

### CASE STUDY – Dance

#### why we're an Arts Award Supporter

'For Youth Dance England the Arts Award Supporter programme helps us be part of the bigger picture in getting people dancing. Doing Arts Award can enable young people to work towards a qualification in youth groups or schools, particularly those that don't offer a formal dance qualification.'

Linda Jasper MBE, Director

#### OUR PROGRAMME

Youth Dance England (YDE) is a national organisation that champions excellence in dance for and with children and young people. It delivers national programmes that inspire, raise aspirations and celebrate excellence. Our programmes provide essential platforms for engaging young people in dance from first steps to training for a professional career. YDE creates lifelong dance participants and audiences as well as the next generation of dance artists and leaders. It does this by working closely with national and regional partners to ensure that events, performances, programmes and training opportunities are developed and delivered in each region across the country.



U.Dance Grimsby

### OUR SUPPORTER OFFER

The **U.Dance** national performance framework aims to give opportunities for all young people to take part in a dance performance each year. There are local, county/unitary authority, regional and national events and we produce a calendar of events for all U.Dance registered dance performances across the country throughout the year.

U.Dance provides a framework through which dance teachers can deliver their own dance projects to a recognised standard. It is important that there are performance opportunities available to young people, as the chance to perform is what drives practice and raises standards. The events give young people the chance to participate and to watch others perform – both of which can contribute to their Arts Award.

The **Young Creatives** scheme aims to support a group of young choreographers each year to develop their skills and understanding of the choreographic process through mentoring with a professional choreographer, taking part in a residential at The Royal Ballet School with peers and professionals, and showcasing their new pieces on stage at the Royal Opera House. Creating original work with a group of dancers requires leadership skills and the programme provides invaluable experience for the young choreographer to contribute to their Arts Award.

**National Young Dance Ambassadors** are chosen through an application process and help to run a fringe event at the national festival each year. They campaign for dance in their local areas and they are also given opportunities to attend local and regional events and review performances and events. These young people work towards their Silver or Gold Arts Award.

### HOW DO WE PROMOTE IT?

The YDE website is the main tool – whether young people are on the different programme pages, or on the introduction to dance page, everything is clearly linked to the Arts Award Supporter page, which explains how each programme can contribute to Arts Award and at what level (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

As part of signing up as a U.Dance Champion, schools and clubs receive a pack explaining how the framework links to the various Arts Awards and how teachers can help young people who are doing their Arts Award.

#### a user's view

**'Silver Arts Award is pushing me as a dancer, challenging my creativity and helping me build confidence in the art. I've received loads of support from YDE, if I have any questions or if I am stuck they are always happy to help'**

National Young Dance Ambassadors 2013/14



Richard Chappell 'Unto The Ground'  
(Young Creatives 2013)

### BENEFITS for the organisation

- ▶ Helps us to raise awareness and increases participation in dance
- ▶ Helps more young people to access dance
- ▶ Being a Supporter is a key part of Youth Dance England's Arts Award plan

**Check the link – [www.yde.org.uk](http://www.yde.org.uk)**