

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
18 February 2009

Local director goes international!

Co-Artistic Director of iceandfire theatre company, South London-based Sara Masters, has been awarded a 2009 Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship.

In September Sara will be travelling to Canada to explore different approaches to creating theatre for young people. She will visit theatre companies and venues across the country who create and produce work for children and teenagers, investigating different ways of writing and staging work in schools and theatres.

Sara says that the opportunity will not only be of benefit to her personally, but she will be able to expand and improve iceandfire's work back home:

"To have the freedom to go and explore a topic which I'm really passionate about in a country that produces such exciting work for young people is a brilliant opportunity. The research that I do in Canada will really inform my work and the education projects that iceandfire produces across London and I'm really grateful to the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for enabling me to do this."

Sara trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and worked as an actor before forming the award-winning theatre company Fervour in 2002. She joined iceandfire in 2004, producing all of the company's national theatre tours as well as developing the company's education and participation programmes, writing iceandfire's first production for young people, *Separated*, and creating the 'Protect the Human' playwriting competition, in conjunction with Amnesty International. Sara also holds an MA in Human Rights from University College London.

Background notes:

iceandfire creates compelling theatre that makes real and relevant the impact of human rights issues on our everyday lives. The company was founded in 2003 by playwright Sonja Linden inspired by her seven years as writer in residence at the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture. Over the last six years they have become a theatre company with a distinct, contemporary voice creating work of excellence across our four work strands: production, outreach, education and participation.

www.iceandfire.co.uk.