

# Little Big Dance

## Artist Application Information



**phf** Paul Hamlyn  
Foundation



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**YORKSHIRE  
DANCE**

take  
art 

**DANCE  
EAST**

**Are you interested in making dance work for and with an early years audience?**

**Are you keen to work directly with children to formulate and test your ideas?**

**If so, *Little Big Dance* partners want to hear from you....**

## **The project**

*Little Big Dance* is a national project that supports choreographers and dancers to make captivating and diverse work for and with under-fives and their families, particularly those from marginalised backgrounds with little or no access to the arts.

The project places the voice of the child at the heart of the creative process. Throughout the two 18 month cycles over three years, we will help to develop eight commissioned works; four of which will go on to be produced to tour nationally. *Little Big Dance* addresses a significant gap in early years dance performance as well as seeking to build audiences.

We want to revolutionise the way early years dance is recognised and to support more high quality dance work for the under-fives.

## **About the partners**

*Little Big Dance* is delivered in partnership with dance organisations Dance East (Ipswich) and Yorkshire Dance (Leeds), as well as Take Art (Somerset) - an arts organisation with an early years specialism. Each partner will deliver a programme of activity in their region supported by South East Dance. *Little Big Dance* is funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Arts Council England and is supported by Dance Umbrella, Birmingham Hippodrome, Strike a Light Festival and English National Ballet School.

South East Dance (SED) is funded by Arts Council England to play a national leadership role in the development of dance. SED delivers an ambitious programme that encourages curiosity, discovery and risk-taking; supporting artists to create inspirational new work and empowering local communities to engage with dance.

South East Dance is currently preparing for the next stage in its development as it prepares to open The Dance Space, a new home for dance in the heart of Brighton & Hove. The Dance Space will be a purpose-built choreographic and learning centre; providing a meeting point for exceptional artists and local communities through a dedicated and wide reaching professional and community engagement programme.

## **Who can apply?**

We value and promote diversity and are committed to equality and opportunity for all, so we welcome applications from a diverse range of choreographers who work in a broad range of styles. No applicant will receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religious belief, gender, sexual orientation, class or socio-economic background, trade union activity or political activity or opinion.

This is a professional development opportunity providing mentoring, dramaturgical and production support; enabling artists to make work in and for early years settings and audiences.

We are looking for four artists to take part in the first 18 month cycle – one based in (or willing to travel to) each of the following regions:

South East (South East Dance)  
East (Dance East)  
South West (Take Art)  
Yorkshire & Humber (Yorkshire Dance)

Please note that there will be some financial support available to cover travel costs for regional activity.

This opportunity is aimed at artists at any stage of their career – from those who may never have produced a piece of work professionally, to those who have a strong established practice but have rarely worked in early years settings.

Please note, this opportunity is not aimed at artists who are already extensively making and touring work for early years (unless the application supports a key development / big step change in practice or approach).

Four successful artists will be commissioned to research and develop work within early years settings. After this initial process (see below, after Phase 3) two of these artists will progress their ideas to become full touring works through the *Little Big Dance* programme. The two artists not developing ideas for touring will be encouraged to apply for funding from Arts Council England to fully develop their ideas with mentoring support.

### The logistics

- We are looking for four diverse artists to work with.
- After the R&D process, we aim to confirm which two artists will be 'touring artists' by early February 2020.
- The main (studio based) activity for these commissions will happen at Dance East (Ipswich) and Yorkshire Dance (Leeds). There will be a budget to support artists with travel and accommodation.
- The activity based in early years settings will happen in each of the four highlighted regions above.
- The tours (both early years setting and venue tours) will happen across the UK.

### Approximate Timeline

<b>Phase 1– Laying the Foundations</b> Beginning to work with early years (EY) specialists and children's settings to explore EY practice	October – November 2019
<b>Phase 2 - Artist Lab</b> Artists will (in association with EY specialist artists) have time in and outside the studio to develop and reflect on a number of concepts, approaches or physical ideas to then test with the EY participants	December 2019
<b>Phase 3 - Testing Ideas in Early Years settings</b> Artists will work within the EY settings, inviting children to respond to their ideas and concepts, feeding into development of the work. Little Big Dance Touring Artists and Little Big Dance Supported Artists will be confirmed by early February.	January - February 2020
<b>Phase 4 - Develop and Create</b> Sees ideas and concepts from Little Big Dance Touring Artists taken	March - April 2020

and developed in the studio, with performers, sound, lighting and costume collaborators within this phase.	
<b>Phase 5 – Early Years Settings Tour</b> Presenting work in a variety of early years settings (non-theatre spaces)	May - June 2020
<b>Phase 6 - Tour Build</b> Up-scaling the work in a production setting so that the work can transfer to venues and theatres. This activity takes place either in a venue or in a production space.	July - August 2020
<b>Phase 7 - Venue Tour</b> Up-scaled work tours to a variety of performance venues across the UK	September – November 2020
<b>Evaluation period</b>	November – December 2020

## Fee

Please see the final page of this pack for all details of fees and other financial support available.

## How to apply

We would like to encourage all applicants to apply via a video application - maximum three minutes long (this can simply be filmed on a smartphone or similar). Though we will also accept a written application (a maximum of one side of A4). Please address the following points.

- Tell us about your practice
- Tell us why you want to create work with children and how will you approach this?
- Give us a sense of what you might create for/ with the children?

Application is via Survey Monkey, which should include:

- A link to your video application (or attachment of a written one)
- CV (attachment)
- Link/s to any **recent** footage of your work/practice that would be **relevant** to this application
- A completed South East Dance monitoring form

[Apply here](#)

Deadline - Monday 2 September, 10am

**Please note if your application is selected we would ask that you are available to attend an interview/selection session on Thursday 19 September 2019 (London, times tbc)**

**What we will need from you (if you are selected)**

- A current DBS certificate
- Public liability insurance up to £5,000,000
- Unique Tax Reference number

For any questions or if you have any access requirements you would like to discuss, please contact Linzi Whitton: [linzi.whitton@southeastdance.org.uk](mailto:linzi.whitton@southeastdance.org.uk) / 01273 696844

## Artist Fees

There are two routes through the **Little Big Dance** programme for artists.

All artists will participate in the first three phases of the project (see schedule). At the end of Phase 3 (Test) - two creative ideas will be chosen to progress on to phases 4-7 (these artists are referred to as '**Little Big Dance Touring Artists**'). The remaining two ideas will be supported to take their work forward independently (these artists are referred to as '**Little Big Dance Supported Artists**') and will be encouraged to apply for funding from Arts Council England to develop and realise their ideas with mentoring support from the Little Big Dance partners.

The programme will also include support from early years specialists, practitioners, producers and a dramaturg.

### Little Big Dance Supported Artists

#### Phase 1 – Foundations *October 2019*

One week visiting early years settings (regional)

**Fee:** £500 plus small budget for local travel, if needed

#### Phase 2 – Artist Lab

One week in studio w/b 9 December 2019 (Dance East, Ipswich)

Total 5 days

**Fee:** £500 plus travel and accommodation as needed

#### Phase 3 – Test *February – March 2020*

One week in studio (regional)

One week in EY settings (regional)

Plus Sharing day (Brighton)

**Fee:** £500 per week plus local travel and travel to sharing day in Brighton

PLUS £490 per week per dancer for two weeks for a maximum of two dancers, including local travel and travel to sharing day in Brighton

**TOTAL FEE: £2000** (plus expenses and additional dancers' fees, as set out above)

At this point in the process, two creative ideas will be chosen to progress on to phases 4-7 (these artists are referred to as **Little Big Dance Touring Artists**).

### Little Big Dance Touring Artists

Touring Artists receive the above fee as per the Supported Artists PLUS a **Commissioning fee of £7000** to create a full touring work. Additionally, they will receive fees for an early years setting tour, tour build and venue tour plus expenses (detailed below).

#### Phase 4 – Develop and Create

Three weeks rehearsal space in the studio

One artist at Dance East, Ipswich: w/b 23 March, w/b 30 March (plus third week, date tbc)

One artist at Yorkshire Dance, Leeds: w/b 23 March, w/c 30 March, w/c 6 April

Accommodation provided (lead artist and dancers), as needed  
£4000 for production costs (costume, set design, props, set, lighting and sound – materials and creatives fees)

**Phase 5 – Early Years Settings Tour** *April - June 2020*

Performances in eight early years settings (ideally within one week)

Fee: £500 for one week for lead artist/ Choreographer and £490 for one week for a maximum of two dancers, plus per diems, accommodation and travel (as needed) for all.

**Phase 6 – Tour Build** *July - August 2020*

One week in production space

**Fee:** £500 plus £490 each for a maximum of two dancers (plus travel and accommodation)

**Phase 7 - Venue Tour** *September – November 2020*

A minimum of eight venues (two shows per venue)

**Fee:** Tour fees tbc, plus travel, accommodation and per diems for lead artist, a maximum of two dancers and a production manager