

# DANCE CITY COMMISSIONS 2021-2022

## EASY READ OVERVIEW



Please see the full Commission Call Out for further details on the decision panel members, the timeline for each stage of the application process as well as funding to support artists applying to Stage 2 and 3.



### Dance City

Dance City is a place where people, both the public and professionals, go to socialise, learn new skills, keep fit and active, train professionally and find out more about dance.

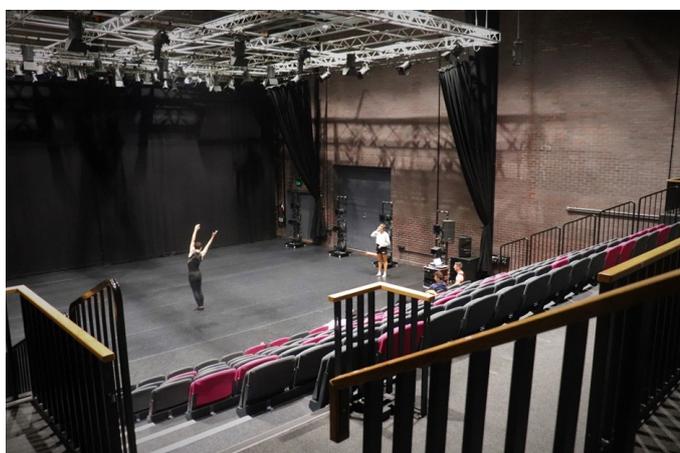
Established for over 30 years Dance City is the North East's leading development organisation for dance.



Dance City has two venues.

We have our purpose built dance house in Newcastle upon Tyne city centre.

We also have two studios based at The Fire Station in Sunderland city centre.



We have a fantastic Theatre space, which has 240 brand new seats, split across two levels providing unrestricted views throughout the auditorium.

The lower section of the seats move back and forward to make a more open space for cabaret or smaller scale performances and events.

We also have four dressing rooms with shower and toilet facilities. We have a full lighting rig and sound system and we can also screen films on the large white cyclorama at the back of the space.



Dance City would like to **commission** (to offer money, studio space and resources) professional dance artists (makers/ choreographers), to create new dance work for the 2021-2022 season.



Your dance work can either be made for a stage, you can make a dance film, or your work can be suitable for outdoor spaces like street performances or festivals.



# 2020

# 2021

January							February							March							January							February							March																																																									
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The start date for the commission period is April 2021 – March 2022.

Commission money will be released in installments from April 2021, to be discussed with Dance City.



By dance we mean all styles and genres of movement focused work, including aerial and circus arts. Your work can include other art forms as well, but it *must* include dance.

There are 3 commission strands available:



1. Full Production
2. Early Stage Work
3. Charlotte Grant Graduate Work

**Please read the details for each strand carefully to choose which is the best one for you. Details can be found at the end of this document.**



You can apply to any of the 3 strands.

You can apply even if you've applied before

You can apply even if you have had a commission from Dance City before.

Please only apply for one work per company, per commission round.

Everyone is welcome to apply. We are also looking to support artists who identify as:

- \* LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer +)
- \* Black, Asian, ethnically diverse
- \* Neurodiverse/Disabled
- \* Mature/50+.





To apply, you must be from, have studied or trained at undergraduate level or above, or be living in the North East.

The artist applying must show their connections within and their commitment to developing the North East dance sector.



To apply for a commission you need to complete the Expression of Interest application form. If you prefer to have a face to face meeting, or apply verbally by phone, or by sending us a video, please email Alex Anslow to discuss this first ([alex.anslow@dancecity.co.uk](mailto:alex.anslow@dancecity.co.uk))

The application process is in three stages:



1. Stage 1 - Expression of Interest
2. Stage 2 - Full Application
3. Stage 3 - Interviews

We know that making new dance work during a pandemic is different and challenging. We still want to find ways to successfully create work, safely and with adaptations if needed. You should think about :



- how you may best reach audiences including online or outdoors
- rehearsing, making and creating using social distancing guidelines if necessary
- adapting to a variety of spaces e.g. studios, streaming etc
- making sure your work is accessible to those with disabilities



## Overall Guidelines

- We wish to see evidence that you have considered producer support, mentoring support, and evidence of how your proposed activity will contribute to the dance sector.
- Please outline which other sources of funding you are exploring to support this application. We encourage you to apply for further funding for this commission from other funders, venues and partners.
- The work can be tailored towards small, medium or large scale across each of the 3 strands.
- Please note that costs and management to mount or install outdoor work is the responsibility of the applicant. Evidence of Licenses, Permits and Risk Assessments for the work must be available on request. Dance City can offer support and advice if required.
- Technical specifications for film work must be budgeted for in the artist's application. Dance City can offer to support with equipment from our in-house facilities, but additional hires must be covered by the applicant.

JANUARY 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**The deadline to apply is  
Thursday 7 January 2021 at  
12noon**

A panel of experts will decide which artists they would like to award the Commissions to.



Full Production and Early Stage Panelists are:

⇒ Phil Douglas, Vikas Kumar and Sade Alleyne



Charlotte Grant Award Panelists are:

⇒ Alex Anslow, Lizzie Klotz and Patrick Ziza



If you have any questions, please email or phone Alex Anslow (Executive Assistant, Creative Producer and Programme Coordinator):

[Alex.anslow@dancecity.co.uk](mailto:Alex.anslow@dancecity.co.uk)

0191 269 5586



Dance City commissions are as follows:

- **Full production**

This opportunity is for artists/companies who are producing a full-length live performance, film or outdoor dance work (minimum of 50 minutes in length)

Up to 2 artists/companies will be awarded up to £10,000 each

Please note, only up to one grant could be awarded for a full-length film or outdoor dance application.

Each artist/company will receive:

- A date in Dance City's Professional Performance Programme 2021-2022 if appropriate. Alternative platforms can be discussed with Dance City's programming staff.

The following In-Kind support:

- Fifteen days of in-kind studio space in either our Newcastle or Sunderland studios (depending on availability). In-kind value up to £1,000 per week.
- Marketing advice, support and consultancy specific to this work (for example, could consist of, social media support and promotion opportunities, and up to eight hours of Marketing and Audience Development advice). In-kind value up to £1,000.
- Up to 10 hours of producing support specific to this work. In-kind value up to £500.
- Up to one meeting with the Technical Manager, one full production day in the Theatre in Newcastle in advance of the performance and one performance day in the theatre. In-kind value up to £2,350.
- Up to 20 days of free hot-desking space in our new 'Co-Working Hub' in Newcastle. In-kind value up to £400.
- Up to eight hours of free access to our meeting room facilities in Newcastle. In-kind value up to £200.
- Potential opportunity to have your commission piece and experience digitally documented online. In-kind value up to £500.

Total in-kind value for full commissions: up to £7,950.

The commissioned artist/company agrees to:

- Offer a minimum of two 1.5hr professional classes (or equivalent 3hr workshop/talk) at our Newcastle venue as part of our morning Pro Class offer to local professional dance artists
- Offer a minimum of one opportunity for local professional artists/companies to access open rehearsals/talks/workshops/informal sharing's
- Offer a minimum of one opportunity for audiences to experience their work/rehearsal/process
- Attend meetings with the Dance City team to evaluate progress
- Deliver an engagement activity or post-show discussion with the audience after the performance at Dance City

Take part in Dance City's documentation and promotion of the Dance City commission's programme. Supply images and copy when requested and in response to deadlines.

- **Early Stage Production**

This commission is for development of early stage work - a live dance performance, film or outdoor dance work (15 – 30 minutes in duration)

Up to 2 artists/companies will be offered up to £4,000 each

Please note, only up to one grant could be awarded for an Early Stage Production film or outdoor dance application.

Each artist/company will receive:

- A performance slot in Dance Edits programme (date TBC) if appropriate for the work produced. Other platform opportunities can be discussed with Dance City programming staff.

The following In-Kind support:

- 10 days of in-kind studio space in either our Newcastle or Sunderland studios (depending on availability). In-kind value up to £1,000.
- Up to three hours of marketing support specific to this work (for example, could consist of, social media support, self-marketing pack, audience advice and support promotional opportunities via Dance City marketing channels). In-kind value up to £400.
- Up to three hours of producing support specific to this work. In-kind value up to £150.
- Up to three hours of technical support specific to this work. In-kind value up to £185.
- Up to five days of free hot-desking space in our new 'Co-Working Hub' in Newcastle. In-kind value up to £100.
- Up to 4 hours of free access to our meeting room facilities in Newcastle. In-kind value up to £120.
- Potential opportunity to have your commission piece and experience digitally documented online. In-kind value up to £500.

Total in-kind value for Early Stage commission: up to £3,455

The commissioned artist/company agrees to:

- Offer a minimum of 1 professional class at our Newcastle venue as part of our morning Pro Class offer to local dance artists
- Offer a minimum of 1 opportunity for local professional artists/companies to access open rehearsals/talks/workshops/informal sharing's
- Offer a minimum of 1 opportunity for audiences to experience their work/rehearsal/process
- Attend meetings with the Dance City team to evaluate progress
- Take part in Dance City's documentation and promotion of the Dance City commission's programme. Supply images and copy when requested and in response to deadlines.

- **Charlotte Grant Early Career Artist Award**

*This commission strand is kindly supported by the Charlotte Grant legacy donation gifted by her family, and supported using public funding by Arts Council England, match funded by the Catalyst Fund. This commission strand is created in memory of Charlotte who trained and developed her professional career here at Dance City, and generously pays forward this opportunity for more artists to follow in her footsteps.*

This commission is to support recent BA or MA graduates who have graduated in the last three years and who are from, who live and/or who have trained at undergraduate level or above in the North East of England.

There are two opportunities for commissions to develop early stage work - a live dance performance, film or outdoor work (5 – 15 minutes in duration)

Up to 2 artists will receive a commission of up to £1,500 each

At least one of the commissioned pieces will be a live performance to be showcased in Dance City's theatre.

Each graduate will receive:

- A performance slot in Dance Edits programme Autumn 2021 or an alternative equivalent if appropriate for the work produced. Other platform opportunities can be discussed with Dance City programming staff.

The following In-Kind support:

- Five days of in-kind studio space in either our Newcastle or Sunderland studios (depending on availability). In-kind value up to £1,000.
- Up to three hours of marketing support specific to this work (for example, could consist of, social media support, self-marketing pack, audience advice and support promotional opportunities via Dance City marketing channels). In-kind value up to £400.
- Up to three hours of producing support specific to this work. In-kind value up to £150.
- Up to three hours of technical support specific to this work. In-kind value up to £185.
- Up to five days of free hot-desking space in our new 'Co-Working Hub' in Newcastle. In-kind value up to £100.
- Up to four hours of free access to our meeting room facilities in Newcastle. In-kind value up to £120.

- Potential opportunity to have your commission piece and experience digitally documented online. In-kind value up to £500.

Total in-kind value of Charlotte Grant commission: £2,455

The commissioned artist/company agrees to:

- Offer a minimum of one opportunity for local professional artists/companies to access open rehearsals/talks/workshops/informal sharing's
- Offer a minimum of one opportunity for audiences to experience their work/rehearsal/process
- Attend meetings with the Dance City team to evaluate progress

Take part in Dance City's documentation and promotion of the Dance City commission's programme. Supply images and copy when requested and in response to deadlines.

## **Commissioning Programme Application Process 2021/2022:**

Please complete the Expression of Interest application form below, answering all the questions. If you have any access requirements and need support with the application process, please contact Alex Anslow at Dance City: Alex.Anslow@dancecity.co.uk We can accept video applications, with responses following the same questions below, or we can arrange a face to face meeting with one of our team which constitutes a verbal application.

Please email the completed Expression of Interest form/video to Alex with **Dance City Commission 2021/22** in the subject line, by 12 noon, **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. (Applications submitted after this date will not be considered)

### **Which commission are you applying for?**

Full Production

Early Stage

Charlotte Grant Graduate Work

**Name of applicant:**

**Email address:**

**Number/s:**

**Address:**

### **Expression of Interest**

- 1. Please tell us about your recent artistic work, experience, and achievements. (250 words)**  
(Artistic interests, style and inspiration for your work. What have you previously made?)
- 2. What is your artistic concept for the Commission? (250 words)**  
(Please describe the idea for your artistic work)
- 3. What is your timeframe for the project? (100 words)**  
(Make sure to leave enough time to submit Arts Council England applications)
- 4. What is your commitment / connection to the North East? (150 words)** (Do you live, or did you train here? How will you contribute to the development of the dance sector?)
- 5. Please briefly describe the partnerships, funding and mentoring relationships you currently have in place or intend to develop through this commission (250 words)**
- 6. Please detail your current or prospective creative team (e.g dramaturg, lighting/costume designer, tour manager, producer etc) (150 words)**