



## Creative Learning Dance Artist

### Full-time and part-time posts

### Application pack

We have a fantastic opportunity for two West Midlands-based dance artists to join Motionhouse's creative learning team on either a full-time or part-time basis as Creative Learning Dance Artists. This is an exciting and challenging role as part of a 4-person Creative Learning team: Head of Creative Learning, Lead Creative Learning Dance Artist, Creative Learning Dance Artist (full-time), and Creative Learning Dance Artist (part-time).

### Who is the Creative Learning Dance Artist job for?

The job is for you if:

- You are passionate about dance and its power to transform the lives of others.
- You share our ethos that dance is for everyone.
- You are an experienced, skilled, creative teacher and communicator.
- You love teaching dance and working with young people, particularly those who don't ordinarily have access to the arts.
- You want to be part of one of the country's leading dance companies as we launch a brand-new schools project.
- You are based in or prepared to move to the West Midlands.

### What will the job involve?

The Creative Learning Dance Artist F/T will primarily be working on our **The Wider World Project (TWWP)**, a brand-new 3-year multi-strand schools project generously funded by a major foundation.

For the full-time role: During term time, you will deliver the equivalent of 3 days per week in schools plus 1 day per week for planning and evaluation. In addition to this, you will work on the delivery of other creative participatory projects and classes in the local area and beyond, as capacity allows.

For the part-time role: During term time, the dance artist will deliver the equivalent of 3 days per week during term time. Outside of term time, the dance artist will work on the delivery of other creative participatory projects and classes in the local area and beyond, as capacity allows.

For TWWP, you will be:

- working closely with each of the schools involved to nurture relationships and create an ongoing open dialogue.
- using your creativity to explore the theme of inclusion and the value of difference.
- choreographing sharing pieces with each school for the performance at the end of each year.
- delivering teacher CPD for schools involved.
- creating lesson plans and teacher resources/toolkits for the schools involved.
- supporting on other areas of the project such as capturing feedback and evaluation.

If capacity allows, you will also find yourself:

- Teaching on our community class programme. More info [here!](#)
- Supporting the creative learning team with the class programme Summer Sharings and Festive Fundraisers.
- Teaching on other areas of our creative learning programme such as curtain raisers, care homes, ad-hoc workshops etc.

## **A little more about our brand-new schools' project The Wider World Project (TWWP) and creative learning programme...**

Our mission is to make world-class dance accessible to as many people as possible. All our work, on stage and in the community, is led by our belief in the power of dance to enrich lives, regardless of age, ability, background or financial means. TWWP feeds into the realisation of this mission by working with schools with high populations experiencing systemic disadvantage and will engage children who have fewer opportunities to experience high-quality arts-based learning and the transformational power that this brings.

The Wider World Project will work with 4 local schools to:

- Deliver creative workshops across 3 terms each year, to support children in exploring elements of citizenship by celebrating difference through creative movement.
- Culminate each year with all schools coming together for a participant performance in a venue.
- Offer Teacher CPDs, building teacher confidence to use dance/movement on curricular/non-curricular work.
- Provide opportunities for children to engage with Motionhouse performance, rehearsals/Q&As for inspiration.

TWWP will be a fantastic addition to our already established and thriving Creative Learning Programme, which combines a wide range of participatory work including our in-house community classes, Motionhouse Youth, curtain raiser projects, workshops and projects for schools, colleges and universities, teacher CPD, experience days and more. You can find out more about Creative Learning at Motionhouse [here](#).

## **What are we looking for in a Creative Learning Dance Artist?**

### **Person Specification**

Essential criteria:

- You have strong contemporary dance technique with an interest in contact work and/or circus.
- You have professional experience of teaching dance and working creatively with a wide range of participants in education and community settings.
- You have experience of working with SEND.
- You have an understanding and enthusiasm for the work of Motionhouse.
- You have experience of creating teaching resources for teachers and schools.
- You can create excellent choreography for education and community settings.
- You can be versatile and adapt workshops to the needs of participants ensuring all leave feeling a sense of achievement and fulfilment.
- You can work well independently and as part of a team.
- You have flexibility to work evenings and weekends.

Desirable criteria:

- You have a degree in dance or equivalent experience.
- You have sound knowledge of dance on the National Curriculum and within formal education.
- You have knowledge or experience of delivering Arts Award.
- You have knowledge of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- You are first aid trained.
- You are computer literate including the use of MS office – Word, Excel, Outlook.
- You hold a clean and current driving license.
- You have experience of driving a minibus or similar vehicle.
- You have an enhanced DBS check.
- You have flexibility to travel across the UK and occasionally stay overnight to deliver workshops.

The Creative Learning Dance Artist reports to the Head of Creative Learning.

## Full Job Description

### Creative Learning Programme

1. Be familiar with the current and evolving work of Motionhouse in order to plan relevant, exciting and accessible workshops and classes for participants.
2. Plan and deliver a robust programme of developmental dance activity particularly in leading The Wider World Project but also including contributions to our wider creative learning programme including but not limited to community classes, ad-hoc workshops and other participatory projects.
3. Observe company rehearsals and the creation of new Motionhouse work when practicable to deepen contextual understanding of the company's work.
4. Work alongside the Head of Creative Learning and Lead Creative Learning Dance Artist to contribute to the creation of teaching resources and reporting and evaluating of projects.
5. To undertake any other reasonable duty as requested by the Head of Creative Learning to further enhance the effective management and delivery of the Company's activities.
6. Occasional evening and weekend work will be required.

### General

1. To maintain confidentiality in relation to personnel issues and always have regard to promoting and preserving the reputation of the Company and its employees.
2. To operate responsibly within all Company policies and initiatives.
3. To attend meetings and complete training courses as necessary.
4. Seek and undertake regular training and CPD opportunities when possible.
5. All staff are expected to promote and ensure the implementation of the equal opportunities policies of Motionhouse and to respect data protection laws.

### Where?

You will be based at our home in Spencer Yard, Leamington Spa. You will have access to our dance studio, company class if you wish and if capacity allows, and use of resources and facilities in our company office.

This is a practical and in-person role although on occasion there may be some work that can be done from home.

### When?

The ideal start date is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September however there can be some flexibility on this depending on your availability. The first month in post will include a full induction, getting to know the team and the Company's work, before teaching commences in late October.

Both posts will be on 3-year contracts in the first instance.

### Further information

**Salary:** £27,000 – £30,000 per annum (pro rata for the part-time role) dependent on experience, paid on a monthly basis. There is a company pension scheme.

**Working hours:** 40 hours p/w, (24 hours for the part-time role).

**Holiday:** 25 days to be taken outside of term time, plus statutory holidays. Plus, an additional discretionary 3 days around Christmas. Pro rata for the part-time role (60%).

**Overtime:** No paid overtime: we operate a time off in lieu system.

**Probationary period:** Three months.

**Notice period:** 2 weeks within probation period. Three months thereafter.

**Applicants must be based in or prepared to move to the West Midlands.**

**We would encourage those with lived experience of disadvantage to apply, including but not limited to racial discrimination, social economic disadvantage or disability.**

**We are committed to promoting equality in all aspects of our work, and to creating a culture that respects, values and champions diversity. We uphold equal opportunities and recognise and celebrate diversity. Read our full [Equality, Diversity & Inclusion statement](#).**

**As part of our ongoing commitment to be a diverse, equitable, and inclusive company, we're committed to building a team with a wide variety of backgrounds, identities, and experiences. We positively encourage applications from people who are underrepresented in our sector, including those from working class and ethnically diverse backgrounds or who experience racism, people who are neurodivergent, people with disabilities and people from the LGBTQIA+ community. Data suggests that some candidates do not apply for a job because they don't feel that they meet all of the qualifications and requirements listed. If you meet some of the requirements and you'd love to work with us, we strongly encourage you to apply.**

If you have any questions or would like to talk anything through before you apply, please contact the Head of Creative Learning, Hannah Lockyer on [Hannah@motionhouse.co.uk](mailto:Hannah@motionhouse.co.uk)

## **How to apply:**

To apply please email your CV and a cover letter (approx. 500 words) or video/voice note (max. 5 minutes) to the Head of Creative Learning, Hannah Lockyer [Hannah@motionhouse.co.uk](mailto:Hannah@motionhouse.co.uk).

Please also complete our Equal Opportunities monitoring form: <https://forms.office.com/e/f7KbS6dzMY>

Please note, this form is to monitor the effectiveness of our equal opportunities policy. It is important to collect and record information to monitor who is applying to work with us. Any information provided is entirely anonymous, confidential, and is not part of any selection procedure.

In your cover letter please include:

- A little about yourself
- Why you would like to work for Motionhouse and more specifically within the creative learning team
- Why you're the right person for the job – what relevant experience do you have and how do you meet the person specification? Please specify if you are applying for the full-time or part-time dance artist role or if you would be happy to be considered for both.

The cover letter can be presented in any format accessible to you e.g. audio recording, video, word doc etc

Deadline for applications is **Monday 19 August 9am**

Candidates will be notified by end of the day: **Friday 23 August**

Interviews and teaching demonstrations will be held in person in Leamington Spa on **Monday 9 September, Tuesday 10 September or Wednesday 11 September**

The Creative Learning Dance Artist job is generously supported by a major foundation.

## **About Motionhouse**

Incredible dance-circus: pushing movement to its limits since 1988

Based in Leamington Spa since 1988, we create and tour a wide range of inspiring and powerful dance-circus productions to theatres and festivals in the UK and across the globe. Our distinctive, highly physical style integrates elements of circus and acrobatics with breath-taking dance to surprise and delight our audiences, using powerful narrative and incredible digital imagery. Our accessible dance-circus style attracts

large audiences, in a normal year, performing to 110,000+ people. Pioneers of outdoor dance, we take world-class dance-circus to audiences in a range of settings, from full-length touring theatre productions to outdoor work at festivals or in the street, in the heart of people’s communities, reaching children, young people and families, free of charge, in some of our most deprived communities. We also offer a vibrant programme of education and training activities for all ages, including classes, post-show discussions, workshops in schools and a range of professional development opportunities.

Motionhouse was founded by Executive Director Louise Richards and Artistic Director Kevin Finnan MBE who still lead the company. With an ethos that dance is for everyone, our mission is to make world-class dance accessible to all. We believe that dance has the power to illuminate the human condition and to change lives, enriching our emotional world and making a positive impact on educational and cognitive development and on health and wellbeing.

We work collaboratively with an extensive network of partners in dance, the arts, digital industries, universities, colleges, schools, and the community, with many partnerships, particularly in our home region of the West Midlands. Our distinctive contribution to UK dance is recognised by our inclusion in Arts Council England’s National Portfolio. We have an experienced [Board of Trustees](#) with strong governance expertise. We are a mature, resilient and creative organisation, a resourceful arts business and effective charity, with a track record in shaping how dance is defined and performed, in training the dancers of the future, offering life-changing participatory activities and inspiring teaching: enriching lives through the transformative power of dance regardless of age, ability, background or financial means.

Watch our [showreel](#) of exciting work.

## Motionhouse Staff Structure

