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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

NATIONAL YOUTH BALLET IS ALL IN! THIS SUMMER

NYB's inclusive ballet project designed to challenge perceptions about what ballet can be and who it is for.

NYB believes that ballet is for everyone. Aiming to challenge perceptions about what ballet can be, who it is for, *All In!* is a new strand of NYB activity, which explores how ballet can be taught and choreographed in a more inclusive way. With the first wheelchair user taking part on *Strictly Come Dancing* this autumn, it has never been more important to explore how ballet can also be taught, choreographed and explored in a more inclusive way.

From **Tuesday 29 August until Friday 1 September**, in partnership with Parable Dance and South East Dance, NYB will offer an exciting creative project for an inclusive group of young people formed of NYB and Parable dancers. **NYB Creative Director Jo Meredith** and **Parable Dance Co-Founder and Artistic Director Natasha Britton** will work with NYB's Beyond Ballet® choreographers **Hannah George** and **Ross Black** to create an inclusive performance supported by **NYB ambassador Joe Powell-Main**.

The project will culminate on **Friday 1 September at 3pm** with a **sharing of the work created during the project** in The Jamie Watton Creation Space at South East Dance. Tickets for the sharing are 'Pay What You Can' and are available [here](#)

NYB will disseminate learnings from *All In!* through Continuing Professional Development (CPD) sessions for local ballet teachers in Brighton, leading a new wave in Inclusive Ballet Practice.

'NYB is delighted to be collaborating with Parable Dance on All In! and we can't wait to be resident at South East Dance for four days exploring with an inclusive group of young dancers how ballet can be choreographed and taught in an inclusive way.'

The aims of the project are threefold: to allow young dancers the opportunity to explore ballet in an inclusive way; to allow young choreographers the chance to develop their skills as inclusive practitioners; and to share All In! learning with the wider ballet community.

We are thrilled that NYB ambassador Joe Powell-Main will be joining us to support the choreographers and explore movement translation with the young dancers’.

Jo Meredith, NYB Creative Director

‘We aim to challenge misconceptions about who ballet is for and what the essence of it is, focusing on storytelling and the quality of movement. We’re thrilled to share our passion for inclusive ballet with our dancers and the wider ballet community in this exciting collaboration.’

Natasha Britton, Parable Dance Co-Founder and Artistic Director

ENDS

For further information, images and interview requests contact Claire Bowdler, NYB’s Marketing Manager – claire.bowdler@nationalyouthballet.org | 07801 538053.

EDITOR’S NOTES

National Youth Ballet

For over 30 years the **National Youth Ballet** has cultivated and nurtured excellence in dance. **Our mission** is to provide transformational opportunities for young people to participate in, create and perform classical and contemporary ballet. **Our vision** is that young people will create the ballet of the future, challenging perceptions about what ballet can be, showing that it can be for everyone and ensuring that it reaches the widest audience.

Our annual **Residential Performance Company** is a unique, intensive programme that replicates the experience of working in a professional dance company and provides a key stepping-stone to a future career in the performing arts. Our alumni make up 10% of the dancers and choreographers in major British ballet companies including The Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, English National Ballet, Northern Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Rambert and Matthew Bourne’s New Adventures, and many more have gone on to work in dance and related industries worldwide.

Our **Widening Participation** programme of inclusive talent development creates a meaningful participant journey for young people from the widest backgrounds into, through and beyond NYB. **Dancers’ Development Experience** is our mobile, non-residential activity opening the doors to new participants from different geographic locations to begin the participant journey with NYB. **All In!** explores more inclusive practice in ballet for teachers and choreographers to make ballet more accessible. **Beyond Ballet®** is a professional skills’ development for 18-25 year old emerging creative artists from all areas of the theatre industry in the early stages of their professional careers, to receive mentoring from a wide range of industry experts alongside practical paid opportunities. **Moving Minds** is embedded at the heart of all NYB activity, a vital and mindful approach to health and wellbeing, focusing on building physical and mental resilience and confidence in young people.

Website www.nationalyouthballet.org

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