

DANCE AMBASSADORS 2027

Application Guidance



ABOUT ONE DANCE UK

One Dance UK is the national support organisation, leading the way to a stronger, more vibrant and more diverse dance sector. We support all those that love, teach, learn, work in, and perform dance. We believe that dance is for everybody and has the power to transform and improve lives!

Whoever you are, however you move - we move for you.

DANCE AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME

One Dance UK's Dance Ambassadors programme is a 9-month programme, for young people aged 18-25 from across the UK. The Dance Ambassadors programme provides a unique opportunity to gain experience and deepen your knowledge about the dance sector and ecology, whilst gaining skills to support self-development and employability.

The programme will consist of the following:

- **In-person days:** these will be a mixture of delivered sessions, to support your sector knowledge and skill development, and time to share ideas, work in groups, and network.
- **Online check ins:** these will provide an opportunity to meet as a group, share learning from project areas and find out about programme opportunities and developments.
- **Self-directed activity:** this might be related to your main project or to enhance your personal development.
- **Projects:** you will each be attached to a specialist project with a One Dance UK partner organisation, company, or professional dance related group. There will be opportunity to contribute ideas, shadow roles and extend your knowledge and skills.
- **Home groups:** see page six for details.
- **Wider opportunities** throughout the year with One Dance UK and partner organisations.
- **A final celebration event**, which will celebrate and share your development and successes to wrap up the programme.

The Dance Ambassadors programme will:

- Help you build knowledge, skills, and connections in dance.
- Provide opportunities for sharing your own ideas, experiences, and knowledge.
- Be a platform for networking and providing a vital "youth voice" to the dance sector.
- Encourage independent learning and development.
- Support you with your aspirations and next steps.

WHO IS THE DANCE AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME FOR?

One Dance UK's Dance Ambassadors programme is for young people aged 18-25 from across the UK, who are passionate about dance, and believe in its power to unite, bring joy, and enhance lives.

If you are proactive, creative, and have a desire to be an important champion for dance and want to support the work of One Dance UK, in supporting the sector, then apply today!

In order to apply you should:

- Be aged 18 to 25 on 1 January 2027.
- Live or study in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales.
- Be able to commit to the dates outlined in the timeline and be ready and willing to get involved with the opportunities made available to you.



COSTS

We are delighted that Dance Ambassadors is fully funded and there is no charge for young people to apply for or take part in the programme. Each successful applicant will be fully reimbursed for all costs of economically viable travel, food and drinks, and accommodation when needed during the programme. In the unlikely event that travel costs for a single return journey is more than £150, approval should be confirmed with One Dance UK prior to booking.

TIMELINE FOR DANCE AMBASSADORS



Wednesday 20 January

Launch Day in Birmingham, 10.30 - 5pm

February to June

Projects will run, with mutually agreed times and dates of commitment

Tuesday 20 April

An online session, 4.30-5.30pm

Tuesday 11 May

Mid-point session with guest speaker

Tuesday 15 June

An online session, time TBC

Friday 23 and Saturday 24 July

U.Dance National Festival in Cardiff, Wales (these dates and location are provisional and any changes will be communicated as soon as possible)

Tuesday 7 September

Final online session: The focus will be on celebrating your work, what next, and evaluation



MAIN PROJECTS AND AREAS OF FOCUS

At One Dance UK we are passionate about supporting the creative careers of young people.

This year we are connecting Dance Ambassadors to 'live' project experiences, as a means to update your knowledge, gain some valuable experience and build your network. You will also be able to share your voice and ideas and be an important champion for the sector.

Running throughout the 2027 calendar year, Dance Ambassadors will be paired with a ODUK selected partner for approximately 10 hours (minimum) between February and June, for hands-on, online and if-possible in person, high quality careers experiences.

Things you might do in your project work...

- **Advocacy:** Support a dance company, learn about a nationwide campaign, help to build a network.
- **Community Dance:** Learn about how dance can empower and bring a community together, whilst understanding what dance in the community entails.
- **Education:** Review schemes of work, observe or assist CPD delivery.
- **Learning and Participation:** Support a partner organisation with their learning and participation work and learn about how organisations support children and young people's dance.
- **Marketing:** Suggest or contribute to copy for an organisation or project.
- **Producing:** Structure timelines, research artists, prepare resources, create and manage deadlines.
- **Touring:** Research Rural Touring Dance Initiative as a means to understand the touring eco-system.

**This provides a general idea of roles, which may alter slightly depending on activity at the time.*

EVENTS THAT ALL DANCE AMBASSADORS WILL BE INVITED TO BE A PART OF

- The **Dance Ambassadors launch day** on Wednesday 20 January 2027.
- **The One Dance UK Awards** (February 2027): supporting at the in-person event undertaking one of many varied roles.
- **U.Dance National Festival**: assisting the team with the operational smooth running of the festival.
- **Young Creatives** (One Dance UK's programme for aspiring young choreographers, which runs throughout 2027 with a performance in July 2027).
- Supporting **in-person days**.
- Joining **online sessions**.
- **Providing feedback** where appropriate.
- **One Dance UK advocacy work**: there will be opportunities during the Dance Ambassadors programme to be involved in our ongoing advocacy work.

OTHER EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

Throughout the Dance Ambassadors programme, there will also be other opportunities with the wider One Dance UK team and with external organisations to be involved in. These opportunities may include volunteering and supporting dance projects and programmes, supporting U.Dance Regional Platforms and other activity.

These extra opportunities will be signposted to, within a regular Dance Ambassadors bulletin.



HOME GROUPS

The home groups will be small groups of approximately two - four Dance Ambassadors. They will provide the chance for you to connect as a smaller group, discuss and share ideas and provide support for one another in between whole group activity points. Depending on your project area you will be assigned to a home group for the duration of the programme.

Home groups will be given recommended timeframes to meet up online, and suggested research, and follow-up tasks, with the idea of developing your knowledge and skills, which you will work on independently, and feedback on to the rest of the home group.



AS A DANCE AMBASSADOR YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO:

- Attend the in-person launch day in Birmingham on Wednesday 20 January 2027.
- Attend in-person and online check ins throughout the year.
- Commit to your project area and mutually agreed time frames.
- Be proactive and take advantage of the opportunities that are presented to you throughout the year wherever possible, around your existing work, and student commitments.
- Act as a One Dance UK representative, demonstrating respect and professionalism and following all appropriate policies and codes of conduct.
- Commit to being a champion for the power of dance!

Please read the guidance notes in full and make sure you can commit to the full programme from January to completion in July before applying. Dance Ambassadors is a special opportunity and is always oversubscribed so full commitment is essential. You can contact us at danceambassadors@onedanceuk.org if you foresee any clashes, or potential barriers.

HOW TO APPLY

Access our online application form by clicking on the link below, completing all areas of the form including the short questions below, and then clicking submit.

- Tell us a bit about yourself and your journey in dance so far. What have you been involved in, and what steps have you taken towards your future career?
- Tell us about how you would like to develop in dance and what you hope to achieve over the next few years.
- Please tell us why you would like to apply for the One Dance UK Dance Ambassadors programme and how you think it could help you make progress towards your future goals.
- Why do you think you would make a good champion for dance, and what skills, experience and qualities would you bring to the role?

The form gives you options to complete either written or video responses – both are very welcome.

If you'd like to submit your application through another method or need any additional help or support, please contact us at danceambassadors@onedanceuk.org.

Good luck and we cannot wait to hear from you!

Application Form

Deadline for applications: Friday 27 November at 10am





CONTACT DETAILS:

Telephone: 020 7713 0730

Email: danceambassadors@onedanceuk.org

Website: www.onedanceuk.org

Address: One Dance UK
Dance Hub
Thorp Street
Birmingham
B5 4TB



Image credits: One Dance UK, Dani Bower

One Dance UK is a Company Limited by Guarantee | Registered in England and Wales
No. 2931636 | Registered Charity No. 801552 | Vat Registration No: 451 0858 58