

KICK OFF

BOYS YOUTH DANCE PROJECT

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NORTHERN SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE

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Northern School of
Contemporary Dance



HISTORY & CONTEXT

- In 2014 Northern School of Contemporary Dance (NSCD) with funding from Breeze Arts Festival began a six-week partnership between with DAZL and Carr Manor High School to create a boys youth dance group. The culmination of this project was an all-male dance platform at The Riley Theatre.
- In 2015, with funding from the Conservatoires for Dance and Drama (CDD) a larger partnership was formed between NSCD (Higher Education Training), DAZL (Health Organisation) and Phoenix Dance Theatre (touring contemporary dance company) recognizing the need for male only focused dance provision in Leeds.
- In 2016 Leeds City College joined the partnership.



AIMS

1. To support, nurture and retain male dance talent in Leeds
2. To provide clear progression routes for young male dancers from widening participation backgrounds to further dance training including HE setting
3. To offer young males the opportunity to participate, perform and watch dance

All partners noted the need for accessing young males from a widening participation background, including those from areas of deprivation, varied ethnic backgrounds and with low parental income.



WHY A PARTNERSHIP?



NORTHERN SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Dance Conservatoire

Progression Routes

Boys Saturday School

Centre for Advanced Training

Cert HE Courses

BA Honours Degree



DANCE ACTION ZONE LEEDS

Dance & Health Charity

Progression Routes

DAZL Diamonds

DAZL Youth Dance Company

**DAZL Dance Leadership
Awards**



PHOENIX DANCE THEATRE

Touring Dance Company

Progression Routes

No Bounds Boys

Phoenix Academy



LEEDS CITY COLLEGE

College

Progression Routes

BTEC Dance

Explosion

PATHWAYS

- Partnership work offers a multitude of pathways
- Support structures in place for each student
- Opportunities to find their own progression routes
- Proven success in young males entering further dance training
- Inspiring role models offering insight into dance as a career



SOCIAL POLICY

- Support from Health funding to create work with a social purpose
- Understanding where our boys come from and the issues facing them
- Financing the exploration of theme based work to include professional support, stage productions and film
- Youth voice – connecting the creative and lived experience
- Understanding the diversity of backgrounds and experiences of all those involved in the project
- Having a 'curriculum' that can adjust to the needs of the boys in the company



LONG TERM IMPACT



CASE STUDIES

We have a proven track record in young male dancers from Kick Off entering full time vocational training including:

- Urdang
- Northern School of Contemporary Dance
- Irie
- Trinity Laban Conservatoire for Dance & Drama



WORKFORCE

Artists are chosen for their experience and understanding of all male dance works understanding and stand out as inspirational role models:

- 2 Faced Dance Company
- Massala Dance Company
- Company Chameleon
- Northern Rascals
- Hawk Dance Theatre

WHAT NEXT?



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