



PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

Dance Consortium is looking to appoint a freelance Programme Coordinator to work with Consortium members to develop a major programme of work to start in 2021 for a 12 month contract with the possibility of an extension until 2023.

Over the past 20 years Dance Consortium has been proud to regularly present tours by the leading African American dance company, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. The Consortium is now looking to develop a more regular relationship with the company to raise the profile and impact of their work on UK audiences and artists.

The Consortium is looking for a freelance coordinator to work with the Ailey Company and members of the Consortium to develop and lead a 1-3 year programme of work. Due to the needs of the role and underrepresentation within Dance Consortium we are keen to encourage applications from Black, Asian and other ethnically diverse candidates. We guarantee an interview to anyone who identifies as one or more of the above, who meets the skills and experience criteria outlined below.

What is Dance Consortium?

The Consortium is a group of 18 large scale theatres located across the UK. Please follow this link to find information on the theatres that are members of Dance Consortium: <https://www.danceconsortium.com/venues/>

Since its formation in 2000 Dance Consortium has presented 46 tours by 26 different companies from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, France, The Netherlands, Taiwan, Israel and the USA. Their performances and associated Learning and Engagement activities have been experienced by over 650,000 people across all parts of the UK. Please follow this link for information on the companies presented by the Consortium: <https://www.danceconsortium.com/archive/>

The members of the Consortium are the Chief Executives of the Theatres, or their representatives, plus a number of independent advisors.

What does Dance Consortium do?

The Consortium tours international dance companies twice a year, alongside the tours there are programmes of audience development, talent development and learning and engagement opportunities. The aim of these programmes is to maximise the impact of the tours for local audiences, young people and artists.

The work of Dance Consortium is supported by a part time Executive Director and a team of freelancers including a Tour Coordinator, Learning and Participation Coordinator, Technical Manager, Management accountant, Marketing, PR and Social Media Consultants

What is the role?

Dance Consortium is looking to appoint a freelance Programme Coordinator to work with the Consortium members, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and UK partners to develop and deliver a major new programme of work.

Programme Coordinator

The freelance contract will be part time starting in January 2021. The initial development phase of the contract will test out the ideas already explored with partners for the three year programme and recommend a structure, budget, funding and timeline for delivery to the members of the Consortium and the Ailey Company. We expect this work to be completed by April 2021 with activity potentially starting in the summer of 2021.

Background to the role

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has been one of the most frequent and popular companies toured by Dance Consortium, with 4 visits by the main company and one visit by Ailey 2, the junior company, over the past 20 years. Founded by Alvin Ailey in the 1960s the company is recognised by the US Congress as a 'vital American cultural ambassador to the world'. Ailey's performances celebrate the human spirit through the African American cultural experience and the American dance tradition, over 60 years the company have performed for over 25 million people in 71 countries.

Their visits to the UK are always accompanied by extensive Learning and Engagement programmes which have ensured large audiences for their work and proved popular with amateur and professional dancers. In 2016 a week long training programme with dancers from Dances Centres for Advanced Training was held in Ipswich led by members of the Ailey Company

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZjaBQqdGNI&feature=youtu.be>, In 2019 a livestream of a masterclass was broadcast to regional participants and audiences across the UK: <https://www.danceconsortium.com/archive/alvin-aley-american-dance-theater-masterclass-livestream/>

Details of the role

Dance Consortium and the Ailey Company now wish to work in partnership to develop and deliver a regular programme of work in the UK over the next 3 years. The aims of the programme are to strengthen relationships with UK dance communities, to offer regular talent development opportunities for UK dancers and to maintain and develop a profile and audience for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in the UK.

We are looking to appoint a Programme Coordinator to lead a process of consultation with the Ailey Company, DC members, partners and audiences to inform the structure, budget and timetable of a programme of work to include live and online activity. This activity might include online workshops and masterclasses, UK summer training programmes in 2021 and 2022, online broadcasts of the company's work with a full tour in 2023.

We would anticipate recommendations on the programme to be made to Dance Consortium and the Ailey Company by April 2021 with the first UK Ailey Summer Intensive to be delivered in summer 2021 (we do recognise that given the current global pandemic and closure of theatres in the UK that this timeline may not be feasible).

Skills, knowledge and experience required

We would expect anyone applying for this role to be able to demonstrate some of the following:

- An enthusiasm for and knowledge of contemporary dance
- Experience of working with Black, Asian and other ethnically diverse communities and artists
- Experience and understanding of and commitment to overcoming barriers to engagement in the arts
- Knowledge of the UK theatre and dance sector
- Project management skills including planning, budgeting, setting and delivering to deadlines and milestones, evaluation
- An interest in or experience of using online platforms to produce and present dance
- Communication skills and experience of working in partnership

Terms and conditions

The initial contract will be for a 12 month period starting in January 2021 to include the development of the programme, the delivery of the first UK summer intensive,

the evaluation of the impact of the intensive and recommendations for future delivery of the programme through to 2023. Dependent on these recommendations the contract could be extended for a further 2 years reviewed every 12 months.

The fee for the 12 month period will be £12,000. Hours are not specified but we would expect the work to be a priority for the successful candidate during this period. Some visits to member venues and partner organisations may be required and appropriate expenses will be paid in addition to the quoted fee.

Are you interested in the role?

If you are excited by this opportunity please send a CV and a letter outlining why you are interested in this role. Within your letter please evidence the ways in which your skills, knowledge and experience match those required. Your letter should be no longer than 2 sides of A4. Letters and CV should be sent to:

recruitment@danceconsortium.com

Please feel free to submit your application in an alternative format such as a video or audio if you wish.

As part of the application process you will be asked to complete an Equal Opportunities Monitoring form. This will be kept separate from your application, will not be seen by the recruitment panel or form any part of the assessment of your application.

Expressions of interest should be received by Friday 8th January 2020. Interviews will be held via an online platform or telephone in January.

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you.