

What our previous students say about the Bursary Scheme...

I have not only furthered my experience of acting in a professional environment but I have also gained valuable knowledge about running a theatre and conducting acting workshops for children. I would highly recommend the bursary scheme for undergraduates looking to work in theatre or the wider performing arts industry. It's fun as well!

Rebecca Molloy

The Westacre Theatre bursary scheme is a fantastic opportunity for anyone hoping to go into a career on the stage. Spending my summer on two amazing productions has reminded me how much hard work you have to put in, but I had a fantastic time. The support from everyone at the theatre was brilliant; everyone there made me feel welcome and ensured that we all had a lot of fun. It's a one of a kind scheme.

Steven Bond

Thank you so much for a wonderful summer, it really has been brilliant!

Tamsin Roche-Kelly

It is wonderful to be able to at a theatre full of such enthusiasm. The bursary scheme really is a gem for students, and the amount you learn in such a short space of time is not to be underestimated.

Josie Henson

My summer at Westacre has been unforgettable, and it has been great to be part of such an innovative and unique theatre. I am so grateful for their friendliness, help and commitment. Everyone at Westacre has made me feel so welcome and part of the team. Seeing what fantastic work the theatre does prompted me to become a 'Riversider', so I can continue contributing as they move to even bigger and better things. Long may they continue!

Lou Fryer

I had such a good time at Westacre, thanks so much again for having me, and I hope the rest of the season went well.

Kathryn Linnell

The short rehearsal period is intensive, but a lot of fun. It allows casts to bond quickly meaning you make some great friends. The performances are also of a very high standard. The bursary scheme allows students to experience any aspect of productions they may be interested in. In my time at Westacre, I feel I've improved my skills as an actor thanks to the brilliant direction we are given. Everyone is given an opportunity to shine. The casts always bond well and enjoy the experience...there's a reason we always look forward to our summers at the "BEST-acre"

Charly Nash

It's wonderful to be back at Westacre again, and performing in a wide variety of shows, which is such good experience. I would definitely recommend the bursary scheme to anyone interested in going into the theatre business, as it's rare for any similar scheme to

have so much focus on the bursaries themselves; we definitely feel like an integral part of the season.

Ralph Stickleby

The bursary scheme is a fantastic opportunity for anybody looking to gain experience in acting, singing, teaching and backstage work. I would like to pursue a career in teaching drama; therefore working with children in the summer workshops has been a fantastic way to gain some extra experience. The bursary scheme has been a wonderful way to spend my summer.

Amy Chapman

It has been a fantastic summer being part of the Westacre Bursary - I've gained and improved valuable skills. The bursary scheme is one of a kind as it gives students that much sought-after and elusive Holy Grail of 'Experience'. Being surrounded by a team of talented actors also stands to teach a lesson or two in the craft! I would highly recommend the Bursary scheme to students who wish to pursue any aspect of performing arts.

HanJie Chow

I had the most amazing time with you over the last few weeks and I really appreciate the opportunity. You are a great team to work with. You have an amazing scheme and I hope to apply again next year. I hope the support to keep it going keeps coming for many years to come.

Bijan Arasteh

It's been amazing to work on a wide variety of plays in a brilliant theatre community. This has honestly been one of the most exciting, enriching and enjoyable summers of my life. I have made some great friends and gained a greater understanding of a working professional theatre. I think the bursary scheme is wonderful.

Chris Dobson

My time at Westacre was really an experience I will never forget. It was fantastic to be given the opportunity to act and work in a professional environment and with such a wonderful team of people. Although it required a huge amount of dedication, it was totally worth it for everything I gained in the process. Thank you Westacre!

Georgia Newell

My summer season at West Acre as a Bursary has been a really challenging and exciting experience. Not only was it really hard work, but it was also so much fun. I've made new friends while catching up with old ones and spent a summer learning from some really brilliant people. I hope to be given the chance to come back next year. I wouldn't want to spend a summer any other way.

Rachael Cummins

I can only say positive things about Westacre. My biggest point is that the theatre is just perfect for university students to get involved properly with a production which is seen as professional. It is the most enjoyable time I have ever had working on a show. I would

recommend it to anyone and thank those who donate the money for us to be able to do it. I really felt as though I have a better understanding of how a show works and it has only extended my passion.

Izzy Maxwell-Watts

I have really enjoyed my time here...helping out in the 12-15 workshop has taught me so much about teaching. I think the work done here is brilliant and I really felt at home.

Tracey Pretty

The Bursary Scheme allowed me to use my strengths in design in a practical environment but also pushed me to learn new things, I've especially enjoyed learning the technical side of theatre. Westacre summers have given me invaluable experience and I know I've made friends for life. I can't give enough thanks for the opportunity. It's simply brilliant.

April Nash

I've really, genuinely enjoyed everything we've done here. If I had to pick one activity it would be helping with the workshops in the final week as that was an incredible learning experience.

Kate Mail

Participating in the Bursary scheme at Westacre Theatre over the summer was an amazing experience. It gave me the experience of working in a professional atmosphere, alongside some of the most friendly and interesting people I've ever met. There is nowhere else in the world that I would want to have spent my summer than at Westacre Theatre.

Lee Samuels

I loved spending my summer at Westacre, especially having the opportunity to learn and demonstrate new skills. This summer in particular I enjoyed teaching the children where I could pass on to them knowledge that I had learnt at college and Westacre.

Laura-Kate Nice

The Westacre Bursary scheme provided me with a major opportunity to develop my technical skills. The training I received was excellent. The performances staged were of the highest quality and there was a true team spirit. I am confident that the Bursary scheme, and the contacts I made through it, have played an important role in my securing employment in television production. It is a unique and important project and I hope that it will be supported for many years to come.

Jonathan Francis Burrows

West Acre Bursary Scheme is one of the best opportunities out there for young actors. West Acre has truly helped to show me and teach me respect for the theatre and develop theatre skills that I believe I would not have today if it were not only for the help of the bursary scheme and the guidance from Issy and Andy. I would like to say thank you to West Acre for making me into the actor I am today, and to the new Bursary students - good luck and cherish every moment with this professional theatre and fantastic group of people.

Charlie Hotson