

national **dance**  
company **wales**

cwmni **dawns**  
cenedlaethol **cymru**

# Young Associates 2025-26



# Thank you for your interest in auditioning for our Young Associates Programme.

NDCWales Young Associates provides inspirational contemporary dance training for young Welsh or Wales based dancers aged 13-18. Sessions run on Sundays during Welsh school terms from 10:30am – 2.00pm with some additional workshop days. Sessions are taught by the Engagement Dance Artist, NDCWales Company Dancers and guest artists.

For over two decades, National Dance Company Wales (NDCWales) has been nurturing and developing some of the most talented dancers from across the nation. Former NDCWales Young Associates have gone on to train at Trinity Laban, Rambert, Northern School of Contemporary Dance, London School of Contemporary Dance, Tring Park, Bird College and more. Some have even returned to us as Professional Placement Students and Company Dancers.

Based at the Dance House, Cardiff, the home of NDCWales, our Young Associates follow a programme created by our Artistic team which includes our Artistic Director and our Engagement Artist who oversees and provides feedback and support during the programme. The programme focuses on improving creative and technical skills in contemporary dance, along with developing work for performance.

We have a limited number of places available and successful applicants are chosen through a FREE workshop audition in the form of a contemporary technique class where dancers can show their skills, creativity and potential.

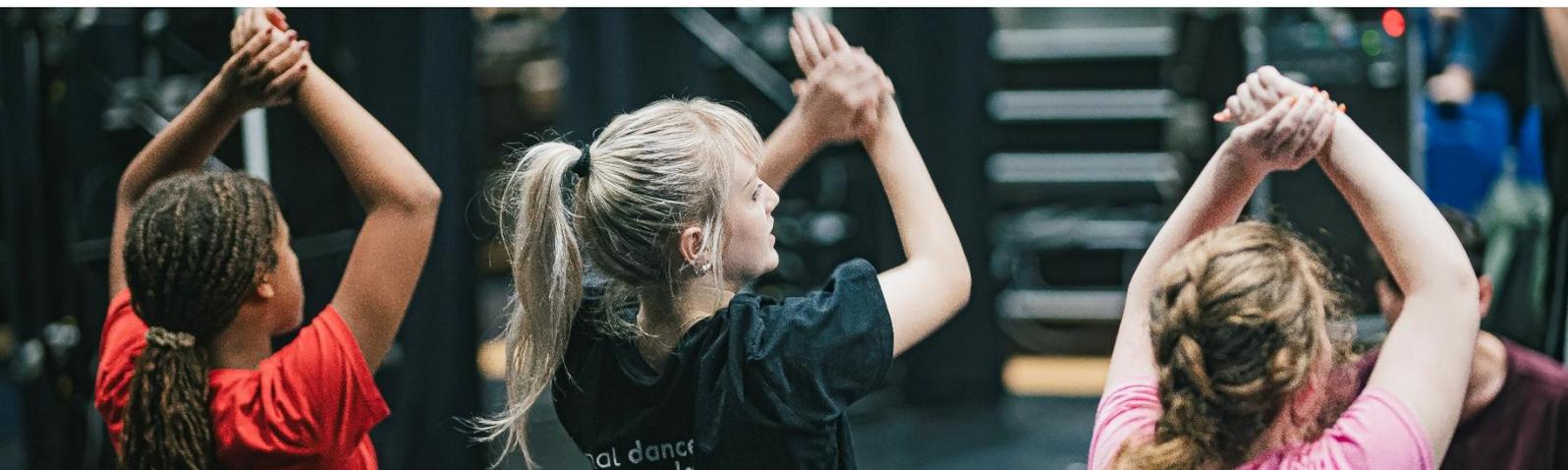
We welcome young dancers from a range of dance backgrounds. If you're interested and passionate about dance, whatever your experience, we'll support you to apply

NDCWales Young Associates programme is delivered in collaboration with [Northern School of Contemporary Dance](#).

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## As part of the Young Associates programme, you will have a link to the professional company which may include:

- A weekly three-hour dance class (Autumn & Spring terms).
- Performance opportunities including a new work choreographed for LAUNCH - Youth Dance Night at the Dance House in November.
- Access to observe NDCWales Company rehearsals
- Free ticket/s to NDCWales performances in Wales.
- Pre/Post show discussions with the creatives.
- Mentoring from NDCWales Artists.
- Career development talks.



## Timeline for NDCWales Young Associates 2025-26 Applications

| Activity                      | Date                     |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Closing date for applications | Sunday 1 June            |
| Audition workshop             | Saturday 5 July          |
| Decisions emailed out         | By end of Friday 18 July |
| 2025-26 term begins           | Sunday 14 September      |

### Workshop Audition

A workshop audition for Welsh or Wales based Young Associates will take place at the Dance House, Cardiff Bay on: **Saturday 5 July 10am-4pm.**

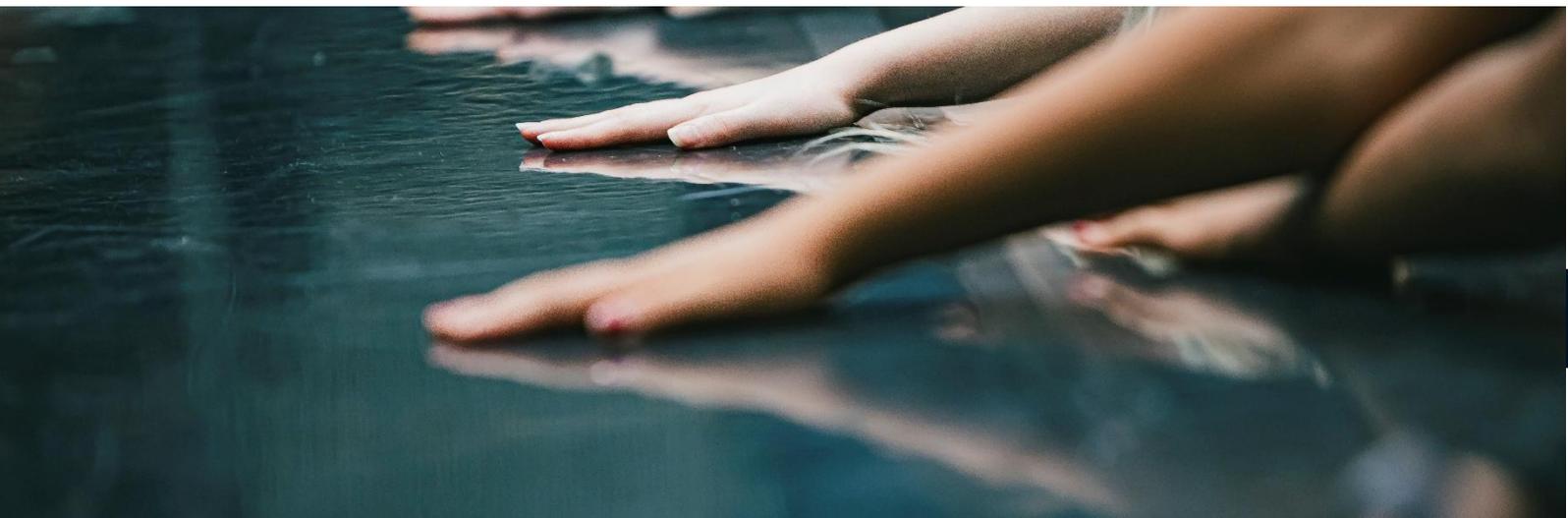
[Please Apply Using The Application Form Here](#)

### Weekly Classes

We will run the 2025-26 Young Associates Classes in the Dance House, Cardiff Bay on Sundays in line with school Autumn and Spring terms, 10:30am-2:00pm.

Each Sunday will consist of two sessions, across which you will develop your physical, creative, technical and performance skills. These sessions are delivered by NDCWales and guest artists, working with a variety of approaches to movement.

If you also gain a place on the [Ballet Cymru Associates](#) programme, please notify us as we are working in collaboration to ensure that you can leave class early once a month to attend Ballet Cymru.



## Projects and Performances

The Young Associates programme recognises the importance of performance and creative experience as well as technique classes, and so offers the opportunity to work with professional choreographers on a performance at **LAUNCH – Youth Dance Night** on Sunday 23 November.

LAUNCH is an evening of performances featuring some of the most exciting youth dance groups from across Wales. A thrilling evening revealing the future of dance, LAUNCH is a night celebrating exciting young artists with a passion to move.

**LAUNCH is an essential part of the Young Associates experience so please check the dates before applying to ensure you can attend.**

| Activity                          | Date (subject to change) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| LAUNCH Creation                   | 25-28 October            |
| LAUNCH Rehearsal and Performances | 22-23 November           |



# Timetable

We offer successful applicants a full programme which will help to nurture and grow their talent and offer them a real insight into the professional dance world. We know that many of our Young Associates are busy, which is why we try to give our weekly dates and performance opportunities in advance. If multiple sessions are missed throughout the year, we will discuss this with you and may consider offering your Young Associates place to someone on our waiting list.

**Please note that this timetable is subject to change before the start of the programme.**

## Term 1 2025

| Session                             | Date                           | Time                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Session 1                           | 14 September                   | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| Session 2                           | 21 September                   | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| Session 3                           | 28 September                   | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| Session 4                           | 05 October                     | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| Session 5                           | 12 October                     | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| Session 6                           | 19 October                     | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| <b>LAUNCH Creation Period</b>       | 25-28 October                  | 10.00 – 17.00 daily |
| Session 7                           | 09 November                    | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| Session 8                           | 16 November                    | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| <b>LAUNCH Tech and Performances</b> | 22 November TBC<br>23 November | TBC<br>TBC          |
| Session 9                           | 30 November                    | 10.30 – 14.00       |
| Session 10                          | 07 December                    | 10.30 – 14.00       |

## Term 2 2026

| Session                       | Date        | Time          |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Session 11                    | 11 January  | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 12                    | 18 January  | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 13                    | 25 January  | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 14                    | 01 February | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 15                    | 08 February | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 16                    | 15 February | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| <b>Half Term. No Class</b>    |             |               |
| Session 17                    | 01 March    | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 18                    | 08 March    | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 19                    | 15 March    | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 20                    | 22 March    | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| Session 21                    | 29 March    | 10:30 – 14.00 |
| <b>Sunday Class term ends</b> |             |               |

## Cost

**The Young Associates' programme costs £495 in total for the year for weekly contemporary training classes and Creation, Rehearsal and Performance days.**

Fees can be paid in four instalments from September-December.

You should be available for all classes and performances and there is no fee reduction for missed sessions. If you decide to leave the programme the total fee will still be due.

Fees must be paid via Bank Transfer or Monthly Standing Order only - if this is an issue for you, please let us know if you are offered a place.

## Bursaries and Scholarships

**If you are finding that money is a barrier, we can help with that.**

**Applications are quick and easy, and not means tested.**

This year we're pleased to offer five full scholarships for the Young Associates programme thanks to the generous support of Leverhulme Trust.

These scholarships will cover the full cost of the Young Associates programme 25-26.

We are also able to offer a limited number of bursaries to subsidise the cost of the course.

If you are offered a place on the programme, and are interested in a scholarship or a bursary, all you will need to do is contact [young.associates@ndcwales.co.uk](mailto:young.associates@ndcwales.co.uk) to request a bursary, it is that simple.

**Applications for financial support can only be made once an offer has been received and must be made within 10 days of receiving an offer.**



Photos:  
Kirsten  
McTernan

**Goodson  
Thomas**  **LEVERHULME  
TRUST**

  
**Colwinston**  
CHARITABLE TRUST

 **Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru**  
Arts Council of Wales

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