



You will hear a woman calling the National Theatre to inquire about different membership types.

<https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/support-us/individuals/memberships-join-or-renew/digital-membership>

Matthew Hello, National Theatre Membership hotline, matthew speaking, how can I help you?

Chelsea Hi, I was wondering if you could help me? I'm a little confused about the different memberships.

Matthew Of course, what would you like to know?

Chelsea First of all, how many are there and what are the differences?

Matthew Okay, well, we have four memberships: Priority, Digital plus, Priority Plus, and supporting Cast memberships.

Shall I run through the different memberships now?

Chelsea Yes please.

Matthew First of all is priority membership, this costs 80 pounds per year and gives you advance ticket booking, so you can book before the general public gets access to tickets. You'll get regular email updates so you'll always know what's coming up and a dedicated members website with lots of extras as well as a digital newsletter every month. Finally, there will be invitations to members only events like our annual Christmas party.

Next is the digital plus membership. This is more expensive at 180 pounds. You get all the advantages of the priority membership and it gives you unlimited access to our streamed performances as well as an annual online event with special guests.

The Priority Plus membership is 200 pounds and as well as the priority benefits, there is exclusive content on the website, an opportunity to book the private member's room once a year, and save five pounds on our National Theatre series of talks.

Finally we have the Supporting Cast membership. This one is expensive at 600 pounds. But, as well as everything I've already mentioned, you can access the members bar and room all year round and there is a special annual supporters party where you'll get to mingle with our actors, writers and directors. Also, of course, ticket access is first and you get the best seats.

Chelsea Okay, that's a lot to take in all at once.

Matthew Yes, it is. The easiest way to sort it is to think about how much you're willing to spend and what you want from your membership. Hopefully, the two needs will match up.

Chelsea Yes, hopefully, umm, I'll need to think about this.

Matthew Of course, if you like I can email you a brochure so you can read over the differences.

Chelsea Oh that would be very helpful, thank you.

Matthew Can I have your name please?

Chelsea Yes, it's Mrs Chelsea Baldwin

Matthew Thanks. And your email address?

Chelsea Okay, its chelsea1957@hotmail.com

Matthew Thank you, I've just sent the brochure to you, be sure to check your spam folder if it isn't in your inbox.

Chelsea Oh, okay, I will.

Matthew Just one other thing before you go, are you aware that the cost of each membership comprises of a donation amount and the actual benefits cost?

Chelsea No, I wasn't, what does that mean?

Matthew Just that for each membership a portion of the subscription is given to charity, for example with the priority membership, which costs 80 pounds per year, only 11 pounds is the for the membership and the rest goes to charities that support the arts and artists.

- Chelsea** Oh, that's unusual.
- Matthew** Yes, but unfortunately it is necessary. The artists jobs are usually casual and for short, fixed terms, the so called gig market, so they miss out on many government benefits when they are not working, or sick. Also, there is a shortfall in arts funding which comprises only 0.05% of government spending, so we use the funding to run programmes and so on.
- Chelsea** I see, so the memberships are really a way to give back to the arts community.
- Matthew** Yes, exactly. For example, we help run school programs and have a kit that we give to teachers, we also give designers, writers, and other non-stage artists the chance to work at the theatre on short term attachments so they can gain experience that will help them in their careers.
- Chelsea** That's marvelous, I didn't realise the extent of the activities the National Theatre is involved in.
- Matthew** Most people don't, they just think we run the theatres, but there is so much more to the organisation and memberships are a very important part of ensuring that we can continue.
- Chelsea** Yes, I can see that. Umm, I'll definitely be getting a membership, but I do need some time to decide on which one.
- Matthew** Of course, I understand. Take your time and read through brochure I've sent. Is there anything else I can help you with today?
- Chelsea** No, I don't think so. You've been very helpful already.
- Matthew** You're very welcome.

Answers

1. £180
2. No
3. Once / 1
4. £600
5. chelsea1957
6. donation
7. 11
8. sick
9. programs / programmes
10. experience