

## **The Welcome Project: Commissions**

### **Brighton: January 2019**

#### **A bit about South East Dance**

South East Dance is funded by Arts Council England to play a national leadership role in the development of dance. We deliver 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.

We are currently preparing for the next stage in our development as we move towards **The Dance Space**, a new home for dance in the heart of Brighton and Hove. **The Dance Space** will be a purpose built choreographic and learning centre. It will provide a meeting point for exceptional artists and local communities facilitated through a dedicated and wide reaching professional and community engagement programme.

#### **The Welcome Project**

Funded by Esmee Fairbairn, this exciting 3 year project engages groups local to The Dance Space. Our vision hinges on it being part of the community, with local people feeling that they belong in The Dance Space and that The Dance Space belongs to them.

We are in our second year of the project and have already made many meaningful, trusting, brilliant and beautiful connections with our local community – but we also recognize that there is lots more potential to develop these relationships. We have established partnerships with organisations in the Tarn area of Brighton who's beneficiaries we work with regularly including Brighton Youth Centre, Brighton & Hove Senior Housing team, Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project, Puffin Community Nursery and Carlton Hill Primary School–.

For this opportunity we will be looking for 1 artist to work with each of the following groups, although we would be interested in collaborations:

1. **Brighton Youth Centre** - Young people (under 25) at risk of social exclusion
2. **Brooke Mead extra care unit**- Vulnerable older adults including over 55s living with low to moderate Dementia
3. **Puffin Community Nursery** - Early years; children aged 2-4 years, particularly those from low-income families or those at risk of social exclusion

#### **Our City Dances**

Our City Dances is a 2 day fun, free, family friendly summer dance festival. We presented our first Our City Dances Festival in July 2018 which was a roaring success and engaged 1591 people across 2 days of dance performances, workshops and installations across Brighton.

The festival is programmed collaboratively with a Community Steering Group – made up of 12 people who live or work in the Tarn area of Brighton. The group meet monthly to discuss all

aspects of the festival from programming to marketing, and help us deliver the festival when it arrives.

Last year's festival saw a diverse range of activity - Azontobeats and intergenerational workshops, performances by Casson and Friends, TRIBE// and Fan Dance Theatre (a collective of disabled and non-disabled performers), installations by Flexer and Sandiland and a LOT of fun. It was a packed weekend of celebratory, heart-warming, brilliant dance.

Our invite to you is to help us make some performance work for next year's festival, with and for our established community groups (as above).

### **The Commissions**

We encourage a variety of professional choreographers and dance artists to apply to work with our local community. We are offering 3 commissions (1 with each beneficiary group as per above), with the potential to make work and present it at Our City Dances Festival on 29/30 June 2019.

Though please note - we value a positive, creative experience for the participants over a tangible output – but a performance or interactive moment that can provide a positive experience for participants within the festival, would be an ideal.

For the purposes of this application, we encourage you to propose an idea for the performance work – but the themes of the work should be guided by the participants (in consultation with South East Dance.)

### **The logistics**

- Timeframe – performance making should happen between Easter 2019 and Our City Dance Festival (29/30 June).
- There is no set day or structure for the sessions leading up to the performance – these should be guided by the availability of the participants and the dance artist, in consultation with South East Dance.
- The dance artist should support the recruitment process of gathering participants at their chosen organisation (see 3 beneficiary groups above)
- Due to the nature of the sessions (which may include weekly sessions and some more intensive periods over weekends) – this role may suit someone based in the South East /Sussex but is open to artists living anywhere in the UK if they are willing to travel.
- South East Dance's Non-lone working policy means that all commissioned artists will be supported by an Assistant – costs associated with this role will be covered by SED – we are happy for artists to propose an Assistant or we can source.

### **Fee**

The commissioning fee is £1800 inclusive of travel and VAT

If needed we may have a small additional budget for props / costumes and resources as required.

### **How to apply**

We would like to encourage all applicants to apply via a filmed application, max 3mins long (this can simply be filmed on a smart phone or similar) and should answer the following questions:

- Tell us a little about yourself
- What experience have you had working with hard-to-reach communities
- Which group/s would you like to work with? (See 3beneficiary groups above)
- What is your proposed idea for the work you'd like to create?

Along with your video application, please also:

- Send a CV
- Send a link to any recent performance work that would be relevant to this application
- [Fill out the South East Dance monitoring form](#)

Applications should be sent to: [creative.communities@southeastdance.org.uk](mailto:creative.communities@southeastdance.org.uk) by midday on Wednesday 30 January 2019 (These can be sent via dropbox or similar)

**Please note if your application is selected you will need to be available to attend an interview/selection session on Wednesday 27 February 2019 (times tbc)**

### **What we will need from you** *(if you are selected to create a commission)*

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

For any questions, please contact [creative.communities@southeastdance.org.uk](mailto:creative.communities@southeastdance.org.uk) / 01273 696844