
PAID ARTIST RESIDENCY SUMMER PROGRAMME CALL OUT

DEADLINE | WED 31 JANUARY, 11:00



Photo Credit: Tess Letham & Vasco Pedro Mirine by Amy Sinead Photography



Dance Base
Scotland's National Centre for Dance
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About the Artist Residency Programme

Throughout the year, Dance Base offer a series of paid residencies to professional dance artists, choreographers and companies who are based in Scotland to develop their work in a supportive, well equipped, and welcoming space.

Each residency provides:

- A studio space at our home in Edinburgh on a weekly basis, Monday - Friday
- Funds that cover the residency budget provided at application and an additional access budget to support any requirements
- The opportunity to share and discuss your practice with the Dance Base team, your peers and the wider dance sector.

We strive to support artists at each stage of their career and welcome applications for proposals at all levels.

Please note that our Paid Residency Programme is specifically for artists who do not have the full financial support in place to develop their project. If you are planning to apply to Creative Scotland or a similar funding body for the full costs of your project then please check out our [In-Kind Studio Space](#) offer instead. Through this programme we can book you in to our space free of charge, and write a letter of support for your application so that the funder can hopefully provide the full costs.

If you have funding already in place to cover part of your project but require additional budget for other artists fees etc. then you are welcome to apply for this through the Paid Residency Programme.

How It Works

Our residency programme is structured around three terms:

- Spring (January – March)
- Summer (April – June)
- Autumn (September – December)

Space is provided on a weekly basis Monday – Friday, 10:00 -17:00 approx. in our studio spaces.

Our average annual budget is £24,000 and this will be split between each term with approximately £8,000 per term.

Applications are made three times a year through an open call process. All applications will be read by the Dance Base Artistic Director and members of the [Artist Advisory Group](#) - a group of artists who reflect the diversity of voices that make up the Scottish dance sector.

Please note that, while you are welcome to apply for a residency at any time, it is unlikely that the panel would be able to award an artist with more than 1 paid residency in a 12 month period.

Residencies for Black and People of Colour (POC+) and d/Deaf and Disabled Artists

Dance Base recognise that there are significant barriers to working in the dance sector and that these challenges are experienced more acutely by those facing marginalisation and deep-rooted systemic injustice.

As part of our on-going commitment to support artists who have this lived experience and ensuring that we support the full vibrancy of the dance sector in Scotland, we guarantee that at least one of our residencies each year will go to a lead artist who identifies as a member of the Black and People of Colour community, and that at least one will go to a lead artist who identifies as d/Deaf or Disabled. This is a minimum but not a limit.

Artists are invited to identify if they are part of these communities in their application form and this will be brought into the decision panel making as the residencies are allocated.

What We Are Looking For

Our Residency programme is open to artists at any stage of their career and we welcome applications for proposals for works at all levels.

Who It Is For

The Paid Artist Residency programme is open to:

- Artists who are based in Scotland (this applies to the lead artists - you can welcome collaborators from outside of Scotland but we may not be able to support travel & accommodation costs for these individuals)
- Artists who see their work as based in dance, movement and/or choreographic practices.

The Paid Artist Residency programme is not open to:

- Artists who are based outside of Scotland
- Artists who are in full time academic study
- Artists who are already members of the DEBS scheme

If you are based outside of Scotland and therefore ineligible for the paid residency please see our [In-Kind Studio Space](#) programme.

What the Dance Base Residency Provides

- A clean, warm studio space Monday – Friday roughly 10:00 – 17:00 (times vary per studio)
- The full funding that the artist requires to:
 - Pay fair artist fees to themselves and their collaborators
 - Cover travel & accommodation costs
- Artistic mentoring from the Artistic Director (on request)
- Basic studio sound equipment (See our [equipment list](#))
- Free wireless internet
- Access to a shared Greenroom, changing rooms (including showers and lockers) and kitchen
- An additional access budget to support the artist and their collaborators as they require

As part of the week, each residency artist will be invited to share their practice with their peers, the public and the sector. This could take the form of a taught company class, a structured work-in-progress sharing or anything that enhances an artist's experience.

We understand that each project will be at a different stage and that the decision of if, and what, to share must be bespoke and beneficial to your project and this will be discussed with the artist once the residency has been offered.

The Budget

Dance Base commit to providing the full funding that the artist requires to pay themselves and their collaborators to deliver their residency. Applicants are asked to complete the Template Budget and submit this with their application detailing the rationale behind the request. Our producing team are on hand to support applicants who have questions about creating a budget.

Dance Base have a total budget of **£24,000** for the yearly Residency programme with approximately **£8,000** per term and this will be used to fund a number of successful residencies as they require.

When creating your budget, we ask you to ensure that your payment rates abide by fair pay standards as laid out by the [ITC as an absolute minimum](#).

We anticipate that the weekly rate for artists will be between **£650 - £1000**, depending on experience.

For context, the average residency fee offered in 2022/23 was **£2,300**. The maximum awarded was **£5,670** which supported a project with four artists all of whom were travelling to Edinburgh for the week, while the lowest fee awarded was **£750** to support a solo Edinburgh-based artist.

Dance Base will support:

- Artist fees for those taking part in the residency
- Travel & Accommodation expenses

Dance Base is unable to support:

- Additional set materials or technical hires
- Hospitality expenses
- Per diems
- Marketing or promotional fees

Budget to Support Access Requirements

Dance Base are committed to providing an accessible programme.

Additional funds and provisions are available to support access requirements for artists and their collaborators. We ask that you identify potential costs in your budget in the section provided so that our Producing team can anticipate the budget spend. This information will NOT have any impact on the panel's decision. Dance Base will endeavour to provide the support required and this will be agreed in conversation between the Artist and Dance Base once the residency is offered.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further please contact Kirsty Somerville, Head of Professional Programme, on Kirsty.Somerville@dancebase.co.uk

Access costs may include BSL interpretation, additional preparation time, childcare costs etc.

Submission Deadlines

The call out for our Summer Residency Programme is now open and will close on **Wednesday 31 January, 11:00am**

Applicants will be informed of the panel members after the closing date so that conflicts of interest can be declared and mitigated. The panel will meet on Thursday 8 February and all applicants will be informed of the decision the week of the 12 February.

The deadline to apply to our future residencies will be:

- Autumn Residency 2024 | September - December
 - Call Out Issued | Friday 29 March
 - Deadline | Thursday 23 May

How to Apply

Applicants will be invited to complete and submit the following items:

1. **A Residency Application Form**

The online application can be completed in a written or video/audio recording format. Visual quality, camera and editing skills will not be taken into consideration for filmed submissions, and spelling and grammar will not form part of the consideration of written applications – we are interested in your ideas! Each question has been allocated a maximum word count or duration but please note that these are a maximum and not a goal or an expectation.

The form will ask:

- **How will you use this Artist Residency? Please include the following information (maximum 800 words / 6 mins):**
 - Your Proposed Idea | For example: What theme, topic or question do you want to explore? Are you developing a new work or an existing one, or do you just want some exploration time?
 - Background/Context (if relevant) | For example: Where does the idea come from? Why is it relevant to you, your work, or the wider arts sector/society?
 - Artistic Process | For example: How will you approach this creative enquiry? What specific choreographic or embodied tools, processes or methodologies might you use to explore it? How will you spend your time in the studio?
 - We don't expect you to know everything you'll do at this stage, but a rough idea or some thoughts on what you might try is really helpful. The above examples are just prompts to help guide your answer.
- **How might this residency affect your artistic evolution? (maximum of 500 words / 4 minutes)**
- **Do you plan to work with any collaborators during the residency? If so, who? And what will they bring to the artistic process? (maximum of 500 words / 4 minutes)**

2. **A Residency Budget**

Please use the template provided and attach this to the application form in the section at the end. The template is just a guide so please do expand and edit as you need.

If you have any problems or require the application form in an alternative format please contact Kirsty Somerville, Head of the Professional Programme, on Kirsty.Somerville@dancebase.co.uk

How The Decision Is Made

Applications will be read by the Artistic Director and members of the Artist Advisory Group – a group of artists who represent the diverse array of voices and lived experiences that make up the Scottish dance sector.

The decision of who the residency weeks are allocated to will be based on:

- The information provided in the application, and how this gives a sense of the artistic process for the submitted idea
- How the artists will use, and ultimately benefit from, the space and resources provided
- The urgency of the project – this may be practically, socially or personally
- Whether the scope of the residency is realistic and manageable in the time frame and resources available.
- The diversity of voices represented through the residencies
- The distribution of opportunities across the sector

The panel will create a shortlist and then the Artistic Director and Head of Professional Programme will examine budget, studio availability and dates. The Artistic Director will make the final decision.

Have any questions or need some assistance with your application?

As part of our support for artists our team provides 1-1 Producing Surgeries to help with any questions you have about the opportunity and your application. This could range from chatting through your idea to proofreading your application. Please contact our Head of Professional Programme Kirsty Somerville on Kirsty.Somerville@dancebase.co.uk to book in.

Please also contact Kirsty if you require this information in an alternative format or have access requirements we need to meet to support you in making an application.
