Enabled space conference programme

Programme timetable

10:00am Welcome and introduction to the day. Jo Stockdale and Christopher Davies - Studio

10:15am Performance: ‘The River’ - Studio

10:55am Keynote speaker: Darren Henley, CEO of Arts Council England - Studio

11:25am Break

11:55am Seminars

How did we make ‘The River’ accessible? - Studio

Free exploratory play – Rehearsal Room 4

Working outdoors – Rehearsal Room 5

12:45pm Lunch break - food served in ground floor bar area

1:45pm Seminars

Free exploratory play – Rehearsal room 4

Working outdoors – Rehearsal room 5

Using Narrative and Character – Rehearsal room 2

2:35pm Break

3:05pm Round Table discussions

Using the Bamboozle approach across the curriculum - Rehearsal room 4

Creating Accessible Theatre – Rehearsal Room 2

Family and community engagement - Rehearsal room 5

3:55pm Break

4:15pm Plenary and closing, Jo Stockdale - Studio

5:00pm Close

6:00pm Showcase performance of ‘Storm’ *(Invite only) -* Studio

Information about Curve

Entrances

Curve is a large, round building with a glass front.

There are two main entrances into the building – Halford Street and Rutland Street – which each have a set of glass double doors that open outwards automatically.

There is level access to the Foyer from both entrances.

Foyer

Curve’s Foyer is one big circle which goes around the two performance spaces – the Theatre and the Studio leading to the Café, Box Office and Stage Door desk.

Studio

Curve’s Studio is located on the ground floor and has a capacity of 314 people. The space is accessed through doors 1, 2, 5 and 6, signposted in the building. There will be designated space for wheelchair users on ground level, as well as priority seats for BSL interpretation reserved within this space.

Rehearsal Room 2

Rehearsal Room 2 is located on the Mezzanine level of Curve and has a capacity of 80 people.

There will be designated space for wheelchair users, as well as priority seats for BSL interpretation reserved within this space.

Rehearsal Rooms 4 and 5

Curve’s Rehearsal Rooms 4 and 5 are located on Level 2 of the building, accessible by lift or stairs. Each has a capacity of 60 people, or can be combined to accommodate 200 people.

Access info

Level access to all ground floor entrances – Curve is wheelchair accessible throughout. Due to fire restrictions there are limits to the number of wheelchair users above ground floor at any one time. We will consider this in how our programme operates for the conference.

Lifts to upper floors – Curve has lift access and stairs to upper levels.

Changing places toilet facility available on the ground floor. This is signposted near to Theatre Door 4.

British Sign Language interpretation will be offered across the festival programme. We will also ensure any delegates who have specified BSL requirements have priority seats for best sightlines during the day.

Hearing Loop - An infra-red and induction loop hearing system is available in the Studio and Rehearsal Room 2.

The Mackintosh dressing room has been designated as the quiet space. This is located next to Rehearsal Room 2 on the Mezzanine.

Here to help! If you require any assistance, or have any questions, please look for staff and volunteers wearing Bamboozle pink -tshirts. They will be happy to help.

About Bamboozle

Too often in our society learning disabled children, and their families, are not heard; they are left out, made to feel that they don’t belong, let alone have their voices heard. Many of the children and young people we work with can’t express themselves in ways that most of us take for granted. But they do have things to say.

What we do at Bamboozle is facilitate ways for them to find their own voice. We do it by producing immersive accessible theatre which tours the UK and internationally, delivering schools projects in the UK and working with families in our local community.

Christopher Davies – Artistic Director

Speakers and Staff

Christopher Davies - Christopher is a director, trainer, educator and author of: “Creating Multi-Sensory Environments.” Christopher taught in primary schools and with the Leicestershire Drama Advisory Service before co-founding Bamboozle in 1994. He is Artistic Director of the company.

Jo Stockdale - Jo is the founder of Well Within Reach and works extensively with the cultural, education and care sectors. She has spent the last two decades working with children - and the practitioners to support them - to strengthen organisational and individuals' practical understanding of young and vulnerable brain development, and the difference that child-centred, strengths-based and trauma-informed approaches make to every young person, and the adult that they will become.

Darren Henley CBE - Darren is chief executive of Arts Council England. Previously managing director of Classic FM, he authored two independent government reviews into music education and cultural education in England. A certified coach, he holds a doctorate exploring the role of the outsider as an agent for change, and degrees in positive psychology, history of art, management and politics.

Sue Pyecroft co-founded Bamboozle Theatre Company in 1994. She has been the lead theatre designer for Bamboozle’s touring shows for many years, mentoring theatre design undergrads, and also developing the use of puppetry to connect with young audiences in performances. Sue has been closely involved in the development of Bamboozle’s programme of work for autistic young people.

Dawn Bowden - Dawn has worked with Bamboozle for 19 years. She is a member of their senior training team. Dawn embeds the Bamboozle Approach in to all of her work and believes passionately about working within an enabled space.

Craig Byrne - Craig is an Actor/Musician, Composer and Sound Designer. Craig first worked with Bamboozle in 2016, and has since worked on many of their touring and education projects. He is a member of our senior training team.

Laura Conway - Laura is Assistant Head at Sutherland House School in Nottingham. Laura started as a Teaching Assistant before moving into a senior role at the school. She is passionate about helping children succeed and putting children’s needs and interests first.

Dr. Lauran Doak is Assistant Professor of Special & Inclusive Education and Course Leader of the Online MA in Special & Inclusive Education. Prior to her career in Higher Education, Lauran taught in secondary schools for nine years.

Lara Jade Greenfield - Lara is a performer, singer, songwriter, freelance musician and model. Storm was Lara’s first show with Bamboozle where she toured it twice in 2023/24. She is also currently working on the Bamboozle @ Home family project.

Lynnette Johnson – Lynette has been Headteacher at Lakeside School since September 2018. She joined Lakeside as Assistant Head to lead their Autism Team and is a specialist in behaviour support. Her passion is for supporting families and working directly with parents.

Iona Mayo - In 2003, Iona’s daughter Amy was born severely disabled, and life changed forever. She is a full-time mother, carer, case manager, team leader and clinical lead. Iona was the Chair of the Board of Trustees for Bamboozle for 14 years and very recently stepped down to focus on her family.

Ben Moores trained in ballet, percussion and classical singing before gaining a Masters from Rose Bruford college. He is an actor, musician and author who has worked on many Bamboozle productions in the UK and China.

Lou Pidgeon - Lou is a neurodivergent artist, multi instrumentalist and performer who has progressed through Bamboozle’s volunteer scheme. Using their lived experience, they strive to create enabled spaces for young people that they see their own experiences in.

Ravneet Sehra – Ravneet is a British South Asian Actor. She is an actor and vocalist who has performed across the globe. Ravneet first worked with Bamboozle on Girl and the Goat in 2015 and has since worked on four further Bamboozle touring productions.

Nettie Scriven is a visual artist and theatre designer who has specialised in creating theatre for young people for the last 40 years. She is joint artistic director of Dragon Breath Theatre as a creative producer and performer. Nettie designed Bamboozle’s show, The River.

Naomi Sparrow - Naomi is a mixed race actor from North London. Naomi has worked across many companies and has a lot of SEN experience. Naomi first worked with Bamboozle in 2018 on Pulse and on many of their touring productions since.

Delegate info

Delegates at the Enabled Space Conference include representatives from:

Addington School

Arthur’s Club

Arts Council England

Ashmount School

Autism East Midlands

Blink Dance Theatre

City Arts

Curve Theatre

Ellesmere College

Embracing Arts

Enter Edem

Frozen Light Theatre

Graeae Theatre Company

Hoglets Theatre CiC

LCB Depot

Leicester City in the Community

Lime Academy Trust

MAC

Made with Many

Make/Sense Theatre

Makers of Imaginary Worlds

Merstone School

MK Gallery

MoonBeam Theatre

Oaklands School

Open Theatre

People Dancing

Percy Hedley School

RAWD

Royal & Derngate

SENSE

Sensorium Theatre

St. Piers School

Sutherland House School

The Blanket Fort Club

The Core, Corby

The LEVEL Centre

The National Trust

The Spark Arts

West Gate School

Woodlands Secondary School

Wren Spinney School