

Foundation Degree 2nd year ENSEMBLE DIRECTOR 2022 (freelance)

The Higher Education programme at NCCA

The Higher Education department provides a two-year Foundation Degree and a one-year BA top up that prepares students for all aspects of the UK circus ecology and the international circus landscape. We aim to be an inclusive and this is reflected in our admissions and audition processes as well as our course content and assessment strategies. We have a diverse group of students with regards to physical abilities, previous backgrounds, circus discipline and have strong support structures around areas such as neuro-diversity, ADHD.

At the point of this production, the FD2 students will have focused their studies for the last three terms on their specific circus discipline alongside physical preparation and maintenance, as well as performance techniques and aesthetics. They study critical analysis as a way to merge these different threads of the course, and will have been presented with varied opportunities to create work as individuals but also within an ensemble setting, internally and public facing. At this point the student is expected to be transitioning into autonomous practice with the support of the course leaders.

The HE team supports the students both pastorally and academically. This support will continue throughout the production period and the Higher Education team will be the primary point of support and communication for the Director.

Requirements and outputs

- Lead on the creation of the FD2 ensemble production ensuring that it aligns with the general and specific learning outcomes of the module, based on a theme generated by you and agreed on with the NCCA Producer and Head of Higher Education delivery. ***(See module specification CA201)***
- Work with the production team in order to ensure the resulting production matches the working practices and values of the NCCA as an organisation.
- With the assistance of the Higher Education and production team, plan set and implement a timeframe that includes a rehearsal and production schedule. Dates for the creation & production week are set and applicants must be available for these dates.
- Attend production meetings outside and within the production period.
- Acknowledgement and understanding of the specific module related to the production while ensuring the production complements students' learning experience.
- When necessary, work alongside the Head of Higher Education delivery, Higher Education Course Managers, teachers and support staff, both technical and admin, to ensure that your artistic vision can be supported appropriately. (creatively, pastorally, academically).
- Abide by all National Centre for Circus Arts' policies and procedures, specifically including those associated with both Safe from Harm and Health and Safety. In conjunction with both the Production Manager and other key staff directly working on the performance play a key role in ensuring that the health and safety of all those involved in the production is assessed and appropriately monitored.
- Communicate with all members of the creative and production team – including but not limited to the Production Manager, Stage Manager, Lighting Designer, Set Designer, Circus Skills Teachers and members of the Higher Education Team.
- The performance must be suitable and accessible for a broad range of audience members.
- Complete a written academic assessment with the support of the Higher Education team, of each student's process in accordance with the assessment criteria for the module attached to the production. This does not include the moment of performance.
- This is a hands-on role, which includes working directly with our students, production and Higher Education team in a creative and educational environment foremost.

What we are looking for

Essential

- We welcome practitioners from a range of disciplines, but experience in directing physical theatre performance is an advantage.
- Experience of and commitment to working with students in Higher Education and engaging them in the creative process.
- Strong project management skills.
- Able to demonstrate previous professional directorial or choreographic experience.
- A proven track record of delivering work of high artistic quality within a Higher Education context.
- Experience in providing cohesive written feedback/assessment at the Higher Education level.
- Ability to create a clear cohesive artistic vision and communicate this effectively.
- Able to incorporate the creative propositions of the students.
- Availability for the creation & production week is non-negotiable.

Desirable

- Experience of working within a small to medium size organisation.
- Experience of working with a wide range of Circus skills.
- Experience with the assessment process at the level of Higher Education

Key project information

Project Contract: 25th April-21st May 2022

Production week: week commencing 16th May 2022

Weekend rehearsals: TBC

Production meetings: TBC

Performance dates: 19, 20, 21 May 2022

Student assessment writing: deadline to be established with Head of Academic Administration and student support.

Performance venue: National Centre for Circus Arts, Coronet Street N1 (Combustion Chamber)

Rehearsal venue: National Centre for Circus Art, Coronet Street N1 (Combustion Chamber)

Production budget: TBC

Fee: £3,500

Application Due Date: 14 October 2021

Interviews held: Week commencing 18 October 2021