
EDINBURGH
Deaf
FESTIVAL

*Information for
performers*

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EDINBURGH *Deaf* FESTIVAL

Edinburgh Deaf Festival takes place each year in August. Performances will mostly take place at Deaf Action, 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh. The festival will be a celebration of deaf culture, language and heritage. There will be a full programme of events featuring deaf performers and artists. Events will be interpreted or captioned if required to ensure they are accessible to everyone, no matter their degree of deafness / hearing.

Our festival aims to bring the arts to deaf audiences, giving deaf people access to festivals in a way that they haven't had before. We are working in collaboration with the Edinburgh Festival Fringe to help improve the accessibility of their festival by providing interpreters and captioners for their shows. Our goal is integration, alongside a cultural celebration. We want to bring deaf performances to mainstream audiences. This is an opportunity for mainstream audiences to learn more about our rich deaf culture.

We have welcomed over 2,000 visitors to Edinburgh Deaf Festival each year, and we hope to welcome even more.

Find out more at edinburghdeaffestival.com

Working in partnership with the Fringe

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe is one of the greatest celebrations of arts and culture on the planet. For three weeks in August, the city of Edinburgh welcomes an explosion of creative energy from around the globe. Find out more at edfringe.com

Edinburgh Deaf Festival will run alongside the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The Fringe offers great opportunities to all performers to access arts industry services, awards, reviewers etc. By registering with Edinburgh Deaf Festival, we will give all performers the opportunity to choose whether they want to be part of the Fringe official programme or only enter as part of the Edinburgh Deaf Festival.

Entry to the Fringe includes a registration fee. We do not charge artists who are part of Edinburgh Deaf Festival to use our venue. There may be charges if you are a Fringe performer looking to hire a venue, not associated with Edinburgh Deaf Festival.

→ [Why register with the Fringe?](#)

→ [FAQs for artists](#)



Registering your performance as part of Edinburgh Deaf Festival

To register your interest in performing at Edinburgh Deaf Festival, please head to our website and fill in the application form. Please note that this form will not guarantee you a performance slot. Our team will review all applications and contact successful artists.

To sign up to Edinburgh Deaf Festival you must agree to terms with our programme of events team. We will register your show and include you in the festival program. For any queries, please email festival@deafaction.org



SIGN UP HERE



Expected timeline

MARCH

- Deadline to apply to Edinburgh Deaf Festival.

APRIL

- Final Fringe Society programme registration deadline.
- Fringe Society programme advertising booking deadline.
- Recommend arranging accommodation at this stage once you've accepted a venue offer.
- Final Fringe programme proofing and listing sign off.

MAY

- Full Edinburgh Deaf Festival programme on sale.
- If you're based outside the UK you may need to submit a Reduced Tax Payment Application to HMRC.

JUNE

- Fringe Society programme launched.
- Practical Space venue hire available.

JULY

- Practical Space venue hire available.

AUGUST

- Edinburgh Deaf Festival venue opens.

OCTOBER

- Final settlements issued.

Our typical agreement

One of our key strategic aims is to improve inclusion and accessibility to arts, culture, and heritage, promoting deaf culture and deaf arts, and bringing its rich heritage into the public sphere. As such, all deals are made on a case by case basis, and we will always be as flexible as possible. This pack covers our typical standard deal and explains how it is calculated.

Please check this section carefully, but do get in touch if you would like to collaborate and need any support.

Should your application be successful, we will offer you a space and a timeslot.

Our typical deal is based on a split of the box office income, 60% (to the show) and 40% (to the venue) versus a minimum guarantee to the venue. At the end of the festival, we will total your Fringe and Deaf Action Box Office receipts and calculate the split. We will then pay you your share of the box office. Both Deaf Action and the Fringe Society charge a fee for ticket stock and credit card services, based on 4% of the gross box office, which will be deducted before the split is calculated.

We typically receive settlement statements from the Fringe and other venue's box office providers by the end of September and aim to have all accounts cleared with companies by the end of October.



What's included

- Your timeslot within the venue's programme.
- Sales via our box office system, which is linked to the Fringe box office.
- We will register your show in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Programme, recharging you at cost for the Fringe registration fee.
- Press and marketing support for the festival programme as a whole, which may spotlight your performance, however you are responsible for promoting your show.
- Technical support to get your show in, but not to operate.
- A basic level of technical equipment as detailed in the venue specifications.
- Shared use of dressing rooms and (very limited) storage.
- Interpreting costs support for all deaf performers.

What's not included

- Fringe Society registration fee – see link below for current rates.
- Additional technical support or technical equipment hires, beyond those that come as standard in the venue.
- Additional time in the venue for set-up or get-out, additional to that which is part of the contract.
- There is also a separate charge if you wish to hire out our marketing or PR team.
- Charges for the use of music in your show levied by PRS/PPL. See below or learn more on page 8.
- Travel and accommodation - we cannot offer travel and accommodation support, but we are happy to support you finding an affordable solution, and access services for artists. See link below for more information.

- ➔ Fringe registration fees
- ➔ Marketing your performance
- ➔ Music licensing
- ➔ Travel and accommodation



Supporting festival performers

We will provide the following support to you and your team:

- Venue manager
- Full box office service
- Marketing and press
- Technical staff

SCHEDULING

We schedule up to eight shows per day, with shows running from around 12:00 until late each day. Most of the shows in our programme will run for 1 hour. Please note we have scheduled 30 minutes between shows for room turnover. This also allows audiences 15 minutes to enter/exit shows. It is important to keep these time constraints in mind when planning your set. If your time runs out, we have to move on to the next performer.

BOX OFFICE AND TICKETING

Our box office syncs live with that of the Fringe Society's so that tickets will always be available across the Fringe Society's box office, our individual venue box offices and deafaction.org/festival. Tickets for Deaf Action Fringe shows may also be purchased in person from the front door of Deaf Action. We operate as your ticket agent, as well as managing the allocations for press, promoter, and guest complimentary tickets.

Please note the number of tickets available will fluctuate depending on the venue space, number of performers, staff, interpreters required, etc. You will receive emails to notify you about how many tickets are sold, but you are responsible to promote your show, and encourage people to purchase your tickets. For more information on how to do this, you can get in touch with us at festival@deafaction.org

MARKETING AND PRESS

Our in-house marketing team will heavily promote the Edinburgh Deaf Festival across various channels to increase visitors. Performers are responsible for promoting their own show, and Deaf Action's in-house marketing team will be happy to support this, as well as assisting with marketing campaign support and advice. Further information will be available detailing the specifics of the services we provide in May.

PROGRAMMING

We will be programming on a rolling basis for the Festival from January until the final Fringe Society registration deadline. This is likely to be around April or May. Please complete our online Application Form to let us know about your show and, ideally, any video recordings, a script, reviews, images, and artist biographies that will help us to consider your application.



Supporting festival performers

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND COSTS

Any additional equipment you require beyond staging, lighting and sound/PA system, would need to be discussed and arranged with our Resources team and would be recharged to you at settlement.

Additional equipment that we would hire on your behalf would include radio mics, projectors and screens, any backline requirements and additional lighting equipment.

We will try to receive a discount from its suppliers for you and we will try to share as many costs as we can among the other shows in your venue to reduce equipment costs wherever possible. In order to get a better sense of what these costs are it is important to get in touch with our Technical Team sooner rather than later.

If you wish to bring your own equipment, such as lighting or sounds, they will be tested with PAT.

We can provide some dressing room and storage facilities when notified in advance of your performance. These will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Please be aware that Deaf Action will not be held responsible for any loss of, or damage to belongings. It is important to note that we have very limited storage. If you wish to access storage, please include it within your Application Form or get in touch festival@deafaction.org

MUSIC LICENSING – PRS AND PPL

If your performance includes any music, you may be subject to PRS or PPL deductions. PRS Music Licenses are required for any live or recorded music used that is controlled by PRS. The Fringe Society has a special agreement with PRS that means you will be charged up to 4.2% + VAT of your Box Office Income, or your Box Office Income net of VAT if you're UK VAT registered. PPL licensing covers royalties on the use of recorded music on behalf of record companies and performers.

These royalties are for the musicians that may have played on the album or the engineers that worked on it. Please ensure you include what song(s), artist(s), and length of track you will be using during your performance within your Application Form. [Find out more here.](#)

Need help?

If you need clarification on any of the above information, please get in touch festival@deafaction.org

Other information

COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS

You will be entitled to a certain number of complimentary tickets for your show. Complimentary ticket allocations are broken down as follows:

- **Company comps** – This allocation is for your use across the season. You request these tickets through the Box Office Manager’s office. Promoter Tickets, that are specifically used for industry bookers and promoters, are also deducted from this allocation.
- **Press comps** – These tickets are assigned through the Press Office and are intended for any press wanting to review a show.
- **Venue comps** – We typically use these tickets for our sponsors, Board members and other Edinburgh Deaf Festival VIPs.



Our venue

Fringe Venue 498: Deaf Action, 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QY

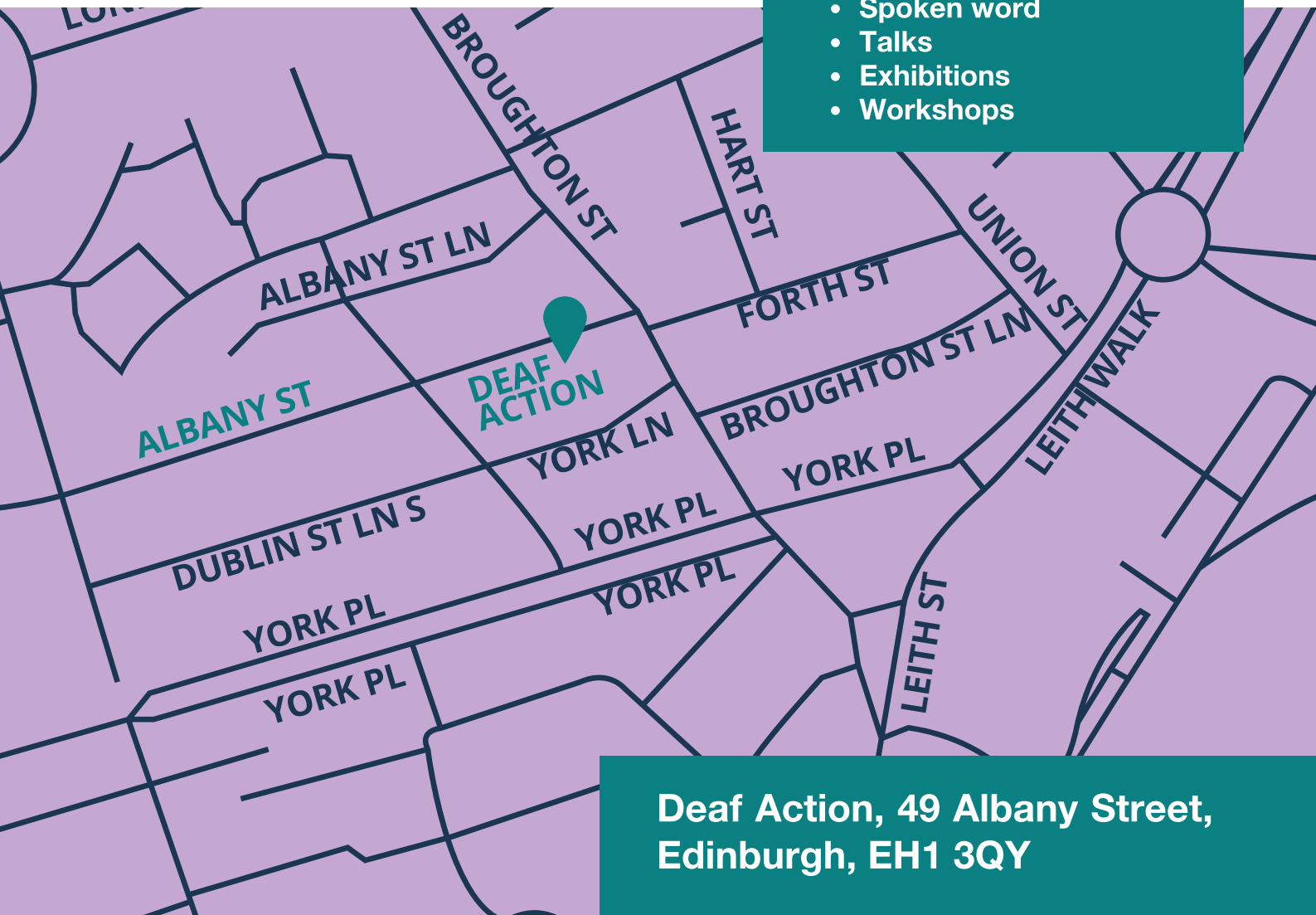
We have registered four spaces where performances and events can take place.

ACCESSIBILITY

Our building is wheelchair accessible. On route to Deaf Action from York Lane to Albany Street, there is a steep hill. There is an outside platform lift at the front door for wheelchair users to access the building. There is level access and a lift within the building to performance areas.

PROPOSED PERFORMANCES

- Cabaret and variety
- Theatre
- Comedy
- Music
- Family shows
- Spoken word
- Talks
- Exhibitions
- Workshops



Deaf Action, 49 Albany Street,
Edinburgh, EH1 3QY

Room details

The Church

AUDIENCE CAPACITY: 35 SEATS, 45 STANDING | SIZE: 5MT X 7MT APPROX.



- No stage, level floor
- Wheelchair accessible
- Changing room available
- Ideal for family performances, social events

Princess Joanne Suite

AUDIENCE CAPACITY: 20 SEATS | APPROX. SIZE: 4MT X 4MT



- No stage, level floor
- Wheelchair accessible
- Changing room available
- Ideal for exhibitions

Room details

Blackwood Bar

AUDIENCE CAPACITY: 40 SEATS 60 STANDING | APPROX. SIZE: 7MT X 14MT



- Food and drink available
- Wheelchair accessible by lift
- Changing room available
- Ideal for comedy or theatre performances
- Stage, lighting and PA system
- Livestreaming option

The Basement

AUDIENCE CAPACITY: 24 SEATS | APPROX. SIZE: 7MT X 4MT



- No stage, level floor
- Wheelchair accessible
- Changing room available
- Ideal for screenings, Q&As

About Deaf Action

CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING DEAF PEOPLE

Deaf Action is a deaf-led charity based in Edinburgh, celebrating and supporting deaf people. We were established in 1835 and work with deaf people across Scotland and the South of England. Our work is geared towards empowering all deaf people to achieve their potential and fully participate in society, with equality of rights, access and opportunity.

We support deaf people at every stage of their lives, in a way that recognises the diversity and varying needs of our communities, including deaf users of British Sign Language (BSL), and those who are deafened, deafblind and hard of hearing. We are very proud to be a deaf-led organisation. Almost half of our staff are deaf, and many more have grown up with deaf parents or siblings, so we truly understand the challenges deaf people face.

OUR VISION

Inclusive communities free from barriers, where deaf people can fulfil their potential and thrive.

OUR MISSION

To empower deaf people to achieve their potential and participate in society, with equality of rights, access and opportunity.

Find out more at deafaction.org





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www.edinburghdeaffestival.com



Edinburgh Deaf Festival is brought to you by Deaf Action.
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SC009898. Registered address, 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3QY