



Volunteer Opportunity: Event Steward York Mystery Plays 2026

The 2026 York Mystery Plays are a major city-wide theatrical event, reviving York's historic tradition of presenting biblical stories on wagons in public spaces.

Across several days, short theatrical performances are staged on large wheeled wagons at multiple locations around the city. Each wagon presents a different play and moves between designated performance stations on a fixed schedule, allowing audiences to experience a sequence of performances as they travel around York.

The event combines live theatre, heritage, and public spectacle, attracting large and varied audiences including families, visitors, and local residents. Performances take place outdoors, in busy city-centre locations, and require careful coordination to ensure they run safely, smoothly and on time.

EVENT STEWARDS

We're looking for friendly, reliable volunteers to take on the role of Event Steward for the 2026 York Mystery Plays.

Event Stewards provide visible, front-facing support to audiences and help maintain a safe, orderly, and welcoming environment at performance locations across the city.

Stewards work under the direction of the Station Master or Deputy Station Master and play a key role in managing audience movement, maintaining clear access routes and acting as a point of contact for members of the public.

Dates

Sunday 28th and Sunday 5th July 2026

Event Stewards will be assigned to city-centre performance stations and supporting locations. Timings are yet to be confirmed, but you can expect to be required for a daytime shift, approximately between 9.00am and 6.00pm - although it's likely to be a shorter day than this. Availability on both dates would be ideal, but we are able to accommodate volunteers who can commit to one of the two Sundays.

Tuesday 30th June and Wednesday 1st July

Event Stewards will support the special midweek evening performances in Shambles Market. Timings are yet to be confirmed, but you can expect to be required from approximately 6pm to 11.00pm. Again, availability on both dates would be ideal, but we are able to accommodate volunteers who can commit to one of the two performance dates.

Some of the roles you might be asked to take on

- Help to welcome audiences and provide general information about performances
- Manage entry to ticketed spaces
- Be positioned at key points to support the Event's safety plan
- Sell merchandise and give out information about the event
- Help manage audience flow and maintain clear access routes
- Support accessibility needs where required
- Act as a visible, friendly presence at performance locations
- Escalate any issues to the Station Master, Deputy Station Master, or Event Control

Who we're looking for

This role suits volunteers who are:

- Friendly, calm, and approachable
- Confident speaking with members of the public
- Comfortable working outdoors in busy environments
- Reliable and happy working as part of a team and following direction

Previous experience in stewarding, customer service, or volunteering is helpful but not essential.

Training & commitment

- Full role briefing and on-the-day support provided
- Safeguarding and event safety procedures will be provided

Why volunteer?

- Be part of one of York's most iconic cultural events
- Gain experience supporting live event delivery
- Work closely with performers, production teams, and fellow volunteers
- Play an important role in creating a safe and welcoming experience for audiences

Interested?

To express an interest in this role and/or to find out more please email volunteer@yorkmysteryplays.co.uk

Visit the [York Mystery Play website](#) for news and updates and to sign up to our mailing list.
