

MY Dance On Screen Application Guidance/Form

This document relates to groups from the East or West Midlands wishing to apply for Midlands Youth (MY) Dance regional event and U.Dance 2022 National Festival as part of the '**On Screen**' strand.

Deadline for applications for MY Dance on Screen is: **Monday 7 March 2022, 12pm (midday)**.

1. What is U.Dance?

U.Dance is a national framework that develops dance performance opportunities for children and young people across England, led by One Dance UK (ODUK).

2. How is MY Dance on Screen part of U.Dance 2022?

This year, there are two separate opportunities to be eligible for the U.Dance National 2022 event, U.Dance on Stage and Midlands Youth (MY) Dance on Screen. Both opportunities will involve submitting an application and a video of your finished dance piece to your regional organiser.

Dance4 (Nottingham) and Dancexchange (Birmingham) are delighted to present MY Dance On Screen 2022, an online celebration of youth dance for screen from across the East and West Midlands

MY Dance On Screen 2022 welcomes dancers performing any style or genre and actively encourages inclusive groups to apply. We welcome submissions from schools, dance groups or individuals to be part of our feature film and to be selected for the U.Dance National festival if they choose.

3. Who is MY Dance on Screen open to?

MY Dance on Screen is open to any youth dance company, group or individual based in the UK. Dancers must be aged 11 to 19 years and dancers with disabilities aged up to and including 25.

We welcome applications which include groups working in different dance styles, with young people in different settings including schools, youth centres, community groups and youth dance companies. We would like to strongly encourage groups that include disabled dancers with physical or Special Educational Needs (SEN) to apply.

U.Dance is open to any dance form including but not limited to South Asian, African, Street, Contemporary and Classical styles, welcoming a diverse range of applications.

4. Eligibility

To be eligible for your work to be considered for MY Dance On Screen 2022 and U.Dance National Festival 2022 you must:

- Submit a dance piece made specifically for the screen, between 2 and 7 minutes long
- Only include dancers aged 11 to 19 years (as of 24 July 2022 and dancers with disabilities aged up to and including 25 on or by this date)
- Only include dancers based in the East or West Midlands
- Adhere to the music licensing requirements

The same youth group or individual may apply for both the 'On Stage' and 'On Screen' opportunities, but the same piece of work cannot be submitted.

5. Selection Process

Following the deadline of **Monday 7 March 2022, 12pm (midday)** a panel of professionals from the sector will select films to be included in **MY Dance On Screen 2022**.

Successful groups/works will be notified w/c **Monday 14 March 2022**

A panel of regional dance professionals will select works representing the East and West Midlands to be showcased as an online compilation performance. This film will be sent to One Dance UK after the event. A national panel of dance professionals will then select works to be presented at the U.Dance 2022 National Festival.

All film submissions selected for MY Dance On Screen 2022 will be considered to be showcased at the U.Dance National Festival in Glasgow, July 2022.

Please note if a piece is selected to be showcased at the U.Dance National Festival, only the film will be shown at the event. 'On screen' groups will not be invited to attend the national event in person.

6. U.Dance in the Midlands Good Practice Guide

A good practice guide has been created to support all group leaders working with young people towards all U.Dance platforms in the Midlands.

Please read this document and refer to it throughout the creation of your choreography. There is also a short video which explains the information in the document clearly, see below.

[Click here to watch the U.Dance Midlands Good Practice Guide film.](#)

7. Music Guidance

There are strict rules and legal requirements surrounding music licensing and rights. This is different to using music solely in class or on stage, and ensures musicians and composers are credited and compensated appropriately for their work.

This matter is taken **very seriously** and PRS can, and often does, take legal action where music has been used without permission, even in charity and educational settings.

Groups should not assume they can use any piece of music for free – the rights must be secured. U.Dance partners are unable to pay to secure rights to any music accompaniment to dance pieces and will not be able to stream your work online if the rights are not secured.

Options include:

- Using royalty-free music. Various online libraries are available, with some options listed on the Streaming Youth Dance Online Music Licensing Best Practice via the link below
- Using original music composed solely for the piece
- Contacting the music publisher of the piece and accessing rights directly with them, and providing evidence of this with the application
- If music rights are not secured, for any online showcase the regional organiser will either overlay the track with similar royalty-free music or not include the work in the event.

[Streaming Youth Dance Online Music Licensing Best Practice](#)

8. U.Dance National Criteria

The selection panel will be looking for dance groups that:

- a) Demonstrate excellence in performance
- b) Present excellent and engaging choreography
- c) Show dancers taking clear ownership of the choreography, which is appropriate for their age and experience
- d) Demonstrate respect and consideration to all (demonstrated through both the group's conduct at the regional event and the appropriateness of performance content).

***A note on choreography:** Excellent work selected for the U.Dance National Festival in previous years has been created by group leaders, teachers, young people, professional choreographers and any number of collaborations.

The national selection panel will select dance pieces which combined as a performance programme intends to:

- a) Reflect the diversity of dance styles practiced by young people across the UK
- b) Create an interesting and varied performance
- c) Showcase excellent and authentic work from both schools and youth dance settings

For more information, please [read the U.Dance National Guidance Notes](#).

9. To Apply

- Complete and submit an online application form – **via the links below**
- Submit a film of your completed piece as part of your application.

Please note:

- a) Applications will be acknowledged via an automatic email.
- b) Film footage should be provided within the application form using a password protected Vimeo link. Alternative methods can be discussed where Vimeo is not possible, but it is the preferred method.
- c) Dance4/DanceXchange takes no responsibility for unreceived applications or film footage that is faulty or not of a quality to view by the selection panel by the deadline given.

10. Guidance for Filming Your Dance

- Make sure that your dance is well lit and clearly visible, don't film in the dark.
- Clear the space (no bags or chairs around the edges), don't distract the panel with clutter.
- Make sure the whole group is present for filming.
- Use a sound system so that music can be heard, don't use a phone to play music while filming or have people chatting in the background.
- Film the work from the front, not the back or side.
- If filming on a phone -position the phone in landscape
- Check that film footage plays the correct way up (you might need to change the orientation of the film).
- Check your Vimeo link works before submitting.
- Send any passwords needed to view the links.
- Check that we have received your footage if you do not receive a confirmation email. Don't feel like you are pestering us, we would rather make sure all applications come through successfully.
- Call us if you have any questions, don't let submitting the film be stressful.

Filming Dance Webinars

To help you to create your best on screen work, watch the Upskilling Webinars with dance film experts, filmed in December 2020 with a particular focus on dance for children and young people:

APPLICATION LINKS:

EAST MIDLANDS: [APPLY HERE](#)

WEST MIDLANDS: [APPLY HERE](#)

Application Enquiry Contacts

Dance4 (East Midlands) – freya@dance4.co.uk

DanceXchange (West Midlands) – jamaal.odriscoll@dx.dance

