

Audio Description Training – Open Call to Attend Audition on Tuesday 25 November

In Spring 2026, Arts & Disability Ireland, The Lir Academy, National Academy of Dramatic Arts and Mind's Eye Audio Description will run a training course in Audio Description in Dublin.

The Course will equip learners with the necessary skills and techniques to work as free-lance audio describers in theatre, with transferable skills for film, television and visual arts.

The course will cover:

- visual impairment awareness and guiding
- the scripting and delivery of audio description
- learning how to lead a touch tour
- developing language and vocal skills
- operating audio description equipment

The course will take place both face to face in Dublin, with other sessions online.

We are keen to hear from applicants with the following skillset:

- A clear and pleasant speaking voice.
- An excellent command of written and spoken English.
- A commitment to and understanding of theatre.
- A commitment to access.
- A willingness to learn and to accept criticism.
- An ability to work as part of a team.
- Self-motivation and organisational skills.
- An ability to take the initiative.
- Excellent observational skills.
- Good sight and hearing.

Application Process

The application process is in two-phases as follows:

Stage 1: Interested applicants are requested to submit a CV and a short paragraph (50 words) on why you think you would make a good audio describer. Please email to jenny@adiarts.ie

Closing date for submissions is 18.00 on Friday 10 November

Stage 2: Shortlisted applicants will be required to attend an Information and Audition Day which will take place in **Dublin on Tuesday 25 November, from 11.30 – 15.30 at The Lir Academy**. Eight successful candidates will be selected from those attending the Information and Audition Day. Selected applicants must be available for the full course dates as follows:

- Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 January | 10.00 – 17.00 | in person at The Lir Academy
- Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 January | 10.00 – 14.00 | online
- Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 February | 10.00 – 14.00 | online
- Monday 16 February | 10.00 – 14.00 | online
- Tbc | in-person final session and assessments (subject to show availability)

Assessments: Participants will audio describe a piece of live theatre and will also need to be available to see the theatre work in advance before preparing the audio description script for assessment.

There will be homework tasks set throughout the course.

Course Fee: €300

This also covers lunch on the first and last day, tea and coffee during the sessions, and your theatre tickets. Course participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

Course Tutor

Award-winning Audio Descriptor, Anne Hornsby, is an accredited Audio Description Trainer. She is a pioneer of audio description and established Mind's Eye in 1992. She leads a team who work all over the UK and Ireland to provide audio description for theatre, galleries, festivals and other arts events. Further information at www.mindseyedescription.co.uk

About Arts & Disability Ireland

Arts & Disability Ireland (ADI) is the national development and resource organisation for arts and disability. We promote engagement with the arts at all levels – as professional artists, audience members and arts workers – for people of all ages with disabilities of all kinds. ADI works towards arts programmes and arts venues becoming fully accessible experiences for all audiences. We advocate for inclusive policy and practice which provides real access to all aspects of the arts for people with disabilities, and for everyone. Further information at www.adiarts.ie

About the Lir Academy

The Lir Academy was established in 2011 to satisfy identified needs within the theatre, TV and film industries. Offering a range of undergraduate, postgraduate and short courses, The Lir Academy is successfully supplying the theatre, film, TV and related industries with students who have been trained to the highest standards possible. All training from introductory level to degree level is taught by industry professionals who take immense pride in teaching their craft and hold diversity, equity and access to the arts at the core of their training. Further information at www.thelir.ie