



Out of Whack – a new elders’ dance company in Coventry

“I’m not interested in how people move but what moves them...” Pina Bausch

We are looking for an experienced Dance Leader for a new elders’ dance company – *Out of Whack* - based at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry. *Out of Whack* is a new opportunity for Coventry residents to take part in professionally-led dance classes that will be creatively challenging and inspiring, leading to the creation of new dance pieces for public performance.

Out of Whack takes inspiration from other elders’ dance companies, such as Sadler’s Wells Company of Elders, and the growing movement of elders’ dance companies coming together through increasing performance opportunities across the UK. We will be looking to recruit our dance company members at the same time as we recruit our Dance Leader, through inviting them to attend dance taster workshops at Warwick Arts Centre In June 2021.

This initiative has been created by Sally Rew, a Coventry resident, in partnership with Warwick Arts Centre and with funding from Heart of England Community Foundation Road to 2021 Fund to support the project until March 2022.

Dance Leader – person specification

The Dance Leader will be engaged to lead 2 terms of 10 classes each in autumn 2021 and spring 2022. Classes (of 60 minutes duration) will take place weekly in line with Warwick University terms. Please note that the current funding supports the post of Dance Leader until March 2022 only; however, it is our intention to extend the post subject to further funding. It is expected that the Dance Leader will be locally based in order to be available for what is expected to be a long-term commitment.

We are looking for a Dance Leader who is familiar with elders’ dance and can develop dance skills and creative expression in a community of older dancers; s/he should be creative, supportive, encouraging and ambitious. S/he should be able to teach a class that develops skills and abilities, as well as being able to devise and choreograph new work with input from the company. As the company develops it is planned that guest choreographers will be invited to work with us, therefore the Dance Leader should be able to support the company in learning new choreography and in working towards performances.

Essential requirements:

- Public Liability & Professional Indemnity insurance
- Confirmation of self-employed status
- Experience of teaching contemporary dance and/or dance theatre
- Experience of choreographing contemporary dance and/or dance theatre
- Knowledge of safe practice and risk assessment
- Able to support and participate in monitoring and evaluation processes

The Dance Leader will be contracted as self-employed and the fee payable per term (10 classes) is £1,200.

Dance Leader – selection process

The recruitment of the Dance Leader is a 2-stage process:

- Written application;
- Delivery of a 1-hour workshop session to up to 12 participants (aged 60+).

Your written application should include:

- An up to date CV.
- Statement addressing your suitability for the role of Dance Leader, **covering all aspects of the person specification**. Tell us what inspires you, and how that will inform how you will work with our dance community.
- A brief proposal of the structure and content of the taster workshop, duration of 1 hour, with a group of up to 20 participants aged 60+. Note that the workshop should include typical elements of a regular class, e.g. warm-up, exercises, with approximately half of the workshop given over to a collective creative process / shared choreography experience. Note that the participants attending this taster workshop will also be new to *Out of Whack*, will probably not know each other and will not know what to expect, so please be mindful of how you will support and encourage them.
- Names and contact details of 2 referees.
- Confirmation of your availability on the taster workshop dates. If you are selected to deliver a taster workshop you will be paid a fee for your time.

WORKSHOP DATES:

- Tuesday 8th June, 6.30-7.30pm
- Tuesday 15th June, 6.30-7.30pm
- Tuesday 22nd June, 6.30-7.30pm

Submit by email to Sally Rew: creativelearning@warwick.ac.uk

DEADLINE: 30th April 2021

