

In2Dance Dance Artist Brief

WANTED LEAD DANCE ARTIST FOR OUR INTEGRATED DANCE PROJECT

Background to Hft

Is a charity that supports people with learning difficulties across England. We support people with a range of abilities and needs from profound and multiple physical and learning disabilities to those with a mild learning disability. We provide support for people in their own homes via a supported living service and also through registered residential care, and a Day Opportunities service that enables people to access the local community



Some of the people we support engaged in a previous dance project run by Warwickshire and found it enormously beneficial and great fun. So we are pleased to be working in partnership with Warwickshire County Council on this BLF funded project.

The project aims to:

1. Explore and extend the movement, choreographic experience of adults with learning and/or physical disabilities and people living in the local community.
2. Develop personal and social skills including confidence, team building and communication.
3. To provide the opportunity for an emerging community dance practitioner to be mentored by an experienced dance artist in the area of dance and disability and towards becoming Group leader/choreographer.

Project Description

We are seeking a lead dance artist to work one half day per week running dance & choreographic sessions on Thursdays morning 10.15- 12.45 for 30 weeks and who will mentor to an emerging dance artist. We expect up to 16 people to take part in each session (this will include people with learning disabilities supported by Hft and people with learning or physical disabilities from other social care settings, care staff and members of the local general community). Project monitoring will be designed and delivered by Hft with the support of the lead and the emerging dance artists. At the end of each term a short informal showing will enable participants to share achievements with family, friends and staff (a possible venue of a local college is presently under negotiation).

The emerging dance artist is a member of staff from Hft Bidford-on-Avon South Warwickshire (border) and a dance graduate and the Lead will support her to extend her knowledge, skills and confidence enabling her to gradually take on more leadership and responsibility for the group activities and by Week 24 we envisage that she will be delivering the dance sessions observed, guided and supported by the lead dance artist. The mentor relationship will be supported by Dancescape (sub-regional dance development project) Officer.

Role of Lead Dance Artists' main responsibilities:

- Lead weekly dance sessions for the group
- Act as Mentor to Emerging Dance Artist and meet at the end of each session to discuss observations, learning objectives etc
- Choreograph and devise a short performance to be shared at the end of each term
- Support monitoring & evaluation of the project.

Additional Activity TBC

Funding is also presently being negotiated to provide the participants with a summer two-day residency with a professional dance company.

Venue

Hft Resource Centre
7 Waterloo Road
Bidford on Avon
B50 4JP

NB: One performance may take place at a local college.

Timetable

If you are considering applying for this position you **must** be available between May 2011 and Feb 2012 to run dance and mentoring sessions Thursdays 10.15-12.45.

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| Term One: | 12 weeks | May 5 th to July 21 st |
| Term Two: | 12 weeks | September 15 th to 8 th December |
| Term Three: | 6 weeks | January 5 th to 23 rd February |

Lead Dance Artist Essential Requirements

We are seeking a community dance artist who has:

- Enthusiasm and a passion for working with people in integrated settings
- At least a two years successful track record of preparing & delivering community dance session for adults in an integrated setting (with adults with and without learning disabilities, adults with and without physical disabilities), which lead to informal showings of work.
- Experience of undertaking risk assessments for dance activities in a non-dance environment with people of different abilities
- Enthusiasm for and experience of mentoring emerging community dance practitioner/s
- Experience of monitoring and evaluation processes
- Reliable travel arrangements
- Public Liability Insurance to a minimum of £5 million
- A willingness to work within Hfts policies and guidance
- An understanding of equal opportunities and confidentiality and procedures relating to working with vulnerable adults
- A CRB check less than two years old and who is prepared to undertake a CRB with Hft

Lead Dance Artist Desirable Requirements

- Experience/understanding of working with adults with autism
- Experience of mentoring in the specialised area of dance and disability.

Fee:

Contract for 30 half days dance and mentoring session: £3,000

Travel expenses (£100 per term) **£300**

Invoices will be required monthly.

How to apply

If you are interested in applying for this project please read the brief carefully and if you want to apply please supply:

- A professional CV
- A statement which demonstrates your knowledge and experience related to the required essentials and desirables, please also confirm your availability
- Details of two referees who have knowledge/experience of your work with dance and disabled people/integrated groups

Please note: If you are invited to interview you will be required to bring a CRB and Public Liability Insurance Certificate.

For more info please contact: Phil Knowles please email Philip.knowles@hft.org.uk or please ring 01789 772141

Deadline for applications: 12pm March 16th 2011.

Please send applications to: Cathryn Ravenhall WCC, E&E, County Arts Service, PO Box 43, Warwick CV34 4SX

