

NYB

National Youth Ballet

Media Release

1 June 2021

National Youth Ballet returns to the studio with the Dancers' Development Experience

This August, National Youth Ballet (NYB) returns to the studio to deliver a real-world ballet experience, in person, with the Dancers' Development Experience. This non-residential week-long course will be held in London and offers young dancers the chance to experience the life of a professional dancer and the chance to work together as a company.

Each day dancers will work intensively to hone their technical skills, develop their artistry and cultivate their creativity. The young people will develop their skills as company dancers, whilst experiencing first-hand the process of creating a new ballet with a professional choreographer.

Audition applications are now open for both the juniors and seniors Dancers' Development Experience week. The **application deadline is Monday 7 June**.

During the Dancers' Development Experience choreographer **Sophia Hurdley** and rehearsal director **Carrie Johnson** will be reimagining NYB's classic repertoire ***Amelianne and The Green Umbrella*** for the Junior Company (23-27 August). The senior company will work with choreographer **Louise Bennett** and rehearsal director **Charlie Brittain** on the **summer movement from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*** (16-20 August). All four seasons were originally choreographed in 2002 for NYB by Frank Freeman.

Places on each course will be strictly limited – in line with current government Covid guidelines. Within this framework the Dancers' Development Experience is being carefully planned to ensure the safety of participants, artists and staff.

The cost of the Dancers' Development Experience is £450. NYB wants to ensure that its empowering and transformational creative and performance opportunities are available to all young people and a number of bursaries are available to help cover fees, including the **Pat Prime Award**. Diversity and inclusion are an integral and essential part of NYB's work and the Pat Prime Award is available to those of black African or black African-Caribbean descent, aiming to attract and enrol young, black dancers with remarkable potential.

Cassa Pancho, founder and artistic director of Ballet Black said;

"In the last year, I have been pleased to learn more about the NYB's active steps to make dance more inclusive and reflective of our world today, and I endorse their recently launched Pat Prime Award, which will support talented young dancers of Black African and/or Black African-Caribbean heritage.

This type of action is what our industry needs to ensure that young, diverse talent is nurtured in a genuine and useful way.”

Full details of the Dancers’ Development Experience can be found at <https://nationalyouthballet.org/take-part/dancers-development-experience/>

For further information on bursaries available visit <https://nationalyouthballet.org/nyb-bursaries/>

DANCERS’ DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

A one-week non-Residential course

Senior Dancers Course (12-18 years): 16th – 20th August

Louise Bennett, choreographer and Charlie Brittain, rehearsal director

Junior Dancers Course (9-11 years): 23rd – 27th August

Sophia Hurdley, choreographer and Carrie Johnson, rehearsal director

Location: LAMDA Studios, Talgarth Rd, London.

Full fee for one week: £450.

[About the Dancers’ Development Experience](#)

[How To Apply](#)

[Audition Video](#)