

Fertile Ground Learning and Participation Manager

Job description



Job Title: Learning and Participation Manager

Location: The company is based at Dance City in Newcastle with activities taking place around the North East of England

Salary: £200/day

Contract: Bulk engagement of 20 days

Reports to: Renaud Wisser, Artistic Director

About us:

Founded in 2013, Fertile Ground (FG) has established itself as a leading organisation in talent development and retention of dancers in the NorthEast region. Fertile Ground nurtures new generations of dancers by:

- Commissioning established national and international choreographers to create and tour high production value performances with some of the best emerging professional dance artists of the region.
- Working in schools to provide creative learning opportunities to those from underprivileged backgrounds.
- Supporting newly trained dancers aged 18-25 who struggle to obtain their first professional job in the industry via our 360 professional development programme.
- Commissioning digital projects to expand how dance can be seen and reach audiences beyond traditional theatre spaces.

Overall we develop pathways to sustainable industry careers for young people in the North East.

Role Overview:

The Learning and Participation Manager is responsible for developing, managing and supporting the delivery of a comprehensive learning and engagement program that aligns with the company's artistic vision. This role involves working closely with the Artistic Director and linking when appropriate with the Board of Trustees. It involves also working closely with artists, educators, and community groups to create inclusive and impactful experiences that inspire a deep connection to contemporary dance. The Learning and Participation Manager will play a key role in broadening the company's reach and ensuring that our work is accessible to all.

Key Responsibilities:

- Program Development and Delivery:

- Design and implement innovative learning and participation programs that engage diverse audiences, including workshops, masterclasses, school programs, and community projects.
- Collaborate with the Artistic Director and dancers to integrate learning opportunities into the company's artistic projects.
- Collaborate with FG fundraising consultant to develop specific funding bids to support the development of our engagement program.
- Develop tailored programs for different age groups, abilities, and community needs.

- Community Engagement:

- Build and maintain relationships with schools, community organisations, and cultural institutions to foster collaboration and expand the company's reach.
- Identify opportunities for partnership to support and grow the learning and participation programs.
- Ensure the inclusion of underrepresented and marginalised communities in all programs.

- Management and Administration:

- Oversee the management in collaboration with the Artistic Director of all learning and participation activities, including scheduling, budgeting, and resource allocation.
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of programs, using feedback to continuously improve and innovate.

- Marketing and Communications:

- Work with the marketing team to promote learning and participation activities through various channels, ensuring broad awareness and engagement.
- Develop educational materials and resources that complement the company's artistic output.

- Strategic Development:

- Contribute to the overall strategic planning of the company, ensuring that learning and participation objectives align with the company's mission and goals.
- Develop and implement strategies to increase participation and diversify the company's audience base.
- Stay informed about current trends in arts education and community engagement, bringing fresh ideas to the company's programs.

Qualifications and Experience:

- Essential:

- A degree in dance, arts education, or a related field, or equivalent professional experience.
- Proven experience in designing arts education and community engagement programs, preferably in a contemporary dance or performing arts context.
- Strong knowledge of contemporary dance practices and pedagogy.
- Excellent project management skills with the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously.
- Experience in building and maintaining partnerships with educational and community organisations.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage effectively with diverse audiences.
- A commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of the role.
- Ability to use google drive

- Desirable:

- Experience working with marginalised or underrepresented communities.
- Knowledge of funding and grant application processes in the arts sector.
- Experience in digital learning and the use of technology to enhance participation.

How to Apply:

Please submit your CV, a cover letter (maximum 2 A4 pages) detailing your suitability for the role, and any relevant work samples to ad@fertileground.org.uk by 15 October 2024. In your cover letter, please highlight your experience in arts education and community engagement, and your vision for learning and participation in a contemporary dance context.

Fertile Ground is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from candidates of all backgrounds. We are committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all employees and participants.