



What does 'theatre of sanctuary' status mean?

City of Sanctuary UK have deemed that Hull Truck Theatre have successfully met the criteria to be awarded with Theatre of Sanctuary status for the next three years.

This means that we have clearly demonstrated our commitment to people seeking sanctuary in Hull and East Yorkshire by evidencing extensive work in the following three areas:

Learn – Going on a journey to work with sanctuary seekers to understand their lived experience and be actively involved in raising awareness of their plight.

Embed – Taking positive action to make them feel welcome and included.
Supporting sanctuary seekers and refugees and including them in our activities.
Promoting a culture of sanctuary within organisation and aligning with core values.

Share – Letting others know about the positive contribution that refugees are making to our society and the benefits of a welcoming culture.

When a theatre makes a commitment to show solidarity and welcome to those seeking sanctuary, it has far reaching positive effects. Having Theatre of Sanctuary status demonstrates HTT's ongoing commitment and also makes it clear that this is a safe, welcoming and inclusive space for refugees and sanctuary seekers in our community.

Why is it important?

Refugees and sanctuary seekers are some of the most vulnerable members of our society – they can feel extremely isolated. It's important that they feel valued and have access to activities and events, that will in turn have a positive impact on their general wellbeing. Integrating the stories and experiences of refugees and sanctuary seekers into the fabric of our organisation and making sure they feel safe, welcome and included is what HTT is all about.

What will Hull Truck Theatre be doing as a Theatre of Sanctuary?

HTT will continue to go above and beyond to welcome and support sanctuary seekers into their spaces. We will do this by continuing to promote a culture of sanctuary within the organisation and to our partners, as well as making audience and participation opportunities more accessible for refugees and sanctuary seekers through free or subsidised ticket offers and other outreach work.

Why did Hull Truck Theatre apply?

Over recent years we have supported projects with The Refugee Council and other local community groups that support sanctuary seekers – like Open Doors. Following



the war in Ukraine and the influx of displaced people entering our community, we felt that we wanted to do more to help support this group of vulnerable people. This scheme also closely aligns with our key values of inclusion, integrity and innovation.

Any organisation in the UK can apply to become a Theatre of Sanctuary. There is no fee.

Does this mean you now won't be focusing on work with other local communities?

We will still continue to also work closely with community ambassadors and community groups in our two target postcode areas of HU3 and HU6 through our Community Dialogues programme. These postcodes have been targeted specifically due to their levels of low arts engagement.