



# Leeds Actors in Training

**2025-26**



Credit: Kerry Maule



"LAIT has allowed me to grow not only as an  
artist but as a person too."

Tash Hudson, LAIT alumnus (2022-23)





Credit: Chris Coote

## What is LAIT?

LAIT is a practical skills-building course for 18-25 year olds who are serious about an acting career, which takes place during term-time across a year (autumn to summer). LAIT is based at Leeds Grand Theatre and is designed to develop participating artists vocally, physically, and imaginatively, encouraging an independent and in-depth approach to the work.

## Who will I work with?

LAIT is run by freelance director and theatremaker, Lizi Patch, alongside industry professionals, some local, some from further afield - all of whom are highly skilled, approachable and passionate about actor training. Previous guest artists have included Sam Kenyon (Voice), Dawn Holgate (Laban), Paul Birch (Improv) and Eleanor Manners (Directing).



# Is LAIT right for me?

Are you:

- Keen to develop, share and deepen your skills working with a company of likeminded actors and alongside professional mentors who have time, experience and connections to share?
- Interested in the honest exchange of ideas, knowledge and creative inspiration with likeminded young artists?
- Curious, open and ready to challenge your own habits and preconceptions?
- Looking for support in building strategies for self-discipline and stress management?
- Keen to deepen your artistic courage, curiosity, integrity and originality - all vital in the journey to discovering your strengths and weaknesses as a performer?

## Then, yes, LAIT is for you!







Credit: Chris Coote

# What will LAIT look like?

## Term One

Autumn 2025: October - December

### The Actor

Your voice, body and imagination are your tools. This first term will start from where you are NOW as an artist. You will build, broaden and deepen your vocal and physical skills with an emphasis on good practice, flexibility, spontaneity, curiosity and a generous approach to yourself and fellow actors. We need rules and structure to be free and this term will include a good dose of improvisation and play.

At LAIT, we regularly bring in industry professionals based on the current cohort. Masterclasses range from voice acting to clowning. In recent years, our LAIT cohorts have had the chance to work with industry professionals with a focus on audition technique, writing for stage and screen and casting.



## Term Two

Spring 2026: January - March

### **The Actor, The Text and The Audition**

**Text:** Working on several contrasting texts, we will apply the skills worked on in Term One doing a deep dive into the different ways we can approach a text, sharing experience and experimenting.

**Audition:** Finding good material for auditions is always a challenge. Walking into a room containing strangers about to judge you is equally challenging. We will spend time sharing with each other what has and has not worked for us. Guest masterclasses will be run by industry professionals on audition dos and don'ts, from preparing to getting through the door and using every moment once we're in the room.





### Term Three

Summer 2026: April - July

### The Actor and Performance

Depending on the particular needs of the cohort, the summer term is focused around performance opportunities; this could be developing a showcase of the group's work, developing your own work, or rehearsing a play for public performance. This decision will be made during the spring term.

Along the way, we will be visited by a professional photographer/videographer who will capture rehearsal stills and footage for you to keep and use as part of a portfolio.



# Practicalities

LAIT is a year-long, three-term and predominantly once-weekly course.

## Key dates: Summer - Autumn 2025

- Mon 2 June: Applications open
- Mon 1 September: Applications close
- Wed 24 September: Group audition for shortlisted candidates\*
- Wed 1 October - Wed 10 December: 10 Autumn term sessions

Spring and summer term dates will follow. Since places are limited, please ensure to the best of your knowledge that you can commit to the course before applying. **\*All shortlisted candidates will be invited to audition on Wed 24 September to join LAIT.**

Credit: Chris Coote



## Times

6-9pm in Leeds Grand Theatre's basement Studio, unless otherwise advised. (If a guest artist is travelling from far, we will move the session to the afternoon and give notice).

## Costs

£155 a term (£465 for all 3 terms, approx. £15 a session).

This can be paid upfront or in three termly instalments.

**Free places and financial support are available upon application.**



# I'm ready to apply

Fill out the [LAIT application form](#) by Mon 1 September, 10am.  
You can also film your responses to the questions below and share these via [learning@leedsheritage theatres.com](mailto:learning@leedsheritage theatres.com) using WeTransfer.  
Please ensure your video is under 3 minutes long:

1. What is it about LAIT that appeals to you and why do you feel now is the right time for you to join?
2. How would you make the most of your time with LAIT if you secured a place?
3. Please tell us about any relevant experience you have. This can include amateur experience, formal training, qualifications etc.

If you have any questions or require the form in an alternative format, contact us via [learning@leedsheritage theatres.com](mailto:learning@leedsheritage theatres.com).

We are actively seeking applications from 18-25s from the global majority and those with a disability, who are currently underrepresented in our organisation. Please get in touch to find out more about support to take part, including free places.



Credit: Chris Coote