



## Creative Learning Dance Artist

### Full-time 12-month Fixed Term Post

#### Application pack

We have a fantastic opportunity for a professional dance artist to join Motionhouse's creative learning team as a Creative Learning Dance Artist, on a full-time basis for an initial 12-month fixed term contract. Subject to funding our intention is to make this a permanent role on completion of this initial year. This is an exciting and challenging role, and you will be part of a 4-person Creative Learning team: Head of Creative Learning, Creative Learning Dance Artist (full-time) x 2, and Creative Learning Dance Artist (part-time).

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.

Motionhouse delivers a thriving Creative Learning Programme, which combines a wide range of participatory work including our in-house community classes, our Motionhouse Youth company, curtain raiser projects, workshops and projects for schools, colleges and universities, teacher CPD, workshops in care homes and libraries, and more. You can find out more about Creative Learning at Motionhouse [here](#).

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

#### 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 lives.
- 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 a wide range of participants aged 2 – 60+ years from a variety of different backgrounds in community, education and professional settings.
- You want to be part of one of the country's leading dance companies.
- You are based in or prepared to move to the West Midlands.

#### What will the job involve?

The Creative Learning Dance Artist will work across all areas of the creative learning programme including workshops, participatory projects and classes in the local area and beyond.

You will find yourself teaching:

- *Ready Steady Dance*, our libraries project for 2-5 yr olds
- *Moving Stories*, our primary school project
- *Care to Dance?*, our programme working in local care homes
- Our community class programme. More info [here](#)
- Other areas of our creative learning programme such as curtain raisers, teacher CPD, ad-hoc workshops in schools, colleges and communities, and more.

In addition to this, you will also find yourself:

- creating lesson plans and teacher resources/toolkits.
- supporting on other areas of the programme such as capturing feedback and evaluation.
- working closely with schools involved in our work to nurture relationships and create an ongoing open dialogue.

- using your creativity to explore the different themes in Motionhouse’s work and translating this into a workshop setting.
- choreographing sharing pieces with schools and our community classes.

## **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 children and adults with special educational needs and disabilities.
- 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.

### **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 for the 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 other Creative Learning Dance Artists 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. 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 Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September however there can be some flexibility on this depending on your availability. The first month in post will include a full induction and getting to know the team and the Company's work.

This will be a fixed term 12-month contract in the first instance, with the view of becoming a permanent role.

## **Further information**

**Salary:** £28,000 – £31,000 per annum dependent on experience, paid on a monthly basis. There is a company pension scheme.

**Working hours:** 40 hours p/w

**Holiday:** 25 days to be taken outside of term time, plus statutory holidays. Plus, an additional discretionary 3 days around Christmas.

**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 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.**

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

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 the following to [jobs@motionhouse.co.uk](mailto:jobs@motionhouse.co.uk):

### 1. Your CV

### 2. A cover letter (approx. 500 words) or video/voice note (max. 5 minutes).

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?

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

### 3. Application form which is available [here](#).

### 4. 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. This is an anonymous online form and so will not need to be included in your email to the Head of Creative Learning.

Deadline for applications is **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 9am**

Candidates will be notified by end of the day: **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

Interviews and teaching demonstrations will be held in person in Leamington Spa on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July**

## About Motionhouse

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

Motionhouse is one of the UK's most creative and exciting dance companies. For 38 years we have brought unforgettable dance performances to people of all ages and backgrounds across the UK. Our performances are famous for their striking combination of dance, circus, powerful storytelling and digital technology. In addition to performing our award-winning work on stage to more than 100,000 people each year, we also deliver unforgettable dance projects to young people in schools and communities across Warwickshire, the West Midlands and further afield. Focusing on the power of dance to inspire learning, support wellbeing and change lives, we have a participation reach of approximately 10,000 people a year through inclusive workshops and bespoke participatory and training projects in our local area. We have worked with most schools nearby on creative projects over the years and reach 105 local people from age 7 to 60+ each week through our regular classes in our Leamington studio.

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

