



Volunteer Opportunity: Station Master 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.

STATION MASTERS

We're looking for confident, organised volunteers to take on the key role of Station Masters for the 2026 York Mystery Plays.

Station Masters are at the heart of the action, helping ensure performances run smoothly, safely and on time at designated performance locations across the city.

Dates

Sunday 28th and Sunday 5th July 2026

- We'll have 4 city centre performance stations across both days so will need 4 Station Masters. Timings are yet to be confirmed but you can expect to be required from 9.00am to 6pm. Availability on both dates would be ideal but we may be able to accommodate volunteers who can only do one of the two.

AND/OR

Tuesday 30th June and Wednesday 1st July

- We'll have a special midweek performance of a selection of the plays within Shambles Market. Timings are yet to be confirmed but you can expect to be required from 5.30pm to 11pm. Again, availability on both dates would be ideal but we may be able to accommodate volunteers who can only do one of the two dates).

What you'll do

- Act as the lead volunteer at a performance station during performances
- Support a positive experience for audiences
- Coordinate wagon arrivals, performances, and departures
- Support and guide other volunteers on site
- Communicate with Event Control and escalate any issues if needed

Who we're looking for

This role suits volunteers who are:

- Calm, reliable, and confident communicating with others
- Comfortable taking responsibility in a busy environment
- Happy working with performers, volunteers, and the public
- Able to commit to the full role, including advance training and briefings

Previous experience in events, theatre, education, or team leadership is helpful, but not essential.

Training & commitment

- Full role briefing and on-the-day support provided
- Volunteers must complete online counter-terrorism training (Protect Duty / ACT Awareness) in advance of the event
- Volunteers will be required to attend a half-day familiarisation session in advance of the event (date TBC), including:
 - Walking the performance stations and wagon routes
 - Meeting the Event Safety Officer and Event Manager
 - Understanding site-specific safety arrangements and procedures
- Safeguarding and event safety procedures will be covered

Why volunteer?

- Be part of one of York's most iconic cultural events
- Gain hands-on experience in live event delivery
- Work closely with performers and production teams
- Play a key role in audience safety and experience

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.
