

I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU - *Casting Callout*

The Art House and Jopuka are excited to be partnering in a unique performance model to engage local young people to be cast in *I've Been Meaning to Ask You*. The collaboration comes about to give young actors on the Central Coast a chance to be part of a professional project of large scale.



PHOTO CREDIT: STEPHEN HENRY

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

We're on the lookout for a powerful group of 9–13-year-olds to perform in a theatre production at The Art House, Wyong in July 2022.

Central Coast youth will have the opportunity to work alongside the award-winning theatre team from [The Good Room](#), a Queensland-based performance collective who use the anonymous experiences of ordinary people to create extraordinary theatre works.

I've Been Meaning to Ask You is a work full of questions; asked by young people and answered by adults:

Why do you have to go to work?

How come adults drink to have fun?

What was life like before the Internet?

Is 50 too old to learn to surf?



Over two months, our group of **9–13-year-olds** will collaborate with The Good Room to design the production presented in partnership with The Art House and Jopuka at the Art House.

If there is a young person in your life who is brave, opinionated, fierce and adventurous, [CLICK HERE TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN CASTING](#).

No previous acting experience necessary.

Submissions close 2 May 2022. Parents/ guardians of the selected young people will be notified on 11 May 2022.

For more info on the show and to get a feel for the performance, take a look this short [YouTube clip](#).

WHAT'S INVOLVED

This is a wonderful opportunity to work with some of Australia's best theatre makers and we ask that all aspiring participants take note of the key dates outlined below.

Casting Workshop

Saturday 4th June and Sunday 5th June 10am-5.00pm

We'll be making an initial selection of 50 young people who will be invited to attend a casting workshop on either Saturday 4th June and Sunday 5th June 10am-5.00pm to be held at The Art House Wyong.

Approximately 18 young people will be selected to be part in the rehearsals and performances.

Lead in Rehearsals

Saturday 11th June and Sunday 12th June 10am-5.00pm

The final group of young people will attend a two-day session focused on devising questions. Parents and guardians will also be fully briefed during this time.

Rehearsals and Production

All rehearsals and performance will take place at The Art House

Friday July 8 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Saturday July 9 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Sunday July 10 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Monday July 11 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm

Tuesday July 12 th 2022	Day off
Wednesday July 13 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Thursday July 14 th 2022	Rehearsal/tech 10am-5pm
Friday July 15 th 2022	Preview 1930/call time tbc
Saturday July 16 th 2022	Performance Matinee Show 1400/call time tbc
	Performance Evening Show 1930/call time tbc
Sunday July 17 th 2022	Performance Matinee Show 1400/call time tbc

ABOUT THE GOOD ROOM

The Good Room is a Queensland-based performance collective who use the anonymous experiences of ordinary people to create extraordinary theatre works.

They ask you – and people just like you – to anonymously share with them fragments and memories, confessions and admissions from your lives, as part of a process that blurs the line between ‘audience’ and ‘maker’ to play with the idea of theatrical collective authorship.

To find out more head to [The Good Room website](#). (The Good Room – The Good Room make contemporary performance.)



ACKNOWLEDEMENTS

Originally commissioned by Brisbane Festival and produced in association with QUT Creative Industries at La Boite Theatre in 2018.

FAQs

Will the participating children be used in any marketing material for the show?

Yes. Primarily, we will be using an existing suite of images from previous performances. However, as part of the marketing plan for the event, the final cast will be profiled online at [The Art House](#). At the commencement of the casting workshops, you will be required to sign an image release form.



My Young Person has a lot of after school commitments, do you require them to attend 100% of the rehearsals scheduled?

Yes. *I've Been Meaning to Ask You* is ensemble driven which means that all Young People involved will be used at all times throughout the show. We also have a lot to get through in the given rehearsal time. If any rehearsal is missed this creates a lot of extra work for everyone and will place your Young Person at a disadvantage in the process.

Do I need to provide a costume for my young person?

No. Jopuka Productions will provide costumes from their warehouse. During the rehearsals there will be a designated day that costumes can be chosen. Should your young person need any additional items for their costume Jopuka Productions and The Art House will help source, or it can be provided from your young person's normal wardrobe. There will be no cost to you associated with costumes for the production.

Once the costume is decided upon, we will ask that the costume stay at rehearsals / the theatre and will be worn for rehearsals when needed. Our stage management team will arrange for the costume to be laundered.

I'm worried about the potential adult content in the show. Will this be censored /monitored throughout the process?

There are adult themes touched upon in the work as we are dealing with questions directly from the participating Young People. In the past, some of those questions have been around subjects like death, depression, gender, sexuality, the environment, lying, and all the grey areas in between. Those questions are then put to the public to answer anonymously and your young person will have the opportunity to read these responses. Rest-assured however, all responses are read by The Good Room's highly trained facilitator's and anything inappropriate is removed before the Young People get access. We also encourage a safe environment where these topics can be unpacked and further questions asked to make sure the young people are supported and heard with any questions or concerns they have.

My Young Person's younger siblings want to see the performance. What is the age recommendation?

Our age recommendation is for anyone aged 9 and up, however in the past many younger siblings have attended and have had a very positive experience. As we mentioned there are some adult themes in the performance, so it is at the parent/guardians' discretion.

Will I get a chance to meet the team working with my Young Person?

Yes. We will arrange a get together so you can meet the team involved with putting on the performance!



Do all the people involved have appropriate working with Young People checks?

Yes. Our facilitators have gone through appropriate working with children checks required by the specific state we are working in.

Can I watch the rehearsals?

No. We ask that you do not come into rehearsals. Our Young People form a strong ensemble where they eventually take full ownership of the show away from us adults. We find that having parents in the room make our young people self-conscious and unable to enter the process fully. You will get to see all of their hard work when the performance is up and running.

Will my Young Person be allowed to leave rehearsals to go and buy food?

No. We ask that your Young Person arrives at rehearsals with all food and drink required for the day ahead as there will be no one available to supervise off site visits to get food. This also cuts out too much time from their allocated breaks.

KEY DATES

Casting Workshop to be held at The Art House Wyong.
Saturday 4th June and Sunday 5th June 10am-5.00pm

Lead in Rehearsals to be held at The Art House Wyong.
Saturday 11th June and Sunday 12th June 10am-5.00pm

Rehearsals and Production

All rehearsals and performance will take place at The Art House

Friday July 8 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Saturday July 9 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Sunday July 10 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Monday July 11 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Tuesday July 12 th 2022	Day off
Wednesday July 13 th 2022	Rehearsal 10am-5pm
Thursday July 14 th 2022	Rehearsal/tech 10am-5pm
Friday July 15 th 2022	Preview 1930/call time tbc
Saturday July 16 th 2022	Performance Matinee Show 1400/call time tbc



	Performance Evening Show 1930/call time tbc
Sunday July 17 th 2022	Performance Matinee Show 1400/call time tbc

For all casting enquiries or for assistance completing the nomination form, please contact:
Josh Maxwell josh@jopuka.org.au