

Audience Response Report 2014

Western Edge Youth Arts collects audience feedback through audience survey forms distributed after each show.

In 2014 audiences were surveyed at 7 shows. Collectively 346 people responded from an approx. total audience across those shows of 1400, giving a 25% survey response rate.

Survey questions aim to collect both quantitative and qualitative information to inform our programming and marketing activities.

Age Groups:

Title of Show	# Responses	>13	13-16	16-20	20-25	25-35	<35	<50	N.S
Tales of Teenage Timebombs	19	0%	11%	5%	5%	16%	63%	0%	0%
Edge Iago	19	0%	0%	16%	21%	26%	5%	32%	0%
Tate St Loki	58	17%	9%	2%	7%	10%	53%	2%	0%
Mt Alexander Misfits	25	0%	12%	8%	4%	4%	40%	24%	8%
Scheherazade	85	6%	13%	1%	6%	19%	55%	0%	0%
Forbidden N Geelong SC	43	5%	21%	14%	5%	5%	23%	28%	0%
Footscray City 'Be Not Afraid'	97	5%	8%	8%	1%	6%	70%	0%	1%
Total	346	6%	11%	6%	5%	11%	52%	7%	1%

If you speak a language other than English at home, please state.

Title of Show	# Responses	Yes	No	Not Stated
Tales of Teenage Time bombs	19	16%	11%	74%
Edge Iago	19	32%	5%	63%
Tate St Loki	58	7%	10%	83%
Mt Alexander Misfits	25	24%	12%	64%
Scheherazade	85	14%	9%	76%
Forbidden N Geelong SC	43	49%	5%	47%
Footscray City 'Be Not Afraid'	97	1%	7%	92%
Total	346	15%	8%	76%

Languages Stated: Samoan, Tongan, Arabic, German, Cantonese, Italian, Vietnamese, French, Spanish, Greek, Somali, Bengali, Indonesian, Dari, Mandarin, Tagalog, Swahili, Japanese, Dutch, Esperanto, Croatian, Macedonian, Slavic, Karen.

Was the Story Relevant To Young People?

Title of Show	# Responses	Highly Relevant	Relevant	Of little Relevance	Of No Relevance	Not stated
Tales of Teenage Time bombs	19	79%	16%	5%	0%	0%
Edge Iago	19	58%	42%	0%	0%	0%
Tate St Loki	58	40%	45%	10%	2%	3%
Mt Alexander Misfits	25	68%	20%	0%	0%	12%
Scheherazade	85	73%	22%	1%	0%	4%
Forbidden N Geelong SC	43	77%	16%	2%	0%	5%
Footscray City 'Be Not Afraid'	97	46%	53%	1%	0%	0%
Total	346	60%	34%	3%	0%	3%

What about the show's artistic merit?

Title of Show	# Responses	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Okay	Poor	Not Stated
Tales of Teenage Timebombs	19	63%	26%	11%	0%	0%	0%
Edge Iago	19	58%	37%	5%	0%	0%	0%
Tate St Loki	58	66%	31%	2%	0%	0%	2%
Mt Alexander Misfits	25	56%	36%	0%	0%	0%	8%
Scheherazade	85	60%	31%	5%	1%	0%	4%
Forbidden N Geelong SC	43	72%	26%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Footscray City 'Be Not Afraid'	97	72%	25%	0%	0%	0%	3%
Total	346	66%	29%	2%	0%	0%	3%

How did you hear about the show?

Title of Show	# Responses	Friends & Family	Flyer	E-mail	Facebook	Other	Not Specified
Tales of Teenage Time bombs	19	84%	0%	0%	0%	5%	11%
Edge Iago	19	74%	0%	5%	5%	11%	5%
Tate St Loki	58	60%	2%	0%	0%	26%	12%
Mt Alexander Misfits	25	64%	0%	0%	0%	24%	12%
Scheherazade	85	73%	2%	4%	0%	18%	4%
Forbidden N Geelong SC	43	65%	5%	2%	0%	23%	5%
Footscray City 'Be Not Afraid'	97	87%	2%	0%	0%	9%	2%
Total	346	74%	2%	1%	0%	17%	6%

Below is a selection of audience comments collected from surveys to give an insight of the impact the production had on individuals.

Edge Iago

“The relevance to issues today - the contemporary context.” (25-35)

“Highlights importance and ever-present issues within society.” (16-20, Vietnamese)

“Full of emotion. Smooth transitioning of each section. Loudness and clarity of the actor’s voices. Addressing controversial/confronting issues.” (16-20)

“Strength of performance of all the characters. I think the themes of this is very relevant for the young audience 16-20 students.” (Over 50)

“Very vibrant performance and well acted. Issues of manipulations both by the seducing female and male actors were well portrayed. The macho culture emphasising competition and violence to resolve issues was also well expressed.” (Over 50, Italian)

“Terrific adaptation of the story. Great performers. Universal human behaviour that still exists and young people showing hear/see/learn about.” (Over 50, German)

“It reflects upon what is happening in the day to day life. Knowing people who go through this makes it more real.” (16-20, Arabic)

“The story and they way the characters were portrayed by the actors. Seeing the highs and lows of each character. Story was very deep and relatable and “in your face”, which was excellent.” (20-25)

“Energy of cast, enthusiasm, strong issues addresses, great accents, cultural exploration.” (25-35)

“Great coverage of all aspects of misogyny, racism, cultural themes across all ages and family units - everyone should be able to relate in some way.” (35-50)

Tate St ‘Loki’

“It was mesmerizing. Really enjoyed a performance which sustained a theme for an extended period.” (Over 35)

“It was great to see kids learning about other cultures and histories through drama. It looked like so much fun and they all spoke with so much confidence - awesome to see!” (20-25)

“It was a fabulous performance. All the kids were great and really showcased how far they have come as performers.” (Over 35)

"Fun way to study history and culture. Building confidence in children. Opportunities for kinaesthetic learning. Learning foundation performance skills such as voice projection and public speaking." (20-25)

"The sheer joy bursting off the stage. The kids bristling with confidence, projecting their voices like old pro's and enjoying their interaction with their audience." (Over 35)

"Confidence displayed by the kids performing - personal growth." (Over 35)

"Great acting! Focus, balance between humour/serious moments. Puppetry/choreography. Enjoyment of students - their professional attitude." (Over 35)

"The actors were so enthusiastic and obviously enjoying themselves - well done!" (Over 35)

"The community, feeling, belonging to a vibrant community: (Tate Street). Feeling part of the community." (Over 35, French)

"Seeing the enjoyment on the children's faces and being involved in a group activity." (Over 35)

"So good to see high level of choreography, set design, engaging." (Over 35)

"I travel every year to see the Western Edge performance and am always delighted by their commitment to excellence in performing arts." (Over 35)

"Funny, fantastic and fabulous!!!" (Over 35)

Tales of Teenage Time bombs

"The realistic representation of adults (especially the teacher)." (24-35)

"Young people talking about real problems, relationships between parents/kids, kids/kids." (Over 35)

"The solo performances, they were very moving." (Over 35)

"That they were all issues faced by young people and that people from different backgrounds could relate to." (20-25, Samoan/Tongan)

"Dealing with teenage issues." (Over 35)

"The plot was simple and realistic." (25-35)

"Reflective of the kids lives." (25-35)

"The story is very relevant to today's teenagers and they portrayed most aspects of their society, the main conclusion that all young people need to be heard, and that they need support from their family and freedom to be with their friends." (Over 35)

"The story dealt with real issues in a very real, yet at times, humoring way." (Over 35)

"Very impressed, the passion the actors put into their performances was fantastic." (Over 35)

"Hard issues dealt with light hearted sense of humor." (Over 35)

Footscray City 'Be not afraid'

"It was WONDERFUL - truly inventive, beautiful, funny, just brilliant - using all the talents of the students to their most wonderful." (Over 35)

"All, especially the juxtapositions of visuality to reality (fresh)." (Over 35, Esperanto)

"I liked the movement of the audience and the multimodal experiences. Actors were terrific." (Over 35)

"Performance was terrific. Sounds and background was great, set good, performances very convincing and professional. Looked like they enjoyed themselves too." (Over 35)

"I was engaged the whole way through. I loved the experience of being 'in' the show, amongst it all. Several of the actors were incredible." (25-35)

"Innovative, refreshing - I felt the actors had a very clear understanding of the text." (Over 35)

"I thought cast and crew should've come out for a bow at the end. They deserved it." (Over 35)

"Very inventive and clever melding of the two Shakespeare stories - enough of the original language to keep the poetry and enough everyday language to make it flow." (Over 35)

"I've never experienced anything like this - I thought it was fabulous, very different." (Over 35)

"Thoroughly enjoyed it, costumes were great, great contemporary way to perform Shakespeare that young people can enjoy and relate to." (Over 35)

Forbidden N Geelong SC

"It was funny and important because racism is a big issue in our society." (13-16)

"Seeing students who have matured and interact well with all cultures." (Over 50)

"The show and the culture with different backgrounds and understanding." (Over 50)

"The performance was quite professionally done. Very surprising the professionalism from a group of school kids. The serious side of the play made it fit in nicely with today's problems of racism." (13-16)

"The diversity was very well demonstrated clear, humors but insightful." (16-20, Italian)

"The whole hearted commitment to the performance. The expression of concerns that are real to the young people." (35-50)

"The multicultural performance of the multicultural performers - see, everyone can work together on an excellent production: well done to all." (Over 50)

"Great energy and convincing acting from performers" (Over 50)

"A brilliant performance from a truly talented bunch of kids. Well done to all, hold your heads high." (35-50)

Scheherazade

"Loved the audience interaction. Loved the different spaces and journey through them. Loved the acting and all the stories." (Over 35, Bengali)

"Moral of the story. Cultural diversity." (Over 35)

"Interaction from the actors and audience." (Over 35)

"Brechtian elements - accessible to students." (25-35)

"Such variety...but the powerful conclusion with all the statistics about violence against women was amazingly impactful after watching all of the preceding stories." (Over 35)

"I loved how it was interactive. Not just sitting and watching but part of the story. Very intriguing and excellent storyline." (20-25)

"It sent a very clear message about violence against women." (Over 35)

"So many talented students. Well put together piece - inclusive of all the cast members. Enjoyed the script and performance. Very proud of them. Great themes." (Over 50)

"Being lost and found again. Explosive, talented people...4 star 'wow'. (Over 35)

"The story needs to be told - amazing!" (Over 35)

"Great idea, would be great to see a 'touring' version, school to school." (25-35)

"Loved the weaving of a traditional story with theme of violence against women and contemporary culture." (Over 35)

"It's good that young ones aren't afraid to tackle difficult subjects. It needs to come from the younger generation to phase bad things out. Great work!!" (Over 35)

Mt Alexander 'Misfits'

"Young people doing something together for the arts." (35-50)

"The kids were fantastic, the stories were very true for the kids - confronting for some of the parents. (One mum in the front row was crying with one story). Great to get the kids point." (35-50)

"The fact that students wrote the script and then executed it so well." (35-50)

"That the kids took ownership of the work they did and did so in a collaborative manner. Great to see such a range of kids, in terms of their backgrounds all working together." (Over 50)

"That the show showed how people from other countries felt coming to a new environment and having to adapt." (16-20, Arabic)

"Tonight's performance was high skill from all involved. Wonderful stories, which made all shine. Hope to see more" (35-50)

"The incorporation of some really big issues. Racism, standing up for yourself, divorce and family trouble. I think they were covered really well and put out really positive message." (20-25)

"Great use of props. None of the language seemed forced, it felt really natural. It was a great laugh too!" (20-25)

"Loved the short-length of individual pieces. Easy to stick with." (35-50, German/Italian)

"The kids were great, wonderful performances by all." (Over 50)