

# VOLUNTEER

## Dance Umbrella Festival 2025



## About Dance Umbrella

Dance Umbrella is a London festival 47 years in the making and moving with the times. We are an international home for dance across a global city. Every year our festival ignites London with the next generation of trailblazing artists. Our community is artist-centred, caring and representative. Dance belongs everywhere. We reimagine dance by pushing boundaries and moving people to feel dance is vital to their lives.

In 2021, Freddie Opoku-Addaie was appointed Artistic Director and Co-Chief Executive, and has already overseen four festivals at the helm, evolving Dance Umbrella into a hybrid festival for the first time in its history. Spanning in-person events across the capital and online, the festival showcases international talent, with emerging and diverse dance artists at the heart of our programme. Each year, we are joined by audiences from near and far, in theatre auditoriums and front rooms, to experience dance shows, new work for children, outdoor performances, workshops, discussions and films.

Dance Umbrella Festival 2025 returns this October, across London and online.

## Volunteering with Dance Umbrella

We are a registered charity; our work would not be possible without the enthusiasm, commitment and financial backing of our funders, partners and supporters, and the delivery of the festival each year would not be possible without the support and engagement of volunteers.

Volunteering with Dance Umbrella provides an opportunity to see live performances and hear panels of artists and industry experts discuss how dance shapes us and society – it is a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, expand your network of venues and artists, and to help us to develop our programme by asking our audiences what they think and feel about our work.

## Your role

- Dance Umbrella Volunteers will work alongside our Festival Team in supporting Front of House roles, directing audiences to performance spaces and welcoming them to our venues
- Before each event, you will be given a Dance Umbrella t-shirt and tote bag with festival brochures to distribute, and will receive a briefing from our Volunteer & Front of House Manager or from our Festival Assistant
- After each performance or event, you will be asking our audience members some evaluative questions about the work they have seen and noting their feedback within a survey template
- Your shift will include a ticket to watch the event

## Essential role requirements

- Passionate about contemporary dance
- Enjoy working with a wide range of people
- Confident in communicating with staff, other volunteers and the public
- Recognise the importance of creating environments that are accessible and inclusive
- Able to work independently as well as part of a team
- Are aged 18+
- Based within easy travelling distance of our venues
- Please note; volunteer roles are unpaid, you can claim travel expenses of up to £10 per shift

## Additional details

- We would love to receive applications from volunteers who are training within contemporary dance, and from volunteers who have their own artistic practice
- We always welcome applications from volunteers who are currently working in dance venues or arts organisations
- We are familiar with discussing and implementing adjustments to our ways of working where possible, there is an opportunity on the application form to let us know if you would need any additional support to fulfil this role

## Next steps

- Please complete an online application form by **Friday 12 September**
- By **Wednesday 17 September** you will receive an offer of shifts via email
- We ask that you reply and confirm your shifts within a fixed period of time (this will be clearly stated in the email from our Volunteer & FOH Manager)
- You will be invited to join an online briefing with the festival team and our Artistic Director
- You will also be invited to join a WhatsApp group with other festival volunteers
- Before each shift, you will receive an email with essential information

## Application form

[Volunteer with Dance Umbrella](#)

## Further questions

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Amy Johnson, our Volunteer & FOH Manager, by emailing [production@danceumbrella.co.uk](mailto:production@danceumbrella.co.uk)