HbActing**  
**PQA Chester**  
**Rossall School**  
**St. Aidan's CofE High School**

### **Northern Ireland**

**Sheridan's Stage School**

### **Scotland**

**Elmaz Productions**  
**Livingstone Village Primary**  
**Morrison's Academy**

### **West Midlands**

**Lichfield Cathedral School**  
**PQA Lichfield**  
**PQA Rugby**  
**Rugby School**  
**Stoke Youth Musical Theatre Academy**

### **Yorkshire & The Humber**

**Ackworth School**  
**Bradford Grammar School**  
**PQA Barnsley**  
**The Courthouse Kids**  
**West Yorkshire Drama Academy**

**The Be  
Yourself  
Award for  
Original  
Monologues**

**Sponsored by:**

**PAULINE  
QUIRKE  
ACADEMY**  
OF PERFORMING ARTS

**This year we have been lucky enough to have  
our Original category sponsored by PQA.**

PQA (Pauline Quirke Academy) is one of the UK's leading weekend performing arts academies for young people, offering training in comedy & drama, musical theatre and film & television.

With academies across the country, PQA provides a supportive and creative environment where young performers can develop confidence, skills and a love of the performing arts.

**BE YOURSELF BE AMAZING.**

**PAULINE  
QUIRKE  
ACADEMY**  
OF PERFORMING ARTS



# Developing Young Performers

National Youth Monologues offers high-quality training opportunities for young actors aged 9–19. Running alongside the competition, our programmes support skill development, confidence, and creative growth through flexible online training and in-person intensives.

## Summer School 2026

**The National Youth Monologues Summer School is a week-long programme of inspiring theatre training in London, created exclusively for students entering the National Youth Monologues competition.**

Open to KS2–3 and KS4–5 students, the Summer School offers high-quality, age-appropriate training led by experienced theatre practitioners in a supportive and professional environment.

Students can take part through two pathways:

- Open Studio – a week of practical training open to all competition entrants
- Scholars Programme – a selective, invitation-only pathway for students recognised for outstanding performance in the competition.

Running alongside the competition, the Summer School provides an exciting opportunity to develop performance skills, build confidence, and connect with other young performers from across the UK.

**27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> July, London**

**Join Us!**

# The Studio

## THE ULTIMATE MONTHLY PERFORMANCE HUB

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FDS FEDERATION OF  
DRAMA SCHOOLS

Consistency is one of the most important parts of an actor's development — but knowing what to work on and how can be difficult without regular guidance.

The Studio is an on-demand monthly performance hub designed to support young actors as they develop monologues, build audition skills, and practise independently with clarity and confidence.

Each month offers a clear focus, fresh material, and professional insight to help performers stay active and engaged all year round.

Inside The Studio, members have access to curated monologues and scenes, short professional guidance videos, model performances, and monthly interviews with working actors and drama school students.

Practical challenges and an expanding resource library support regular practice, while the Greenroom provides a supportive online space to reflect and connect with other young actors in the same age group.

NATIONAL YOUTH  
MONOLOGUES

## Preparing Actors for Drama School

Actor's Nest provides expert training and guidance for aspiring actors aged 16–19 who are preparing to audition for the UK's leading drama schools.

Through intensive training, personalised feedback and clear insight into the audition process, we help talented young actors develop the craft, confidence and understanding required to succeed.

### Our Training Pathway

Actor's Nest offers a structured pathway designed to support actors at each stage of their preparation for drama school.



An online masterclass designed to explain how drama school auditions really work.

Students gain practical advice on monologue selection, self-tapes and the overall application process.

For many actors, this session provides the clarity needed to approach the year ahead with confidence.



A focused one-day training experience for actors who are beginning to develop their audition material.

Through practical coaching and detailed feedback, students refine their monologues and gain a deeper understanding of how to approach their performances.

Includes an online preparatory session and optional follow-up support.



Our flagship 12-week programme for serious applicants preparing to audition in the current cycle.

Students receive sustained training, personalised feedback and structured guidance as they develop and refine their audition material.

This programme supports actors through the most important stage of their preparation.

**Alongside our core programmes, Actor's Nest offers targeted coaching and assessment services, including self-tape assessments, private coaching and mock audition panels.**

## **Thanks to:**

Trafalgar Entertainment, the Trafalgar Trust and the Lyceum Theatre, Crewe for hosting us in this beautiful theatre.

Tamsin Stanley and the *Federation of Drama Schools* for all of their support and advice.

Methuen Drama for sponsoring the School and Group Prize and The Studio.

PQA (Pauline Quirke Academies) for their sponsorship of the Original Category.

Macy-Rae Robb, Hazel Reid-Burroughs and Rex Condron for their backstage work and for helping the event to run smoothly.

All of the drama teachers, youth theatre leaders and parents who have encouraged and supported with their work.

# NATIONAL YOUTH MONOLOGUES

**Entry opens for the National Youth  
Monologues 2027 in November.**