



## Application Guidance Notes

This document relates to East Midlands groups wishing to apply for a county dance platform and U.Dance 2018.

**Deadline for applications: 12:00 noon Thursday 30 November 2017.**

### What is U.Dance?

U.Dance is a national framework that helps improve and inspire dance performance opportunities for children and young people across England, led by One Dance UK.

Information from One Dance UK: <http://www.onedanceuk.org/programme/u-dance/apply-for-u-dance-national-festival/>

### What does U.Dance involve in the East Midlands?

In the East Midlands Dance4 leads a regional partnership group called the Dance Alliance Group (DAG), made up of dance professionals based in each county. The regional DAG have been collectively planning and developing how best to take U.Dance forward throughout 2018 and beyond and have been working closely with One Dance UK to connect to the national structure.

### What does U.Dance in the East Midlands in 2018 involve?

1. Groups apply for one of the five county platforms:

**Mass Movement (Leicestershire)** Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 February at Curve Studio Theatre, Leicester

**N.Dance (Northamptonshire)** Saturday 17 February at The Core at Corby Cube

**True Motion (Lincolnshire)** Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 February at Lincoln Performing Arts Centre

**Interface (Derbyshire)** Friday 9 March at Déda

**Xzibit** Saturday 17 March at Nottingham Lakeside Arts

**Episodes (Nottinghamshire)** Sunday 18 March at Nottingham Lakeside Arts

Note: Xzibit Young Choreographers is through a separate application process, for more information visit: [www.garethwoodward.com](http://www.garethwoodward.com)

2. Groups will be selected following the application deadline on **Thursday 30 November 2017** by a panel of dance professionals to take part in one of the county events. Groups will be notified if they have been selected for one of these events no later than **Wednesday 13 December 2017**. Collective panel feedback will be given via email to group leaders who request it following this selection.

3. Each event will be professionally filmed. After all the events have taken place a shortlist of 12 pieces (two from each platform) created by the DAG group will be submitted to One Dance UK who will decide from the footage which will be the group to progress to the National Festival.

4. One group will attend the National Festival in Suffolk between 11 -14 July 2018.

### **Who is U.Dance open to?**

The process outlined above is open to any youth dance company or group that meets the criteria in the guidance notes below. We welcome applications from a diverse range of young dancers and in particular would like to encourage groups that include disabled dancers with physical or Special Educational Needs (SEN).

This opportunity is open to **any dance form** including South Asian, African, Urban/Street, Contemporary and Classical styles.

### **Criteria**

The selection panel will be looking for dance groups that:

1. Demonstrate excellence in performance standards
2. Demonstrate integrity and authenticity of choreography
3. Demonstrate a strong example of the dance style/genre they are performing in
4. Give 100% commitment to their involvement and respect to all those involved

The selection panel will select twelve dance pieces which combined as a performance programme will:

1. Reflect the diversity of dance styles practiced by young people across the UK
2. Create an interesting and varied performance
3. Showcase excellent and authentic work from both school and youth dance settings

### **Application Process**

Groups can apply for:

- a) County Platform ONLY
- b) County Platform and U.Dance 2018

You must complete and submit the following:

1. An online application via the link here:  
<https://dance4.wufoo.eu/forms/mechuwr10okrwe/>
2. Film footage of the piece of work your group intends to perform at the county platform, within the application form.

Please note:

- Applications will be acknowledged via an automatic email.

- Film footage should be provided within the application form using a password protected Vimeo link. Alternative methods can be discussed with Dance4 where Vimeo is not possible but it is the preferred method.
- Dance4 takes no responsibility for lost applications or film footage that is faulty or not of a quality to view by a selection panel by the deadline given.

## 10. GUIDANCE ON FILMING YOUR DANCE

Do's	Don'ts
<b>Do</b> make sure that your dance piece and group are well lit and so clearly visible.	<b>Don't</b> film in the dark.
<b>Do</b> make sure that you film the piece in a clear space (no bags or chairs around the edges).	<b>Don't</b> distract the panel with clutter in the room - they may be mistaken for props.
<b>Do</b> make sure that your full group is present on the day of filming.	<b>Don't</b> film a piece that should have twenty dancers with only two present.
<b>Do</b> make sure that the music can be heard.	<b>Don't</b> use a phone to play music whilst filming - a sound system/stereo is much better. Don't have the public chatting in the background.
<b>Do</b> make sure that you film the piece from the front.	<b>Don't</b> film the piece from the side or back of the dancers.
<b>Do</b> make sure that when played on a PC the footage plays the correct way up and not on its side (you may need to change the orientation that you film it).	<b>Don't</b> forget to test this – you'd be surprised how many times we watch footage with our heads at a funny angle!
<b>Do</b> try to make sure that the piece is as close to finished as possible. Although we do understand that some dance pieces may be 'works in progress' when you apply.	<b>Don't</b> just submit small clips of the piece on their own- it is hard for the panel to picture what the final piece will look like if they only seen this and have no information about what the finished piece will look like.
<b>Do</b> check that your link works before sending	<b>Don't</b> just send it in without checking it works
<b>Do</b> makes sure that there is a clear start and clear finish	<b>Don't</b> have the dancers stood chatting casually at the back (unless this is part of your piece)
<b>Do</b> check that we have received your footage and application if you do not hear from us.	<b>Don't</b> feel like you are pestering us, we would rather make sure that all applications come through successfully.
<b>Do</b> send any passwords that we need to be able to view links	<b>Don't</b> make your footage so private that our panel cannot watch it

**Do** call us if you have any questions

**Don't** let footage submission get stressful and confusing

## 11. Group Requirements

In order for a group to be eligible for a place for a county platform or U.Dance 2018 you will need to:

- Submit a piece with no more than 20 dancers performing in it (we recommend the groups comprise no more than 15 dancers. Groups of 16 dancers or more will need to have three chaperones instead of two).
- Only include dancers aged 11 to 19 years on the 26 July 2018. Disabled dancers up to age 25 years on the 26 July 2018 can apply.
- Length of piece: Performance work submitted for a county should be a minimum of two minutes and **maximum seven minutes**.
- Take responsibility for the administration (consent forms, performance licencing requirements and parent liaison) and chaperoning needs of the group if selected to perform.

Costs:

There is no fee to apply for a place for the county platform however groups will need to cover the cost of:

- transport to and from venues
- food and refreshments
- cost for leaders to be present at the event/s

For full details on the cost to attend U.Dance 2018 visit: [www.onedanceuk.org](http://www.onedanceuk.org)

## 12. Contact details:

Telephone: 0115 9242016

Email: [udance@dance4.co.uk](mailto:udance@dance4.co.uk)