



BODY POLITIC

Future Leaders Job Pack



About Body Politic

Body Politic is an Oxford-based, female-led flagship charity specialising in Hip Hop Dance Theatre, whose work empowers the voices of young people from under-represented communities both on and off the stage.

Body Politic is passionate about bringing cultural experiences to those facing significant barriers. We tackle big themes and challenging subjects, and strive to create meaningful experiences for audiences and participants.

As well as professional touring, Body Politic provides vital life-changing work to young aspiring artists from diverse communities through an enriching programme of training, mentoring, paid opportunities and internships.

Across all of our work in 2023, we worked with over 45 artists and creatives, 765 young people and delivered over 300 hours of creative workshops.

The team

We are a team of friendly and dedicated individuals, who believe in work-life balance, flexibility with working hours (within reason), and are committed to staff progression and development.

We are led by Artistic Director & CEO Emma-Jane Morbey, and supported by a team of regular freelancers and an engaged Board of Trustees.

Future Leaders Role

Overview

Body Politic is looking for eight passionate and motivated young artists aged 16-25yrs to join our brand new training and development programme, Future Leaders.

This is a rewarding role, with the opportunity to develop as artists and facilitators, as well as make meaningful positive changes in the lives of the young people we engage.

Scope

Future Leaders will lead on designing and delivering a wide range of dance sessions to 5– 19 year olds as part of Body Politic's city-wide impact programme.

You will be supported in your own artistic practice through a range of studio intensives with some of the UK's most influential hip hop dance theatre makers.

Body Politic's Future Leaders programme has been crafted to support young artists to reach their potential through careful curation of delivery, training, mentoring and artistic development. We are looking for artists who are motivated and excited by Body Politic's work and want to help make an impact.

TIMELINE

- **Application deadline: Monday 20th May, 2024**
- **Interviews: 3rd-7th June, 2024**
- **Start Date: Monday 1st July, 2024**

Job Description

Line Manager	Emma-Jane Morbey, Artistic Director & CEO
Location	Leaders will be expected to run in person programmes and attend mentorship sessions in central Oxford. We strongly prefer candidates based in Oxfordshire or the South East of England to support development of our programmes across the region
Schedule	Future Leaders delivery and rehearsal timetable will vary depending on the project, availability and rotation with other artists.

	<p>Please state the days of the week you are available and your level of flexibility in your covering letter.</p> <p>Future artists will be required to attend a 30min weekly 1:1 which will be organised to suit availability. Monthly team training session on Sundays 1-4pm in Oxford.</p> <p>Training sessions with external partners are mandatory, these take place on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Body Politic Wednesday 3rd July 2024 - Active Oxfordshire July tbc - Parasol Project 22-24th July 2024
Fee	<p>1 day a week equiv to 8hrs @ £13.50p/h- £15.50p/h depending on experience.</p> <p>Timesheets will be submitted at the end of each month.</p>
Contract	Fixed term, 12 months, Freelance Contract
Benefits	We recognise that training and development is fun! Future Leaders will be able to attend any of Body Politic's workshops or events at a team discounted rate.
Further information	<p>Please visit: www.bodypoliticdance.com</p> <p>For an informal discussion about the role please contact Emma-Jane Morbey on emj@bodypoliticdance.com</p>

PURPOSE OF ROLE

This is a trail-blazing 12-month training and leadership development programme based in Oxford for 8 local artists aged 16-25yrs. This is a paid opportunity for passionate individuals to gain experience of working in the cultural sector, develop artistically and boost cultural activity in communities across the city.

Reaching young people from priority areas, which may be of low cultural engagement, is vital to the work that we do and this programme allows us to make meaningful positive change in the lives of the young people we engage.

Across the 12 months, artists will:

- Design and deliver a wide range of dance sessions as part of Body Politic's city-wide impact programme, working alongside partner organisations such as: Youth Ambition the Parasol Project, and Gloji Energy Oxfordshire.
- Receive training and development opportunities to enhance their own facilitation and practice, which includes; diversity and inclusion training, principles of youth work, generalist safeguarding and trauma informed coaching
- Gain a L2 Dance Leaders Qualification (affiliated through Leadership Skills Foundation).
- Spark artistic and choreographic development through a range of intimate studio intensives with Shanelle Fergus, Kenrick Sandy and Botis Seva.
- Test and develop their own choreographic approach to creating work
- Attend production rehearsals with two leading Hip Hop Dance Theatre company's, Far From The Norm and Boy Blue to gain insight into the processes involved in creating work for the stage.

Key Responsibilities:

- Support class operations including, diligently sign in and out participants and liaise with parents/guardians and young people.
- Complete weekly register and provide the Operations Coordinator with accurate attendance figures
- Plan, lead and deliver all elements of the sessions, including warm-up/cool down and creative tasks where necessary.
- Support the technical advancement within dance of participants at all levels.
- Where required, respond quickly and calmly to any occurrences of disruptive behaviour, first aid, emergencies or Safeguarding by passing it onto the designated Project Lead or Duty Manager in the building immediately.
- Complete end of session de-briefs and support termly evaluation.
- Work collaboratively with Artistic Director and Operations Coordinator to identify and monitor individual participants emotional wellbeing and or additional needs.
- Attend weekly team meetings, 1:1s and monthly team development & training sessions.
- Liaise with project partners about the progress of the project and participants.

ABOUT YOU

A successful candidate for this role would have the following skills and attributes:

Relevant knowledge and skills:

- 1 yr teaching or assisting experience
- Committed with excellent time management skills
- A good team player who is friendly proactive and can use initiative.
- An interest in advancing teaching skills

- Knowledge of hip hop and street dance styles
- Strong communication skills with an ability to communicate effectively with a diverse group of people
- Understanding of Equal Opportunities practice with a deep commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion

Desirable:

- Experience working in a community dance setting
- DBS checked within 1 year and on the update service
- Knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures

Personal attributes:

- Integrity, transparency and authenticity
- Focus and confidence: able to organise and prioritise
- Pro-active and self-motivated, with a flexible approach to work
- Interested in the role dance can play in changing lives
- Able to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to travel across Oxfordshire (there is no expectation that this has to be done by car and we particularly support active travel, car sharing and use of public transport)

Safeguarding & Welfare Body Politic is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk of harm with whom we work and we expect all our team to share this commitment. As part of this commitment, we carry out basic disclosure checks on all employees and require all roles working directly with children, young people and adults at risk of harm to have an enhanced disclosure check. This post is subject to a basic disclosure check.

To apply

Please send a cover letter of no more than **1 side of A4, along with your CV** outlining:

- Why are you interested in the role
- How your skills, experience and knowledge meet the person specification
- What appeals to you about working for Body Politic

Please email your cover letter and CV to emj@bodypoliticdance.com marking the subject line 'Future Leaders Application'

If you would like to apply via a different format (e.g. video), please get in touch to arrange this.

Body Politic welcomes applications from all sections of the community and actively encourages diversity within our team. We know that people from certain backgrounds can be hugely under-represented in our sector, and we want to change this and will make adaptations to our recruitment practices to enable this.

We are therefore genuinely keen, and particularly interested to receive applications from people from the global majority.

We want all candidates to have an equal chance to shine in this process – please let Emma-Jane Morbey (she/her) (emj@bodypoliticdance.com) know if there's anything we can do to make sure the application process works for you.

Closing date: Monday 20th May

Interviews will take place in person in Oxford between 7th-9th June 2024

For more information about Body Politic and our work, visit: www.bodypoliticdance.com