

Wardrobe Assistant Student Internships, Residential Performance Company

National Youth Ballet believes that ballet can be for everyone. Our programmes aim to challenge perceptions about what ballet can be and who it is for. NYB has provided transformational opportunities for young people for nearly 40 years to participate in, create and perform classical and contemporary ballet.

Our mission is to bring young people together through creative, joyful and inclusive ballet activities that nurture confidence, skills and positive values. Our vision is that young people are empowered to thrive, shaping the future of ballet and the world around them.

About the Role

National Youth Ballet is looking for dynamic students (aged 18 or over) in further or higher education who can support our wardrobe team and learn new and exciting skills in a creative rehearsal and performance setting.

Wardrobe Assistants work under the direction of our Head of Costume as part of our 9-day summer residential, at 4 public theatre performances and including 4 days of preparatory making/alterations (see key dates below). They are also integral to our performances helping with quick changes and alterations. They need to be hard working, organised and able to think on their feet!

If you are a student (aged 18 or over), required to undertake an internship as part of a UK-based further or higher education course, this opportunity would enable you to participate in a short-term placement within the setting of our charity and with a supportive team.

The work at the residential is varied and very busy. We have a company of c.100 performers, each with at least two costumes. Some of these already exist and will need fitting, altering and labelling, and some will be new costumes made to the first-fitting stage and will need finishing off. There are always a lot of other jobs such as making accessories or extra costumes.

This is a wonderful opportunity to experience the reality of working at the heart of an incredibly exciting residential, taking a production from studios to stage. If you enjoy spending time with young people and would be interested in being a part of the NYB team to develop your skills, we would love to hear from you.

Core competencies and duties include:

- Help to alter existing costumes to fit the young dancers;
- Help to make any new items that are required;
- Help to fit costumes;
- Help to label costume elements and bags;
- Help to support quick changes where and if necessary;
- Work to ensure that all costume elements are in the correct location;
- Support the Head of Costume and Deputy Costume Supervisor with the get-in and get-out at the theatres;
- Help to iron and steam and prepare the costumes for the stage;

- Advocating for NYB values, and abiding by all NYB policies including health, safety and safeguarding.

Key Dates and Locations:

Planning and preparation

1 x 1 hour group orientation (online) and early stage planning meeting at a time to be agreed with Head of Costume

1 x 4 days 'making week' exact dates to be confirmed according to availability

Residential

Friday 31 July - Saturday 8 August 2026 inclusive, a 9-day summer residential at Elmhurst Ballet School, Birmingham

Total: 9 days / 8 nights

Theatre dates

10 August (get-in), 11 August (rehearsals), 12 August (dress rehearsal and evening performance), 13 August (matinee performance and evening performance) 2026 in Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

5 September 2026 all day, in Sadler's Wells Theatre, London

Who Can Apply?:

As per the government guidelines on the [Employment Rights and Pay for Interns](#), it is important to note that this is an opportunity only available to students as part of a UK-based higher or further education course. For reasons of safeguarding, we are only able to accept applications from those 18 and above on 31/07/26.

This is an opportunity that is particularly suited to students undertaking a course of study in, but not limited to, costume or fashion design, costume or fashion technology, pattern making and draping, garment construction, textile science, theatrical costume design, wardrobe management.

Remuneration

This is a short-term student internship opportunity which is voluntary and therefore unpaid. To address financial barriers NYB will provide the following:

-For residential days, full accommodation and food is provided at Elmhurst Ballet School in their canteen for the total 9 days / 8-nights from 31 July - 8 August 2026

-For the making week a per diem will be paid at a rate of £40 per day x 4 days = £160 and overnight accommodation will be provided for 3 nights in Kent near our costume store

-For the theatre days a per diem will be paid at a rate of £40 per day x 5 theatre days = £200.

-To assist with travel, a one-off flat rate £50 all-inclusive contribution to overall travel expenses

-To assist with accommodation, a one-off flat rate £100 all-inclusive contribution to overall accommodation expenses

How to apply:

If you would like to discuss anything in relation to this application or to find out more about the role, or if you need this information in another format please don't hesitate to get in touch with info@nationalyouthballet.org.

As this is a volunteering role, interested candidates should complete our [Simplified Safer Recruitment form](#). Please use this form to show us how your skills meet the core competencies and give examples of how you have the necessary experience to

demonstrate you are qualified. Please do not apply if you do not have the relevant skills or if you are over-qualified. This is a student internship. Applications can be sent by email to admin@nationalyouthballet.org. In the subject line please write: Wardrobe Assistant - SURNAME. **The deadline for receiving applications is 9am Tuesday 26 May 2026.** We will select applicants for a short interview to be held with Head of Costume in the same w/c Tuesday 26 May 2026 with final decisions communicated shortly afterwards.

Reasonable adjustments will be made for applicants if required, so please let us know if you have any access or additional needs. Disabled applicants who meet the minimum essential criteria for the role will be offered an interview.

In order to support our work to become a more inclusive environment, we encourage all applicants to complete our [Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#).

NYB practises Safer Recruitment. In line with our Safeguarding Policy you will be subject to a DBS check and will be required to watch our NYB Safeguarding Videos and attend a whole team Safeguarding and Inclusion meeting on Sunday 26 July 2026 9.30-11.30am.

NYB Values	
DIVERSE	We make ballet accessible to young people from all backgrounds and levels of experience.
AMBITIOUS	We create bold new works with young people's voice at the heart of our performance and production.

NURTURING	We prioritise the wellbeing and creativity of every dancer, building kind communities where they can be their authentic selves.
CHALLENGING	We push the boundaries of how ballet is created, taught, and experienced, inspiring a more accessible art form.
ETHICAL	We seize every opportunity to champion fairness, equity and the environment to make a positive impact.

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