

U.Dance 'On Stage' East Midlands Application Guidance

This document relates to East Midlands groups wishing to apply for a live county dance event and U.Dance 2022 National Festival as part of the 'On Stage' strand.

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. What does U.Dance in the East Midlands involve in 2022?

Dance4 leads the U.Dance East Midlands Steering Group, made up of dance professionals based in each county. This year the group are working together to present live 'on stage' events in the East Midlands and an opportunity for dancers/groups to apply for an 'on screen' event, MYDance, bringing the East and West Midlands together.

Applications to both strands can be considered for the U.Dance 2022 National Festival if you choose.

3. U.Dance East Midlands County Events

Groups can apply for one of the five county youth dance performance events:

N-Dance: Northamptonshire, Saturday 5 March 2022, The Core at Corby Cube

Mass Movement: Leicestershire, Sunday 20 March 2022, Curve Studio

Interface: Derbyshire, Friday 25 March 2022, Déda

Episodes: Nottinghamshire, Sunday 27 March 2022, Squire Performing Arts Centre.

True Motion: Lincolnshire, Sunday 3 April 2022, Lincolnshire Performing Arts Centre

Groups can apply for:

- County event ONLY or
- County event AND U.Dance 2022 National Festival.

Groups can choose to be considered for U.Dance 2022 National Festival as part of this application. U.Dance 2022 national festival is scheduled to be held in Glasgow on Friday 22 to Sunday 24 July 2022.

Groups selected to attend the National will be responsible for funding their own travel, food and accommodation to the U.Dance National Festival, so please consider this when applying.

4. U.Dance in the East Midlands Good Practice Guide

A good practice guide has been created to support all group leaders working with young people towards U.Dance in the East 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 East Midlands Good Practice Guide film.](#)

5. Selection Process

Following the deadline of **12pm (midday) on Monday 7 February 2022** groups will be selected by a panel of dance professionals to take part in one of the county events.

- a) Successful groups will be notified by Monday 14 February 2022
- b) Each county event will be professionally filmed on stage. A panel of regional dance professionals will select two groups that opted to be considered for the National Festival from each live event. A compilation film of the 10 shortlisted groups (2 per event) will be sent to ODUK after the final U.Dance East Midlands event (dates above). A national panel of dance professionals will select one group from the regional shortlist to attend U.Dance 2020 National Festival. The successful group will be notified in April 2022.

6. Who is U.Dance Open to?

U.Dance is open to any youth dance company or group that meets the criteria mentioned in point 7.

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.

7. Criteria

The selection panel at county events 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. There is no preferred 'type' of choreographer and no weighting in the selection process is given to who created the piece.

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

- 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.

8. Group Eligibility

- Group Size: no more than 20 dancers
(we recommend no more than 15 dancers. Groups of 16 dancers or more will need three chaperones instead of two).
- Age range: Dancers must be aged 11 to 19 years on the 24 July 2022. Disabled dancers up to age 25 years on the 24 July 2022 can be included.
- Length of piece for a county event: Minimum of 2 minutes and maximum 7 minutes

Leaders must organise the administration (consent forms, performance licencing requirements, parent liaison and technical information), chaperoning at the live events and transport needs for their group.

9. To Apply

- Complete and submit an online application form – via the link below
- Submit a film of your completed piece as part of your application.
In the event of live performances being cancelled, your film will be used to make selections for the National Festival if you opt in to be considered. This footage should be filmed to the best of your ability, the full-length piece that your group intends to perform, in costume if possible.

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 with Dance4 where Vimeo is not possible, but it is the preferred method.
- c) Dance4 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.
- d) In the event of any of the live events being cancelled (for reasons beyond our control) the event will not be rescheduled or take place digitally, but your film will be used to make selections for the U.Dance National event 2022.

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.

11. Costs

U.Dance in the East Midlands

There is no fee to apply for a county event. Groups will need to cover the cost of:

- Transport to and from the performance venues
- Food and refreshments (young people to bring packed lunches)
- Cost for leaders to be present at the event/s
- Costs for chaperone licences if required.

U.Dance 2022 National Festival

The group successfully selected to attend the national event will need to raise their own funds to cover:

- Transport costs to and from Glasgow
- Food and refreshments throughout the event
- Accommodation costs for the group and their Chaperones for 1 or 2 nights.
- Costs for leaders and chaperones
- Chaperone licenses/training if required

12. Access Fund

A small access fund is available to support the group attending the national festival, available through ODUK.

APPLY HERE:

<https://dance4.wufoo.com/forms/m1d3mswl0238pdp/>



The Core
at Corby Cube

déda

hub



U.DANCE
Regional