

JOB DESCRIPTION

Dance Practitioner: 55+ Open Dance Class

Attic is seeking freelance Dance Practitioner with significant experience working with older people in community settings to lead the company's energetic open dance class for people aged 55+.

1. Key information:

Contract: Freelance

Location: Wimbledon Library

Fee: £70 per one-hour session, inclusive of planning time.

Day & Time: Weekly, Saturdays 11:30 – 12:30pm

Management: The Dance Practitioner reports to the Creative Engagement Producer, who in turn reports to the Artistic Director and General Manager and the Attic Board of Trustees.

2. Background

Attic is an arts organisation based in Mitcham, LB Merton. Our mission is to make excellent participatory arts activity and live theatre accessible to all, in Merton and beyond. We regard these as twin strands of Attic's mission and of equal prominence.

We see ourselves as an arts centre without walls; commissioning, producing and delivering projects with and for our local community; creating positive change with socially minded creative programmes across south London. We aim to promote increased wellbeing through social interaction and participation in enriching, enlightening and enjoyable cultural activities. These consist of weekly multi art form, creative workshops and performances.

3. Information

Attic's Older Persons Programme is aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of the older residents in Merton. Launched in November 2019, Attic has been delivering two strands of activity under this programme: closed sessions at the Merton Dementia Hub; and an open class for anyone 55+ at Vestry Hall in Mitcham. These relaxed and inclusive classes will introduce participants to a range of dance styles, promoting health and wellbeing through movement.

We are seeking a dance practitioner who is experienced in leading open-access older people's dance workshops in community settings.

The Dance Practitioner will have overall responsibility for the delivery of workshops including the preparation thereof and the administrative support required during the sessions.

Through the programme of workshops and performances we aim to -

- enable the participants to express themselves and share their own creativity
- increase their social engagement and interaction, thereby reducing social isolation
- increase their physical activity, strength, stamina and flexibility

- introduce participants to a range of different movement styles and approaches
- consult with participants to ensure their voices are active and listened to in shaping workshops
- increase their confidence, feelings of self-worth and build self esteem
- reach a standard that the participants are able to perform to a larger public audience
- increase Attic's expertise and understanding of the best ways to improve the quality of life for older people through the workshops.

4. Responsibilities

- i. Company Responsibilities
 - To work with the Creative Engagement Producer, Artistic Director and General Manager to create a programme that fits with the aspirations and aims of the company and is of the utmost benefit to the older people.
 - To represent the company as a member of the Attic team, advocating its aims, values and ethos
 - To represent the company at all times, with host organisations and when required to do so, acting on behalf of the company i.e. at professional development events, training, conferences or seminars.

- ii. Project Responsibilities
 - The Freelance facilitator will be responsible for the preparation and delivery of the dance workshops
 - They will research this area of work to learn more about the underlying issues that we are helping to address
 - They will research into best practice and form a strategy that enables the most effective delivery of the project
 - They will prepare and deliver the workshops according to the individual needs of the group, creating the format of the dance workshops which is tailored appropriately
 - They will build relationships with the host organisations, and work with them cooperatively where needed
 - They will take a register of attendance and will prepare monitoring and feedback reports according to the requirements set down by the Creative Engagement Producer and the funding bodies of the Dance projects.
 - They will submit these reports to the Creative Engagement Producer and General Manager each term
 - They are responsible for ensuring their DBS check (no more than 2 years old) is current and will provide a copy to Attic.

- iii. Financial Responsibilities
 - To adhere to realistic budgets.
 - To collect and record weekly subs accurately (for live classes), looking after monies taken until these can be collected by the Creative Engagement Producer (approx. once a term)

- iv. Communication and Accountability
 - To ensure the Creative Engagement Producer, General Manager and Artistic Director of the Attic Theatre Company are kept informed about the running of the Project and are fully acquainted with any developments
 - To ensure best practice guidelines are adhered to and all safeguarding concerns are dealt with according to Attic's policies and procedures.

- v. It is a requirement of the role of Freelance facilitator that they

- have training and experience in a variety of dance techniques and teaching approaches
- have a qualification in Applied Arts or substantial experience working with older people in community settings
- have interest and enthusiasm for helping increase health and wellbeing in older people
- are able to work in a small team as well as independently
- are comfortable in a leadership role
- are able to work flexibly, as the job may include some evenings and weekends
- are prepared to travel across London, and occasionally beyond for conferences/ seminars.

Attic Theatre Company is an Equal Opportunities employer.

Please email applications & enquiries to: info@attictheatrecompany.com

Company Information Summary

The Attic Theatre Company (London) Ltd is run by the Artistic Director Jonathan Humphreys, General Manager Victoria Hibbs and a Board of Trustees.

Attic is Charitable Incorporated Organisation and a registered charity no.1041549

www.attictheatrecompany.com