**OPEN CALL**

**FOR INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS AND/OR COMMUNITY GROUPS**

**Connecting Communities Dance Festival**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich is working with Kauma Arts to deliver the Connecting Communities Dance Festival as part of the borough’s Black History celebrations in October 2021, which also forms part of the wider BH365 Programme. The festival aims to connect local dance practitioners and community groups with professional dancers in order to build a dance programme that reflects, engages, and is developed by the borough’s diverse communities.

The live dance festival will run over five days in school half term, Monday 25 to Friday 29 October 2021, and toured across five borough locations (e.g. Woolwich, Plumstead, Thamesmead, Eltham and Charlton). The showcase will include four new commissioned dance pieces and several performances created in collaboration between residents, community groups and dance professionals in the styles of the different cultures that are reflective of and rooted in the African, Asian and Caribbean communities. Communities will be engaged in workshops at local venues from September 2021 leading up to the festival dates.

This festival is for dance artists and creatives from diverse backgrounds. It will support;

* Dance Artists who want to develop their artistic skills and who are keen to lead workshops in community/schools settings to create performance pieces (presentations) for the festival. The project will also provide the opportunity for dance artists to work with established professionals to create dance pieces in studio.
* Creatives keen to support dance making (but not necessarily as dancers) e.g. digital artists, technical artists, dramaturge, project coordination, documenting and volunteering at various stages of the project.

Working with under-represented groups, the project aims to

* Provide opportunities for skills development: connecting local dancers and non-dance community groups with professional dancers in a peer to peer learning and development programme.
* Acknowledging and shining a light on the skill base that already exists (whilst providing a platform for new and existing talent).
* Collaboratively build a dance programme that reflects, engages and is developed by the borough’s diverse communities to celebrate, enable and create conditions for exchange.
* Commission and develop new work to be shared locally and nationally across various platforms, raising profiles of talented individuals and advocating for artistic leadership in the communities.
* Create a supportive network for dance and creative practitioners, building an infrastructure, from the ground up.

**CRITERIA**

We are seeking a wide range of contributors and welcome ideas across all levels of experience. Presentations can be at the beginning, development or completed stage.

Applicants must:

* Have some experience in dance (or related arts forms) within traditional and/or contemporary Black and Ethnically Diverse cultural practices.
* Be resident or working in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Preference will be given to individuals or organisations based in or collaborating with groups from Woolwich and the surrounding areas (Charlton, Eltham, Plumstead and Thamesmead).
* Be flexible and willing to collaborate across-sectors with a range of professionals to develop current or new work
* Be available for a series of meetings and workshops and creating work in August, September and October 2021, both digitally and in-person.

**Application Submissions:**

To apply, please complete the relevant attached ‘Individual Artist Submission Form’ or ‘Community Submission Form’ and return via email to kaumaarts@gmail.com by 12 midnight on Tuesday, 31 August 2021. Applicants must be 18 years and above.

**Notification**

Successful applicants will be advised during the week commencing Monday, 30 August 2021 and must be ready to start the project immediately.

**Connecting Communities Dance Festival**

**Individual Artist Submission Form**

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| **ABOUT YOU AND/OR YOUR ORGANISATION** | |
| **Name of Artist(s)/Organisation:** |  |
| **Name Organisation** if applicable**:** |  |
| **Contact Name** if applicable**:** |  |
| **Address(es) within the Royal Borough of Greenwich:** (Work/Residential) |  |
| **Contact Email:** |  |
| **Section A - PRESENTATION OVERVIEW**  **This section is for artists who regularly present dance works professionally or semi-professionally in theatres, venues and/or community settings, locally or nationally. You may want to present a version of the finished work, work in progress or submit an idea for a new piece.** | |
| **Title/Working title of Presentation:** |  |
| **Length of Presentation:** |  |
| **Number of Performers:** |  |
| **Is this** | Research & development  Work in Progress  a Completed Performance |
| **Description: (max 250 words)** |  |
| **Please list any previous presentations of the work including dates and location (if applicable otherwise indicate Not Applicable):** |  |
| **Please provide YouTube/ Vimeo links etc. of the work and any other relevant presentations (if applicable otherwise indicate Not Applicable)** *(max 15 minutes across all links)* |  |
| **Section B – PROPOSAL**  **This section is for those who identify as dance artists who may not be currently practicing but want to dance again or just be part of a creative process with others. They may have an idea in mind that they wish to explore or skills that they may want to use.** | |
| **Please state why you are applying (MAX 250 words).** | |
| **Please state if there is anything we need to know about at this stage (Max 100 words)** | |

**Connecting Communities Dance Festival**

**Community Submission Form**

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| --- | --- |
| **ABOUT YOU AND/OR YOUR ORGANISATION** | |
| **Name of Group or individual:** |  |
| **Contact Name /Group leader** |  |
| **Address(es) within the Royal Borough of Greenwich:** (Work/Residential) |  |
| **Contact Email:** |  |
| **OVERVIEW**  **This section is for describing creative/cultural activity or community projects that you are or have been involved in, across a range of settings. This project focuses on dance but is open to applicants who are from other artforms such as music, poetry, drama, digital arts, outdoor arts and performance etc.**  **Alternatively, you may wish to use your skills and expertise to support dance development in the community; for example, by facilitating activities, coordinating or volunteering at events or sharing an idea that you would be keen for the project to explore further.** | |
| **Please state why you are applying and list or describe any previous activities or events, including dates and location where applicable.** *(Max 250 words)* | |
| **Please provide YouTube or social media links etc. to any relevant information or presentations** *(max 15 minutes across all links)* | |
| **Please use this space to share any other relevant information with us.** *(Max 250 words)* | |