

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THE GARAGE LAUNCHES ITS NEW SPRING SEASON OF EVENTS 2017

The Garage has launched its new season of events for spring 2017. *Scratch Nights* (20 January) kick off the season with cutting-edge work-in-progress pieces from 4 local performance companies. **Zest Theatre** are back with another brilliant show – *Thrive* (9 March), a show inspired by true stories of young people, exploring the inner strength we can often find when faced with trauma, **Barnstorm Theatre Company** present *Monday's Child* (3 April), a joyous show for all the family about the bond between the young and the old, and **The Garage Youth Theatre Company** presents *Zero for the Young dudes* (28 February), a story of inmates at a bizarre summer camp plotting a revolution...or has it already happened?

This season aims to increase accessibility for the multitude of theatre, workshops and classes held at the Garage; **Casson & Friends** present *Night at the Theatre* (17 February), an accessible dance theatre show, a family adventure celebrating the creativity in all of us, an exciting new weekly course - *Dance for Wellbeing* (16 January – 17 July), focuses on improving mental health through dance and exercise for ages 16+. There are also new taster sessions for *Wheelchair Dance* (13 February – 3 March), for young people ages 10 - 18 who have physical disabilities or limited mobility, led by experienced tutors trained by the **Wheelchair Dance Sport Association**. Masterclasses and courses include *Working with the Visually Impaired* (26 January) and a *Deaf Awareness Workshop* (23 February) with the aim of improving inclusivity.

New Year's resolutions are always hard to stick to, especially if your resolutions are to get fit or start a new hobby. So why not commit to a 10 week term for one of the fantastic classes that The Garage offers? There are classes for all ages, abilities and levels, from ballet classes to theatre, street dance to songwriting. Term starts the week beginning 16 January.

New for the season are *Ukulele for Beginners* classes, for ages 7 – 9, and 9 – 11; a *Ukulele Tutors' Practice Sharing Evening* masterclass (24 January), teaming up with **ILOVEUKE**, this session is a training and networking evening for ukulele tutors, a *Face Painting* course is also offered, led by professional creative body artist **Hayley Bird**. Half term opportunities include *Scooby's Street School* for 7 – 11 year olds, *Toddler Disco*, and *Actors & Musicians Academy*, a three day masterclass with award-winning theatre company DumbWise, giving budding young performers the chance to gain experience and skills.

Adam Taylor Executive Director of The Garage said: "This season we have a brilliant range of theatre shows, classes and workshops on offer for all ages. We are delighted to be able to increase our accessible offering with new opportunities in wheelchair dance, dance for wellbeing and courses for professionals. Whether you want to enjoy a show

with the family, watch exciting new work from local artists, rekindle your love of dance or try something new, there is lots to discover at The Garage this spring!"

Visit thegarage.org.uk to see the full range of opportunities and events in this spring season.

- ENDS-

Notes for Editors

ABOUT THE GARAGE

The Garage is a centre for performing arts located in Norwich which supports the creative journeys of participants, audiences and artists. It is home to The Garage Trust, a registered charity providing support and development opportunities for children, young people and families from all backgrounds. The organisation provides a year round programme of activities including high quality programming, participation, education and training for all ages from its city centre venue and beyond through work with schools and partners across the county, region and nationally. For more information visit www.thegarage.org.uk

The Garage is a registered charity No:1098975 The Garage is a registered company No:4510240

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