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## **Line-up announced for summer celebration of youth dance**

U.Dance the national youth dance festival presented by One Dance UK, in partnership with the ISTD, returns to London's Southbank Centre this summer with a line-up of youth dance groups from across the United Kingdom.

Each year the U.Dance national youth dance festival showcases a selection of the best dance groups from all over the country in a range of performances and gives the opportunity for hundreds of young people to take part in workshops and masterclasses with dance industry professionals, inspire each other with a love of dance and develop their understanding within the dance sector.

This year, U.Dance partners with leading arts venue Southbank Centre, Europe's largest centre for the arts. The festival takes place across various venues including Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and The Clore Ballroom, and other leading venues in the area including National Theatre, Rambert and BFI Southbank. The weekend-long event will present an exciting opportunity for youth dance groups to perform on-stage, hone their skills in professional dance workshops, and meet and work with other young dancers from across the country.

Andrew Hurst, Chief Executive of One Dance UK says:

"The U.Dance national youth dance festival is an important event on the dance calendar and we are delighted to be working in partnership with the ISTD to deliver this year's event. From the regional platforms to the festival itself, U.Dance engages with more than 2,000 young dancers, encouraging them in the pursuit of excellence in dance and embarking on careers in dance, highlighting one of One Dance UK's key aspirations – to raise the profile of dance teaching and practice in all its diverse forms."

Rupert Thomson, Senior Dance & Performance Programmer says:

"We are absolutely delighted to be welcoming One Dance UK, colleagues and participants from across the UK to Southbank Centre this summer. The U.Dance events offer the opportunity for young dancers to celebrate their achievements together through a festival full of passion, energy and ambition. We look forward to welcoming everyone and ensuring that their time spent in London is truly memorable."

The groups selected include:

East	Colchester Sixth Form
London 1	iDance Studios
London 2	Sujata Banerjee Dance Company
North East	TIN Arts
North West	Dance Syndrome

West Midlands	Our Lady & St Chad Catholic Academy
East Midlands	Next Door Youth Dance Company
Yorkshire	Street Beat Elite
South West	Hampshire Youth Dance Company
South East	Ceyda Tanc Dance Company
ISTD 1	Live Love Dance
ISTD 2	Del Toro School of Dance
ISTD 3	Mayhew School of Dance
ISTD 4	Highgate Ballet School Choreographers Collective
ISTD 5	Drishti Dance
ISTD 6	Srishti Yuva Culture
Scotland 1	LeeAnne Dobbie Dancers
Scotland 2	Fusion
YDance	NYDC Scotland
London	CAT Trinity Laban
London	CAT The Place

For further information and to book tickets to the performances, visit [www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk) –

## **ENDS -**

For further information and images, please contact Communications at One Dance UK, on 020 7713 0730, or [www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk)

## **NOTES**

About U.Dance To find out more about U.Dance, view One Dance UK's [Highlights Film](#).

### **About One Dance UK**

One Dance UK is the sector support organisation leading the way to a stronger, more vibrant and diverse dance sector. We provide one clear voice to:

- Support all those working in the sector to achieve excellence in dance performance, education and management
- Advocate for the increased profile and importance of dance in all its diverse forms and settings
- Enhance dancers' health, well-being and performance
- Identify gaps, provide opportunities and improve conditions for dance to be learnt, discussed and seen

We provide membership packages for a range of individuals and organisations to support, advise and connect people across the dance sector. Our aim is to create a workforce that is well-equipped to secure dance's prominence in the cultural landscape of the future. We do this by providing services, information and opportunities for:

- Dance organisations
- All dance professionals including:
  - Dance artists and choreographers
  - Dance teachers, educators and practitioners
  - Dance managers and producers
  - Dance medicine and science/research professionals
- All children and young people.

### **About Southbank Centre**

UK's largest arts centre and one of the UK's top five visitor attractions, occupying a 17 acre site that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. We exist to present great cultural experiences that bring people together and we achieve this by providing the space for artists to create and present their best work and by creating a place where as many people as possible can come together to experience bold, unusual and eye-opening work. We want to take people out of the everyday, every day.

The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. Southbank Centre is made up of the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as being home to the National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. It is also home to four Resident Orchestras (London Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, London Sinfonietta and Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment) and four Associate Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra and National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain).