

DANCECITY ©

Dance for the North East

Dance City Professional Artist Development work and programming

Dance City works to support, develop and promote professional dance artists. We are situated in the North East of England, therefore our focus is on professional dance artists from this region, but not to the exclusion of others.

We are interested in work which resonates with an audience, work that has meaning and progresses the art form of dance.

We always consider the Arts Council England Creative Case for Diversity, gender balance, socio-economic groups and all the protected characteristics in the Equality and Diversity Act (2010) when making our decisions on the following. We aim to always have a balanced panel of decision makers across all of our activities where possible. We always aim to have a gender-balanced panel making decisions.

Our work with professional dance artists consists of:

Commissions:

Dance City's commissioning programme supports the development of full length and early stage work, prioritising dance artists from the North East with possible support for one piece from outside of the region, nationally or internationally. There are three different commissioning programmes Full, Early and Accelerate which applications are accepted for on an annual basis. .

We advertise our commissioning opportunities each year via our website, professional artist newsletter and social media.

The commissioning programmes are as follows:

- **Full production**

Up to 3 new, full length (minimum 50 minutes) productions, receiving £5,000 each. These productions will be performed within our Professional

Performance Programme between 2019 and 2021. We expect that the commissioned dance artist/company will use the Dance City commissioning fee as match funding towards additional fundraising.

- **Early stage**

Support for the development of up to 3 early stage, short pieces of work (5 – 15 minutes duration). These pieces will be performed in at least one Dance City platform event, to include Dance Edits in September 2019

- **Accelerate**

Up to 2 commissions to support recent BA or MA graduates to make early stage work. Graduates must be in their first or second year of graduating. Pieces should be 5-15 minutes long and will be presented in at least one Dance City platform event. Commission awarded in memory of Charlotte Grant. (Open to North East Dance Artists only)

Professional Theatre Programme:

By invitation (year round)

Dance City has a growing professional performance programme. We believe it is the largest theatre-based dance programme outside London. We programme dance work from a range of companies and dancemakers. The work is eclectic but must have a resonance with an audience. We provide honest and clear communications with audiences about the work we programme. Most shows have a post-performance talk after the first night with members of the creative team of that company and the dancers, to reveal more about the work.

Our programme includes a strand for children, young people and families. We have one curated performance platform each year:

Dance Edits: Work from the North East of England and occasional guests.
Decision by Creative Producer (Platforms), Programme Coordinator and Artistic Director

Artist Development Programme:

Free access (year round)

Dance City provides free daily class of 90 minutes duration in ballet, contemporary and a guest teacher class in various styles each week for professional dance artists.

In addition we provide a series of workshops in specialised areas.

Residencies:

By invitation (year round)

Dance City provides a series of residencies each year, these are for both North East, national and international dance-makers.

Where possible we invite international dance-makers to the region to develop their work, lead professional class, open their rehearsals and share their practice, enriching and expanding the knowledge of professional dance artists in the North East region.

Decision by Creative Producer and Artistic Director

Creative Summer:

By application and invitation (March each year)

Each Summer Dance City provides around 16 weeks of free studio space to professional dance artists to try out new ideas and develop their working practice. This is by application process and on occasion by invitation. Often professional dance artists who have applied for other areas of our work but have been unsuccessful are invited to Creative Summer so we can see their work and begin a relationship with them. This work is shared each Friday at Dance City during the Creative Summer time.

Decision by Creative Producer and Artistic Director

At Home:

Free access (year round)

Dance City provides free studio space to professional dance artists the week before it is available, on a first come, first served basis, when available.

Ad hoc Support for Professional Dance Artists

Dance City's Creative Producer offers advice and support throughout the year to all professional dance artists from new graduates to those more established in their careers. As well as one-to-one support, we offer opportunities each term to meet informally with the Creative Producer and other professionals to talk about current issues in dance in the region, consult on new ideas and to ask for feedback and input to our professional offer.

Advice and support offered by the Creative Producer, Technical Manager and Communications Managers includes Grants for the Arts and funding applications to trusts and foundations, as well as producing, budget

management, marketing and technical support, networking and promotional opportunities.

Professional Artist Newsletter

Every fortnight we produce a Professional Artist newsletter, highlighting opportunities for professionals inside and outside the region, professional class and workshops on offer, upcoming performances and platforms, jobs, auditions and training opportunities.

Employment Opportunities

Dance City employs a large number of professional dance artists to deliver its programmes of activity, such as our community engagement programme: both our classes in the building and those outside of it, and teaching on the BTEC Level 3, BA and MA programmes.

Artist Advisory Panel

To meet two to three times each year to discuss Dance City strategic decision making and advise on future activities.