



12th September 2017

Dear Colleague

U.DANCE Cumbria 2018

Your school is invited to be part of U.DANCE Cumbria 2018. Organised by Cumbria County Council, U.DANCE supports schools to create high quality creative dance within the curriculum & to celebrate this through performance.

Last year's performance was truly stunning; we would definitely encourage you to take part!

A secondary schools performance will take place at Theatre by the Lake, Keswick on Wednesday 21st February, 7.00pm. The event enables KS3/4 pupils and teachers to see each other's work, share practice, raise aspirations and celebrate achievement. Unlike Rock Challenge, U.DANCE Cumbria is non-competitive but it does offer the opportunity to be nominated for One Dance UK's prestigious awards for Outstanding Choreography and Best Performance.

Schools are required to choreograph a 3 minute (minimum) dance from scratch either on their own, if confident enough, or with the help of a visiting dance artist.

We welcome applications from all secondary schools and sixth form colleges across the county. The maximum number of pupils per group is 25 due to on-stage & behind-the-scenes space restrictions at this venue.

We especially welcome secondary schools who have not previously participated.

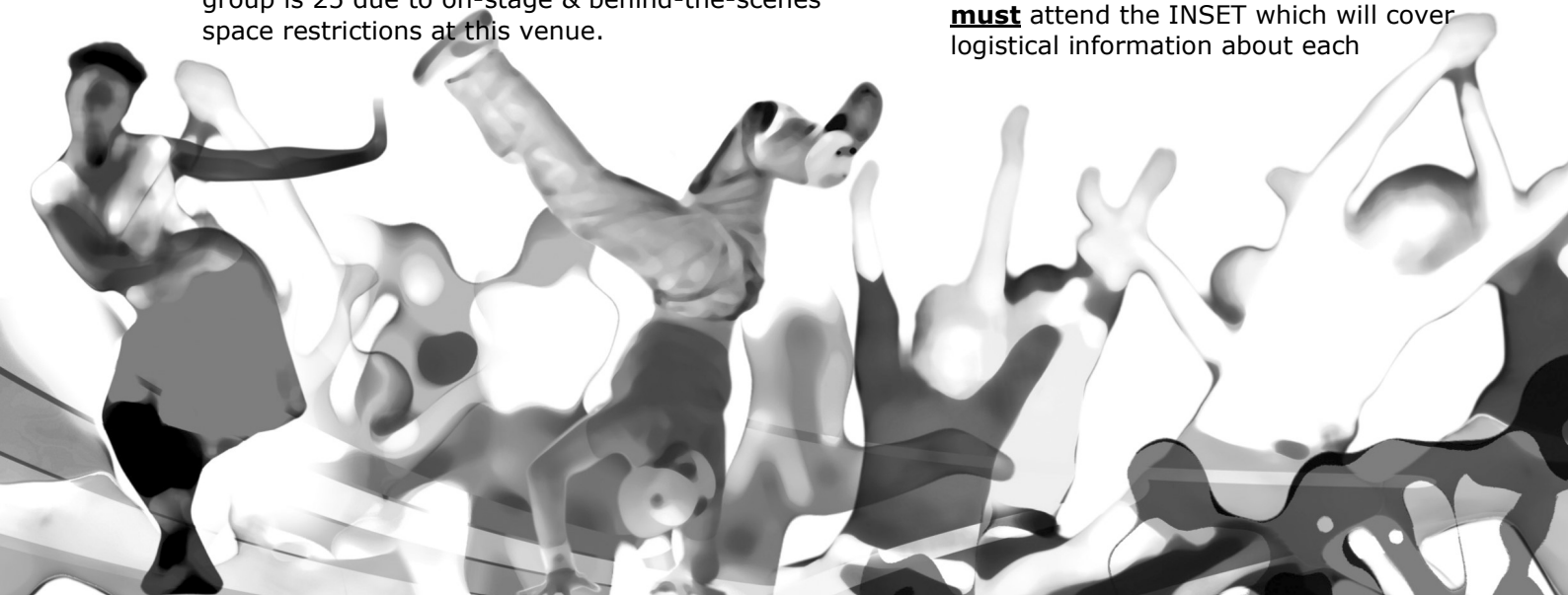
There are 12 places available to secondary schools. A selection process may be applied if the event is over-subscribed where priority will be given to schools that:-

- **have not previously participated**
- **encourage NQTs or teachers new to the school/festival to lead this task**
- **have worked with a dance artist previously but who now feel confident enough to create work on their own**
- **demonstrate strong creative leadership & excellence in dance**

You can, of course, opt to perform as part of your 'local' U.DANCE event alongside your feeder primary schools in Carlisle, Workington, Barrow or Kendal **instead of or as well as** the secondary-only performance at Keswick. If you would like to perform twice, both at your 'local' U.DANCE event **AND** at the secondary-only performance at Keswick, then an additional £50 is payable to your 'local' fee. Please indicate your performance preferences on the attached application form.

The key features of U.DANCE are:-

- a compulsory practical half day INSET session led by Kelly McClelland. The teacher who is responsible for the group **must** attend the INSET which will cover logistical information about each





venue/performance as well as practical ideas for creating & rehearsing choreography, music selection & editing. The INSET gives teachers the chance to meet Rachel Towe, who will be the performance co-ordinator for the secondary school's performance, and also to meet your dance artist if you have requested one.

Secondary INSET - Tuesday 14th
November, 9.00am- 12.00pm, Newbiggin Village Hall, Newbiggin, Penrith, CA11 0HT.

- a dance artist to work in your school for 4 x 1 hour workshops to help create and refine your dance. (You may opt to produce a dance on your own if you have participated before or if you have sufficient experience and confidence in leading dance.)
- a visit, if needed, from your festival co-ordinator whilst you are creating your piece to offer helpful advice and guidance
- a technical rehearsal at the performance venue on the day of the performance
- a performance opportunity at Theatre by the Lake, Keswick, Wednesday 21st February 2018, 7.00pm

Technical rehearsals will be held at Theatre by the Lake (starting at 3.00pm) during the afternoon of the performance. This is the opportunity for students & teachers to see the quality of work being produced by other schools around the county.

For schools working on their own the cost is £130; for schools working with a dance artist the cost is £230. Schools will be invoiced during the autumn term. This payment is non-refundable if a school pulls out after a place has been allocated to them.

Tickets for this performance will be sold through the Box Office at Theatre by the Lake at the price of £8.00 each. Tickets will go on sale on Monday 8th January 2018.

If you would like to take part in U.DANCE Cumbria 2018 please complete & return the attached form by Friday 20th October 2017. Late applications will not be considered. Schools will be notified of selection by email during October half term.

Should you require any further details about U.DANCE Cumbria 2018 please feel free to contact me.

We really look forward to receiving your U.DANCE Cumbria applications for 2018 and seeing your dances on stage next spring!

Yours sincerely

Lynn Barnes
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