

**DANCECITY**   
DANCE FOR THE NORTH EAST

RECRUITMENT PACK  
**DANCE CITY  
BOARD**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
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Image: The Collective,  
Dance City's MA Advanced Dance  
Performance Company  
Dance Artists: Eleni Antoniou  
and Lily Dooks  
Photo Credit: Bill Knight

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



The Board of Dance City is looking to appoint new Board Members to provide inspirational leadership and strategic vision to take the charitable organisation onto its next stage of development. New Board Members will help us to ensure a sustainable business model that successfully serves our audiences, communities and stakeholders for decades to come.

Dance City is a charity and its main objective is that of promoting, maintaining, improving and educating by the encouragement of the arts. We primarily focus on dance, but touch on drama and music and many other artforms too.

2020 has been a momentous year for us, as it has been for the whole world. Until the Coronavirus pandemic hit, Dance City had been enjoying a hugely successful period of development and growth.

We were pleased to welcome our new Artistic Director and CEO, Anand Bhatt. With a wealth of experience in performing, teaching and producing dance in many national and international settings, Anand brings an exciting new perspective and set of skills to Dance City. Anand's arrival has also given us an opportunity to consider our governance, and the shape of the Board that we will need to navigate the next few years, which is why we have taken the decision to recruit several new Board Members at this time.

I have been impressed and inspired by the undaunted passion and commitment of the Dance City team, to adapt and innovate amidst such challenging conditions. To keep delivering dance training, to keep supporting dance artists, and to keep changing lives through dance in communities.

One of the most positive affirmations of our work was to be rated 'outstanding' by the Arts Council for our work on the Creative Case for Diversity throughout 2019-20:

*"Dance City's commitment to CCD through support for artists of colour, LGBTQ and disabled artists and organisations has been outstanding across all themes for the period, with diversity clearly fundamental to driving processes and output."*

**Kristian Pellissier, Arts Council England Relationship Manager**

We have much to be proud of, and more to look forward to – we hope that you might consider applying to be part of our future picture as a Board Member and look forward to hearing from you.

**Sharon Paterson**  
Chair, Dance City Board

# JOIN US

**Anand Bhatt, Artistic Director and CEO**

I joined Dance City in July 2020, a very challenging time for all of us as we reacted and adapted to the global Coronavirus pandemic.

The welcome from the team, Board and stakeholders of Dance City has been fantastic. As we emerge from this crisis into a new stage of development, building a sustainable organisation serving our communities, learners, artists, stakeholders and audiences, we will need to work together and recognise the value of our inter-connectedness.

A big part of this vision for the future involves bringing in new perspectives, skills and experience at Board level.

Established more than 30 years ago, Dance City has a proud history as a charity, but one which is resilient and commercially minded. Prior to the Coronavirus pandemic we generated roughly two thirds of our income through trading and hires.

Our public classes, both in Newcastle and Sunderland, have continued to prove incredibly popular. In 2019 we delivered almost 4,000 participation sessions to over 45,000 attendees. This represents a 41% increase in participation over the last five years.

We are now embarking on a new era of 'hybrid' dance teaching, delivering in-person socially distanced classes within Covid-safe guidelines, alongside online versions of these classes. The silver lining is that we are able to reach more people in more places than ever before.

Our theatre is dedicated to dance and we are deeply committed to audience development, which has meant that we have increased theatre attendance by 30% over the last five years.

We are investing in technology that will enable us to broadcast performances live, and have been a leader in the field of performance venues as we begin to programme socially distanced shows and events.

Dance City Training Academy offers specialist dance training for gifted and talented young people from the age of 10 through our Centre for Advanced Training, our BA and our postgraduate MA programme.

Throughout the pandemic we have maintained formal dance training, blending real life and digital provision. We have welcomed more students than ever back to train with us this year.

Our Dance Engagement Team has been busier than ever, especially during the COVID-19 crisis, getting out and about to bring dance to communities throughout the North East. In 2019-20 we engaged with more than 3,500 children and young people outside our building.

Our work to support and champion professional dance artists has not diminished and we are still commissioning North East artists to create new work and providing continuous professional development opportunities including 336 hours of free pro class.

Dance City has been awarded £240,000 from the Culture Recovery Fund via Arts Council England, to support the organisation through the COVID-19 pandemic.

This represents a huge amount of confidence in, and support for Dance City's work in what has been a challenging year, and with many challenges still to come.

The grant provides us with a healthy chance of survival through the next phases of the coronavirus pandemic, which seem likely to involve sustained periods of restrictions on social, educational and leisure activities.

I hope that you feel inspired and motivated to explore this opportunity to join the Dance City Board, and join us on our journey into a new stage of development.

**Anand Bhatt**  
Artistic Director and CEO

# THE ROLE OF BOARD MEMBERS

## LEGAL STATUS

Dance City is a charity registered in England and Wales (no 702801)

Dance City's primary charitable objective is that of promoting, maintaining, improving and educating by the encouragement of the arts. We primarily focus on dance, but touch on drama and music and many other artforms too.

## THE CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:

Chair Sharon Paterson  
Kiz Crosbie  
Roshan Israni  
Rosie Kay  
Ann Cooper  
Kay Wilson  
Mike Cockburn  
Ally Robson  
Andy Bairstow  
(co-opted Member) Jeff Dean

Biographies for all Board Members and the full Dance City team can be found at:  
[www.dancecity.co.uk/about-us/people](http://www.dancecity.co.uk/about-us/people)

The chair Sharon Paterson leads the Board in the governance of Dance City and is a public-facing advocate for the organisation.

### Remuneration:

These are voluntary roles and no financial remuneration is offered to any Board Member.

### Time Commitment:

Minimum of four Board meetings per year (usually late afternoon in Newcastle or on Zoom).

Annual Board Away Day.

Occasional individual meetings with Executive team or Chair.

Sub-committee meetings as required (at least quarterly).\*

Attendance at least two Dance City events per year.

The overall time commitment is estimated at 1-2 days per quarter.

### Length of Service:

3-year term with a review with the Chair after six months and potential to be reappointed for an additional 3-year term.

### Responsible to:

The Dance City Board.

### Expenses:

Dance City reimburses reasonable travel costs from outside the north east and costs which arise from access requirements during the course of business. The Board is required to adhere to the Charity Commission Charity Governance Code [www.governancecode.org](http://www.governancecode.org)

While it is preferable for the Board to meet in person this is not always possible, in which case we welcome Board Members to attend by Zoom. Dance City is committed to working inclusively and we try our best to meet people's access needs to enable them to attend meetings and engage fully; this includes using accessible spaces and covering access support costs.

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes in relation to public benefit
- Approve artistic and creative plans, ensuring these are realistic and achievable
- Comply with the charity's governing document and the law
- Fully understand the legal duties and responsibilities of Board Members and be committed to good governance
- Manage the charity's resources responsibly, setting strategy in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines, and the Company's business plan, and monitor outcomes
- Provide support, advice, expertise and constructive challenge to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT)
- Ensure the charity is accountable, operates in accordance with company law and is compliant with Charity Commission requirements
- Monitor the financial viability of the charity, ensuring prudent financial management and that the company's assets are safeguarded and well managed, overseeing budgets, management accounts and annual financial statements
- Actively support the charity in achieving its fundraising targets
- Define the charity's employment policies
- Make decisions relating to hiring of Directors
- Agree job descriptions for Senior Leadership Team and regularly review levels of pay
- Review and authorise all Dance City policies
- Act at all times in the charity's best interests and with reasonable care and skill

## OTHER DUTIES

Board Members are ambassadors for the charity and represent Dance City at performances activities and events. They open up networks and contacts to help Dance City to broker new relationships and also support the recruitment of new Board Members.

\*Dance City is in the process of establishing delegated Board Sub-committees to assist the Board to fulfil its duties and responsibilities. Membership of the sub-committees will be decided by the Board, and all new Board Members will be asked to consider joining one Sub Committee. The day to day running of the Company is delegated to the Senior Leadership Team led by Artistic Director & CEO Anand Bhatt who joined Dance City in July 2020.

## ATTRIBUTES OF PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

- Knowledgeable and experienced in their area of specialism
- Enthusiastic about the arts with a strong commitment to the charity's values and approach
- A clear communicator, able to articulate position, beliefs and rationale in an inclusive way
- Able to operate with integrity and respect confidentiality when required
- Well respected in their field of work with contacts that can be of assistance to the charity
- A strategic thinker, able to navigate and understand multiple stakeholder relationships
- Understanding and accepting of the legal duties required
- Able to commit the time needed for the position

Board Members are expected to hold all matters related to the business dealings of Dance City in strict confidence.

## SKILLS SOUGHT

We are looking for new Board Members with knowledge and expertise in a range of areas. You will not be expected to take on sole responsibility for these areas as the Board is collectively responsible for its actions and decisions. We hope Board Members will contribute to a range of matters drawing on their individual interests and skills.

We actively encourage applications from those who self-identify as black, Asian, ethnically diverse, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, neurodiverse, disabled. We also welcome applications from people under 30 years of age.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

You are invited to apply by sending your CV together with a covering letter describing what you feel you can contribute, including areas of specialism you can bring to the Board and examples of how you meet the requirements of the role. Your application can be in written, video or sound recording format. Please also include details of any business or other interests which might give rise to conflicts of interest, and how you would address this should your application be successful, plus any other information, including other board or advisory roles, that you think will help the panel.

We are recruiting Board Members throughout 2021.

Please email your application to: [caroline.greener@dancecity.co.uk](mailto:caroline.greener@dancecity.co.uk) with 'Board Member Application' in the subject box. Please complete the equal opportunities monitoring form. The information will help us monitor the fairness and effectiveness of our selection processes and identify barriers to selection. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential and used for statistical monitoring purposes only; they will not be seen by the individuals making the appointment.

If you have any access requirements and need support with the application process, please contact Phil Douglas at Dance City: [phil.douglas@dancecity.co.uk](mailto:phil.douglas@dancecity.co.uk). We can accept video applications, or we can arrange a face to face meeting with one of our team which constitutes a verbal application.

Dance City is a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO), receiving core funding from Arts Council England. When making an application, please read the Arts Council's Relationship Framework ([www.artscouncil.org.uk/sites/default/files/download-file/ACE\\_RelationshipFramework.pdf](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/sites/default/files/download-file/ACE_RelationshipFramework.pdf)). If you are inducted to the Dance City Board you will receive the Dance City funding agreement and annual feedback letters.

### Selection and Induction Process:

In line with our recruitment process for Board Members, interested candidates will be invited to a group presentation event, followed by an informal interview with the Chair and CEO/AD where they will set broad objectives and role description for the new Board Member – eg specific areas they will be supporting on such as Finance. If you are invited to join the Board, we will ask you to provide details of a referee who has personal knowledge of your achievements.

Once you have been invited to join the Board you will receive all appropriate Dance City policies and procedures along with an outline of role and the Charity Commission Essential Guide to being a Board Member. As part of our Board Induction process you will also be:

- Offered a meeting with at least one other Board Member prior to first meeting if possible - we are establishing a 'buddy' system for the first six months to enable new Board Members to ask questions outside of meetings
- Asked to identify if any particular support or training needed
- Invited to attend a Board meeting as an observer to give a 'cooling off period' prior to deciding whether you wish to join
- Briefing by Sharon Paterson, Chair and Anand Bhatt, Artistic Director and CEO at an introductory meeting or phone call

You will also be invited to attend at least one Dance City class or event, asked to sign a Board Member Registration Form and a Declaration of Interest Form and requested to provide a biography and photograph for the Dance City website.

# OUR VALUES

These organisational values were co-created in early 2019 by the Dance City staff team, based on their own behaviours and observations of working at Dance City.

“We strive for the highest quality.”



“We welcome and encourage every body.”



“We listen, learn and lead.”



“We inspire creativity.”



# OUR IMPACTS

Key impacts 2019-20

## HEALTH

We helped more people than ever achieve their fitness goals. Dance is a creative, fun, social and physical activity. It is also great for keeping the body fit and active, boosting self-confidence and coordination. It's a great alternative to the gym – challenging mental agility as well as physical.



## WEALTH

We made a big impact on the creative economy in the North East!



For every £1 of grant/public subsidy an estimated **£2.40** of gross value added is generated by Dance City in the North East Region.

We were the biggest dance employer in the North of England with more than 150 full- and part-time employees and freelance contractors working regularly for Dance City in Newcastle and Sunderland.

## HAPPINESS

We asked our audiences what makes them happy about Dance City:



“Quality and variety, intimacy of the theatre, amazing value.”

Theatre attendee

“Great vibe no matter what your age”

Flamenco class attendee

“I had such a good time and workout. Met some great people and enjoyed the teaching methods. Awesome all round!”

Breakdance attendee

“Involvement of all backgrounds, ages and abilities.”

Theatre attendee



# A THEATRE DEDICATED TO DANCE

Dance City has an intimate, 250 seat theatre dedicated to showcasing dance performances from the North East, the UK and across the globe.

Highlights of 2019-20 included sold out performances by Ockham's Razor, Ballet Wales and Luca Silvestrini's Protein. Styles of dance on our stage ranged from Ballet, to Aerial, Tap, Bharatanatyam, Vogueing, Breaking and Contemporary.

We saw an increase in theatre audiences for the sixth consecutive year, and 90% of our attendees rated their theatre experience very good or excellent.

We increased the number and scale of our 'relaxed' performances and formed a partnership with Muckle LLP who bought out the theatre for a matinee of our Christmas show, The Little Prince. This enabled us to offer 120 free tickets to young people with an Autism Spectrum Condition, sensory and communication disorders or a learning disability.

Because of our success in developing audiences for dance, we received a grant from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to work with a number of regional venues on a three year project designed to support them to strategically programme, promote and collaboratively produce contemporary dance.

## HEADLINES 2019-20

4,990

dance performance tickets sold

18%

increase on previous year

32

professional dance performances

*"Companies say 'oh we try to be inclusive but it's so hard' which is bullshit. Dance City revels in diversity and demonstrates WHY this approach is right, and brings so much benefit to so many people. I LOVE dance, and you are my favourite venue."*

*"It's a joy to have found Dance City, a happy place to be."*

*"Very difficult to be exposed and to expose children to good quality shows in the North East and this is why I find Dance City refreshing as it fills this gap."*

*"The production costs are excellent - 'bring your adult for free' - genius!"*

*"I like the intimacy of the stage and with the new seats it's a complete experience."*

*"Everyone is so friendly! Dance City gives me the chance to dance, see fantastic professional shows and feel, in a very small way, part of an exciting and dynamic company."*

*"The pre- and post-performance talks were well-done and informative."*

*"Affordable, intimate space with a good range of performances."*

*"It's a great facility to have in Newcastle for all types of dance."*

*"Very accessible to all! In every sense of the word."*

*"Great dance in Newcastle for us northern folk to enjoy."*

*"Encourages new experimental dance creations and new and smaller dance companies with lots of local involvement. Last night was an exciting opportunity to see artists creating brand new work and performing it to an audience for the very first time. This element of artistic risk taking is welcome and needed to bring out new talent. Proud that this is going on in my home town, Newcastle."*

*"Quality and variety, intimacy of the theatre, amazing value."*



# DANCE FOR EVERY BODY

Our public dance classes were more popular than ever and our satellite studios in Sunderland became established with dance enthusiasts in the city. Our 'Don't sweat, sparkle!' campaign encourages people to see dance as a viable alternative to the gym. At the same time, we are fully committed to inclusivity and accessibility for all, regardless of physical or cognitive ability. We offered 13 classes each week designed specifically for the 55+ physique as well as specialist classes for people with Parkinson's, dementia and learning disabilities. Nine end of term performances in our professional theatre gave hundreds of amateur dancers their time to shine on stage.

## HEADLINES 2019-20

113

open access classes each week across Newcastle and Sunderland

47,705

attendances at classes

5%

increase on previous year

41%

increase in dance class participation in the last five years

3,990

classes and workshops in total over the year

*"It's such a fun yet professional environment with such lovely staff and students! I felt so welcome and even after my first class my confidence has been boosted so much. I am not worried or scared to come back :)"*

*"Dance City is a really warm and welcoming place."*

*"The environment was so warm and everyone was just there to do something they loved with no expectation but to have fun and improve."*

*"That is the kind of a dance school, which I have been always dreaming of."*

*"Friendly, clean, professional, inviting, welcoming, relaxed environment, good teacher, nice receptionist, value for money, supportive of all skill levels."*

*"It provides a unique experience in Newcastle and the city's cultural impact would be considerably reduced without it."*

*"I simply had fun and was well taken care of."*

*"They were great with my son. He has autism and learning difficulties, so I was unsure as how they were to guide him in the dance class. But they were great and he loved it."*

*"My daughter went in a group that allowed her to demonstrate her dance skills but also challenge herself and gain new skills."*

*"One of the best decisions I've had to go for the first class and have booked many since."*

*"The standard is so high, from the booking system to the changing rooms to the teaching, everything is excellent."*

*"Excellent range of adult classes and top class instructors."*

*"The teacher was very engaging and the hour flew by with how much fun we were having."*

*"I loved the creative atmosphere of the studio. The class was run professionally but there was also space for laughter and it seemed like everyone, no matter what level they were at, felt comfortable."*

# DANCE CAREERS START HERE

@dancecitytrainingacademy



Dance City Training Academy offers specialist dance training for gifted and talented young people from the age of 10 through our Centre for Advanced Dance Training (CAT), BA (Hons) Professional Dance and for the first time we offered a brand new MA Advanced Dance Performance.

The CAT team continued to scour the North East region for exceptional dancers aged 10-16, and offer them a world class programme of training, with financial support from the Department for Education to ensure that cost is not a barrier to ambition. Seven CAT Students performed alongside Matthew Bourne's

professional cast in his new production of Romeo and Juliet at Newcastle Theatre Royal in late 2019. We also had two CAT Students in the 19-20 National Youth Dance Company cohort.

Dance City students worked with Joss Arnott, Michael Clark Company, Neus Gil Cortes among other regional, national and international artists.

Training Academy students have gone on to conservatoires including Rambert, Trinity Laban, Northern School of Contemporary Dance and The Place, as well as those continuing to train here at Dance City.

The BA (Hons) Professional Dance attracted talented dance students from all over the UK to study the unique programme designed to prepare

graduates for portfolio careers in dance performance, management and education. BA graduates are involved in all strands of work at Dance City, becoming part of the professional dance artists community, working in marketing, administration, and being part of the teaching and engagement teams. Our BA graduates are an essential element in the dance ecology in the North East.

We successfully recruited early career dance artists onto our inaugural MA Advanced Dance Performance course. The MA group formed a company, The Collective, and undertook intensive training with a number of exciting dance artists and choreographers. The Dance City MA specialises in dance theatre, a flexible and in-demand genre which sets it apart from other postgraduate dance courses.

## HEADLINES 2019-20

115  
CAT students

106  
workshops reaching  
over 3,250 students  
across the North East

60%  
of CAT students receive  
a means tested bursary  
to help with costs

100%  
of BA students  
graduated successfully

“The CAT scheme was instrumental in setting me up on my career path and I am extremely thankful for the training I received from the most supportive teachers. Over the six years I was there, I made some amazing memories and great friendships. It was definitely hard work, but I wouldn't be where I am today without it.”

Esmee Halliday, CAT graduate and professional dance artist

# DANCE CAREERS THRIVE HERE

Public subsidy and surplus income allow us to be at the heart of the art, supporting dancers to live their creative careers. We commissioned eight new pieces from North East based artists in 2019-20, which will be performed on our main stage with touring and development life beyond.

We supported 22 local and international dance artists through our Creative Summer residency programme and provided over 6,000 hours of free studio time to help professional dance artists to develop their work. Every week day during term time we offered a free

90 minute class for professional artists – a programme of practical support for dancers to maintain their practice and stay networked.

In January 2020 we launched our Artist Manifesto, following a wide ranging consultation with the artistic sector. The manifesto sets out clearly Dance City's vision, mission and year-round programme of support activities for professional dance and movement artists.

## VISION

To ensure that the North East is the best place to be a professional dance artist.

## MISSION

To provide excellent training, support, networking and funding opportunities for North East professional dance/movement artists.

## HEADLINES 2019-20

6,000+

hours of free studio space used by professional dance artists. 30% more than last year

8

North East choreographers commissioned to make new work

336

hours of free professional class

42

weeks of artist residencies

Image: *We Are Helium*  
by Gavin Coward  
Dance Artist: Benedicta  
Valentina Mamuini  
Image Credit: Luke  
Waddington

## ARTIST SOUP

In 2020 we held our first 'Artist SOUP' event. Artist SOUP was one of a range of new initiatives developed to support the artistic community during 2019-20 and provide an opportunity to access funding outside our annual commissioning programme. The SOUP format is designed to be a networking opportunity which brings together an eclectic mix of local dance professionals to meet, have conversations around projects and pitch for investment for their new artistic and entrepreneurial ideas.

69 people joined our online SOUP event to hear from 11 artists pitching for 4 x £500 micro commissions. Audience members were able to vote for their favourite pitches for three of the micro commissions and a fourth was agreed by a panel of industry experts.

“A big thank you for your help in the lead up to the event with all of our anxieties. Considering we weren't even sure about whether we were going to pitch this feels like a huge achievement and it's definitely in part due to your support and encouragement.”

Dora Rubenstein and Jane Park  
(SOUP award recipients)

“Taking part in SOUP was a wonderful experience and while I'm of course thrilled with this outcome and support, I'm even more grateful for Dance City and your partners for choosing to honour this event and opportunity at such an unusual and complicated time.”

Sophie Halford  
(SOUP award recipient)

Dance Artist: Payal Ramchandani  
Image Credit: Inni Singh

# COMMUNITIES DANCE WITH US

We have engaged with a wide range of communities in 2019-20, taking Dance City out of our building and delivering workshops in the heart of communities. From schools to community centres and even to the beach as well as inviting groups to come and take to the stage in our community dance performances.

We have built a number of exciting new partnerships. We worked with Street Games to grow and develop our summer school provision. With Liberdade we continue to host the *Freedom Moving* platform which supports groups who actively promote and develop dance

work for people of all ages with learning difficulties and additional needs. We engaged with a further 18 different arts organisations to create exciting and bespoke projects.

We hosted celebration events for over 55s with *Inspire* where eight new performance pieces took to the stage. We held auditions and launched our very first 55+ Company, BOUNDLESS

who will perform at Dance City and across the region. For 11-19 years *Pulse* saw over 500 young people performing at Dance City and at our partner venues in Durham and Darlington with two groups selected to represent the North East with One Dance UK.

We achieved a membership award with Investing In Children which gives Dance City national recognition for the good practice and active inclusion of children and young people in dialogue that results in organisational change.

## Feedback from community projects:

*"Thank you with all my heart for your full immersion in this project. It was so, so worthwhile and really great to see the children enjoying themselves so utterly at the site. It was everything I imagined it would be."*

*"Thank you so much for the efforts of your staff and yourself to ensure the project has run smoothly and it was such an exciting day for our pupils."*

*"Dance enables people to reconnect with their youth. It is a way of bringing people together to help overcome feelings of social isolation and low mood. People have fun together, and dance is the ideal activity to maintain and improve their health and wellbeing."*

## Feedback from celebration platform events:

*"It was a life affirming and inspiring show that filled me with joy!"*

*Freedom Moving show attendee*

*"Moving to music, in a group and trying to make something beautiful is good for the soul and spirit. If someone told me when I was 20 that I'd still be dancing at 66+ I wouldn't have believed it"*

*Inspire participant*

*"Make new opportunities and everyone speaks the language of dance. Everyone NO MATTER what abilities can dance and make friends. Everyone can be equal."*

*Freedom Moving participant*

## Feedback from schools we've danced with:

*"Excellent - very skilful delivery of the dance workshops pitched at the children's level and led with a great deal of energy, humour and understanding of how to move the children on."*

*"The team were brilliant with the planning and communication regarding the event I knew exactly where we had to be, at what time, doing what activity and how much it would cost."*

*"It was my first experience of Dance City. As head, I know that dance lessons had been going on.... I had seen bits and bobs. However, I was absolutely gobsmacked when I saw not only my school but the overall performance. The quality and messages were superb. I'm sure we'll be working with Dance City again."*

## HEADLINES 2019-20

4,843

engagements through dance workshops

3,564

children and young people took part in our engagement activity

500

young people performed in Dance City's *Pulse* platforms

Image: Our annual *Freedom Moving* platform performance (in partnership with Liberdade) is for dancers with a range of physical and cognitive disabilities.

# OUR VENUES

**Dance City opened its doors in Newcastle in 1985 and moved to its purpose built flagship venue in 2005. We opened two satellite studios in Sunderland's new cultural quarter in 2018.**

## **THEATRE**

Our theatre dedicated to dance seats 240 in a raked auditorium with an intimate feel and a large flat stage specifically designed for dance. In 2019 we refitted the bench-style seating to provide a more comfortable experience for audiences and increased our capacity for wheelchairs to 16.

## **STUDIOS**

We have five dance studios in Newcastle plus a wellness space designed for yoga, pilates and meditation. We have two dance studios in Sunderland. These world-class standard spaces are used by our Training Academy students, Pro Artists and Community Class attendees.

## **SOCIAL SPACE**

Our large foyer acts as an informal dance hangout space for a range of people and impromptu breakdance sessions are a regular occurrence.

## **HIREABLE SPACES**

We house six offices for creative/dance companies, plus a co-working office with monthly desk hire for up to eight. We also hire spaces for meetings, conferences and parties.

## **HOSPITALITY**

Dance City Café is operated in-house and offers a full range of food and beverages.

## **VIRTUAL TOUR**

You can take a virtual tour of our Newcastle venue here <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=mHhdSxJzL9C>

