

*Monster Productions is one of the UK's leading producers of musical theatre for children. We produce work for children of all ages with a special emphasis on under 7's. Our work is produced from our base in Wallsend and toured year round throughout England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. We provide Christmas seasons for the Chelsea Theatre in London, for the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield and at the Buddle Arts Centre, Wallsend.*

*Monster Productions was founded by Chris Speyer and leuan Einion in 2000 and became a regular revenue funded client of Arts Council England in 2002. A new three year funding agreement with the ACE has been agreed in early 2008. The Northern Rock Foundation has also generously supported the company since its inception. We also receive considerable support in kind from North Tyneside Council.*

*Turnover in 2004/5 was £196,000. For 2005/6 it was £236,000. For 2006/7 it was £263,000. Estimated turnover for 2007/8 is around £175,000. The company is a not for profit company limited by guarantee.*

*The company has a voluntary board that has historically consisted of seven or eight members. Three vacancies have arisen. First for someone with considerable financial experience and acumen; second, a practising theatre artist/administrator and thirdly a member/s of the teaching profession or an education advisor. We expect board members to stay with us for up to seven years (the historical average length of membership is around five years). Following the departure of Sowmya Pulle and Paul James from the board over the past two years, BME groups are not currently represented on the board.*

*Current members of the board are: -*

<i>Caroline Bowditch (chair)</i>	<i>Dancer and arts consultant</i>
<i>Richard Bliss (secretary)</i>	<i>Formerly Director of Communications, Northern Stage, now freelance journalist &amp; arts consultant</i>
<i>Tony Goode</i>	<i>Drama teacher and academic</i>
<i>Esther Salamon</i>	<i>Artist and arts consultant</i>
<i>Dr. Tom Shakespeare</i>	<i>Sociologist and writer, chair ACE (North East)</i>

*The Board meets quarterly at the Monster Productions offices at the Buddle Arts Centre in Wallsend. The next meeting is on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 6.00 p.m. There are also artistic and personnel sub-committees, which are convened from time to time. Observers from the Arts Council and North Tyneside Council are also invited to attend board meetings.*

*During 2008/9 the company's staffing is being restructured. We currently have only three permanent members of staff. All other staff work on short-term, freelance contracts. Our latest annual report can be found: -*

[http://www.monsterproductions.co.uk/pdfs/Report\\_2006\\_7.pdf](http://www.monsterproductions.co.uk/pdfs/Report_2006_7.pdf)

*Please send expressions of interest to leuan Einion, Chief Executive at: -  
info@monsterproductions.co.uk*

## COMPANY MISSION STATEMENT

*We make musical theatre, modern myths and visual magic for children, families and communities.*

*Our work is playful, interactive, often humorous and never patronising.*

*We seek through our plays to help children make sense of the world and through our characters and stories we provide families with a rich, shared vocabulary of images and symbols.*

*Our work is also made distinctive by the quality of our live music, sets, puppets, costumes and lighting and the attention to detail we give to every area of the production.*

*We believe that all children should have access to theatre that is created specifically for them and is of the highest possible artistic standard and that live theatre with its ability to respond directly to particular children in a particular situation can give an experience that no recorded media can offer.*

*We believe that the best children's theatre is good family theatre; surprising, challenging and entertaining every member of the audience regardless of their age.*

*We work with theatres and all other organisations committed to building audiences for family theatre throughout the year. We seek active partnerships with any organisations, institutions and individuals that share our ambition to improve the quality and status of children's theatre in Britain.*

*We cast our work and employ artists such that the diversity of our audiences is reflected in our staffing.*

*Through our education packs, publications and CDs we help schools, playgroups, nurseries and families to derive additional enjoyment and maximum educational benefit from our performances. We work closely with LEAs and schools to ensure that our educational resources are both relevant and effectively deployed.*

*We have a commitment to training young theatre artists in the particular skills required by those who wish to work in the fields of family theatre and musical theatre and we are working to build a pool of actor/musicians who share our belief in the value of this work.*

*We are committed to working with universities, academics and professional bodies to increase the stock of knowledge in Britain in relation to children's theatre and its efficacy.*

*Our work is created in the north east of England and toured nationally and internationally..*