



Dublin
Youth
Dance
Company

ASSOCIATE TEACHING CHOREOGRAPHER

ROLE SPECIFICATION



Introduction

DYDC is currently recruiting two Associate Teaching/Choreographers for its Junior and Transition youth dance ensembles. These are fixed term contacts for next season: September 2022 - July 2023.

Associate Teaching Choreographers will work closely with Mariam Ribón, Artistic Director DYDC (who is also the Teacher / Choreographer of the DYDC Senior Ensemble) to plan, teach, rehearse, choreograph, develop public performances and evaluate. The Associate Teaching Choreographers will take lead responsibility for either the Junior or Transition Ensemble but will work in unison as a faculty and with external choreographers and teachers who may be involved in the wider engagement and diversity programmes of DYDC.

Candidates must state which role they wish to apply for: Associate Teaching Choreographer (Junior Ensemble) or Associate Teaching Choreographer (Transition Ensemble).

Deadline for applications is 17 August 2022. Interviews held on following week of 22 August. Term begins mid-September. More details of how to apply below.

About Dublin Youth Dance Company

Dublin Youth Dance Company was founded in 2001 at Dance Theatre of Ireland, Dún Laoghaire, Co Dublin . The objective was to give young people the opportunity to engage in training, creating and performing dance on an ongoing basis. In 2001, the company curated and presented Ireland's first Irish Youth Dance Festival (IYDF) at the Pavilion Theatre, Dún Laoghaire. The event was a big success and has since grown in its scope and vision with a significant Alumni now working national and internationally as professional dance artists. DYDC is based at Dance House, Dublin 1 and Dance Theatre of Ireland, Dún Laoghaire, Co Dublin. The IYDF 2023 will take place in partnership with Smoke Alley Theatre, Dublin 2.

DYDC Strategic Plan 2022-2027

In 2021/22 the Board of DYDC undertook a 21st year review and developed a new strategy - A Time To Grow (2022 - 2027). This will be officially launched on November 19th 2022 at DYDC's Winter Gala, Lexicon Theatre Dún Laoghaire. The company in all its work is led by its mission, vision, values and goals.

Mission

To lead the development and delivery of high-quality contemporary youth dance in Dublin and nationally.

Vision

- Ireland has a vibrant and diverse contemporary youth dance culture
- Young people from all backgrounds create and perform dance that's high in quality, wide in reach, contemporary in its aesthetic, and deep in its transformation of their lives
- Youth dance is both customary and special: a golden thread in the fabric of public provision for young people
- DYDC is the flagship organisation for policy and practice in contemporary youth dance.

Values

- Artistry & Excellence
- Access & Diversity
- Agency & Partnership
- Sustainability.

Goals

1. Grow the Dance Experience

- Provide consistently excellent and supportive opportunities for DYDC members as young dancers and young people
- Ensure our dancers are taught and led by skilled and sensitive artists, always within a clearly articulated framework of pedagogical excellence and creative ambition
- Increase the number and expand the range of dance activities and opportunities available to young people
- Be known and valued as Ireland's flagship contemporary youth dance company, actively connecting youth dance and vocational training / professional practice.

2. Grow Inclusion and Engagement

- Increase the number of DYDC company members over the lifetime of this strategy
- Engage and excite a wider audience for our work and, in particular, broaden the diversity of young people actively participating in our various programmes and platforms
- Strengthen the design and delivery of our dance-in-schools programme, making it more integral to the realisation of the company's mission
- Implement our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Ensure DYDC's decision-making processes are informed by the 'voices and choices' of young people.

3. Grow Connections

- Extend and strengthen the network of youth dance partners in Ireland
- Deepen DYDC's engagement with the professional dance sector
- Create partnerships with key providers in youth arts, education, and local arts
- Maintain and develop links with best international practice in youth dance.

4. Grow Capacity

- Strengthen DYDC's governance at board and executive level
- Secure a robust and sustainable business model
- Ensure capacity to deliver the outputs of this strategy, including new actions
- Build awareness and profile of DYDC in a range of constituencies
- Improve documentation and evaluation of company programmes.

Position Summary

Reporting to the Artistic Director the Associate Teaching Choreographer (Junior) and the Associate Teacher Choreographer (Transition) will be responsible for the following:

- Implementation and delivery of pedagogical and artistic vision of DYDC
- Attendance at regular meetings with AD, at the beginning of each term to set clear vision and plan for the season and at regular intervals to update and evaluate
- Organisation and teaching of weekly sessions (ballet, contemporary, creation/rehearsal)
- Creation of a 5-7 minute performance piece by March 2023 for invited Spring performances with a plan to expand this piece for the Irish Youth Dance Festival IYDF (July 2023) to an 8-10 mins max performance
- Update attendance log using google forms that will be sent to you by the DYDC Administrator and other administration as required
- Prioritisation of the well-being and development of all members of DYDC
- Report to the AD any concerns in relation to members welfare or issues that arise
- Organisation and possible purchase of costumes for performances (to be agreed with AD beforehand)
- Arrangement and editing of music for performance as required
- Communication with dancers and parents - included in relevant WhatsApp groups
- Social media updates of weekly sessions tagging DYDC for sharing.
- Completion of Garda vetting for the successful individual by DYDC

- Adherence to the DYDC Handbook and related policies which will form part of the contract (including Health And Safety, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion etc)
- Adherence to Health & Safety policy of Dance Ireland and any venues that DYDC engages with as advised by the AD
- Delivery of all information requested from DYDC to be returned in a timely fashion
- Completion of any other requirements from DYDC as is reasonable

Artistic Programme

The artistic programme includes auditions, weekly sessions, an annual festival and any other opportunities which arise. General duties include:

- Preparation and teaching of ballet & contemporary classes
- Creation and rehearsal of performance piece on a weekly basis (Saturdays) Delivery of the Choreography by March 2023 and completed by the IYDF July 2023
- Representation of DYDC and engagement with new potential company members throughout the year
- Delivery of a short report on members and programme development per term as requested for reporting to the AD and the Board of Directors
- Support of Company members including: Pastoral care of DYDC members on an ongoing basis; Identification of DYDC members who have potential to become professional dancers; Mentorship of members - preparing to move forward within DYDC (Junior to Transition and Transition to Senior for example)

Dates/Times/engagement

The Associate Teaching Choreographers schedule will be mainly Saturdays (approx. 35 sessions over 3 terms):

I Autumn Term: Sept-Dec 2022

II Winter Term: Jan-April 2023

III Spring Term: April-July 2023.

Typical Saturday Schedule include:

DYDC Transition - 10am - 2pm: Ballet Barre 1hr, Contemporary 1hr, Break 15 minutes, Creation of choreographic piece 1hr 45mins.

DYDC Junior - 2pm - 6pm: Ballet Barre 1hr, Contemporary 1hr, Break 15 minutes, Creation of choreographic piece 1hr 45mins.

The schedule includes (inter alia) public performances at:

- St Patrick's Festival, Dublin (March '23)
- Noise Moves - Dublin (April '23)
- Unanimous - Belfast (April '23)
- Cruinniú Na nÓg - Dublin (June '23)
- Kaleidoscope- Wicklow (June '23)
- DYDC's Irish Youth Dance Festival - Dublin, (July '23 /2 days)
- Laois Dance Platform - Laois(July '23).

Fees and Fee Structure

- Saturday sessions **€175** each (to be invoiced to DYDC on completion of each term)
- Yearly Choreographic fee **€1000** (to be invoiced to DYDC on completion of the IYDF in July 2023)
- Attending performances and festivals with DYDC dancers to be invoiced as follows: Half Day **€100** & Full Day **€150**
- Auditions for company members **€100**

*DYDC upholds a Fair Pay for artists Policy and all fees are in line with best standards.

Requisite experience, attributes and skills

- A proven track record in teaching and choreographing young dancers 12-20 years, in helping them realise their full potential and in respecting the voice and choice of young people
- Demonstrate a nurturing approach and teaching style and undertake a pastoral role when dancers need it mindful of the developmental/age profile and level of the young people
- To have full capacity to teach ballet Barre for the contemporary dance body and also teach contemporary dance with own signature/style backed by a strong contemporary dance technique and frame of work in harmony with AD (teacher/choreographer of the Senior ensemble)
- To be able to structure the classes appropriately to the dancer's levels and maturity in both ballet and contemporary; to have a trained eye for corrections; to have a good level of communication and being able to express dance concepts, ideas and specifics of dance in a clear and concise manner and to be able to teach partnering accordingly to the level required for each ensemble
- To be able to actively demonstrate with their body the exercises throughout the classes
- To demonstrate creativity in choreography to select themes recognising voice and choice of young people, allowing for growth, questioning and joy through the process
- To have an interest in collaborating with other art disciplines for the enrichment of the dancers and the dances being created
- Excellent communication and leadership qualities
- To be a team player and to develop team building within the ensemble and to always behave in the best interest of DYDC and dance members
- To embody DYDC's mission and vision not only during teaching but when representing DYDC at events, festivals and other company's activities

Criteria for selection

Shortlisting of candidates for interview and subsequent selection of Associate Teaching Choreographers will be based on the following criteria:

- Quality and Track Record
- Strong pedagogic and choreographic style and skills
- Resonance/fit with the vision and strategic focus of DYDC

Application Process

To apply please identify the specific role you wish to apply for: Associate Teaching Choreographer (Junior) OR Associate Teaching Choreographer (Transition)

- An up-to-date + relevant CV (max 3 pages)
- A note about yourself (max 200 words)
- A proposal detailing why you wish to apply, how you will approach the role and how your experience, style and capacities meet the needs of the role and DYDC at this time (max 500 words)
- The name and contact details of two relevant referees

Please send your application in one document PDF format to dydcoffice@gmail.com by 17th August 2022.

Applications should be submitted by email only.

Shortlisted candidates will be notified on the 19th August and interviewed on the week of the 22 August.

DYDC is funded by the Arts Council with support from Dublin City Council, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and Fingal County Council.



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



Comhairle Contae
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