

Australasian Dance Collective

YOUTH ENSEMBLE DIRECTOR

Position Description

Timeline:

Applications open Wednesday 2 October and close Wednesday 16 October COB

Interviews from Monday 21 October

About ADC

Established in 1984 as Expressions Dance Company by Maggi Sietsma AM, the company has created more than 180 works by 80 national and international choreographers. Harnessing the talent of an extraordinary ensemble of six dancers, the company has achieved significant recognition through national awards, including three Helpmann Awards and three Australian Dance Awards.

Brisbane-based ADC is a significant cultural resource and a leading provider of dance performance and sector development. We recognise the need to be nationally and internationally connected, represented through our diverse range of local and global partnerships.

Our core desire is to harness the power of the collective. Our signature is one of plurality, not a singular fingerprint. In all areas of creation and performance, we work as a collective where like-minded individuals have robust and invigorating conversations that give rise to new dance, to new art.

ADC invests in artists and art and cultivates interdisciplinary collaborations and imaginative partnerships. Through dance, we embrace an intergenerational focus and innovative co-creations – eliciting and presenting these myriad voices and forms to create something never seen before.

About Youth Ensemble

Creativity is at the forefront of our program and Australasian Dance Collective aims to enrich, inspire and support the young dancers of our community.

The Youth Ensemble Director will lead a program that will enhance the dancers' learning and capabilities by encouraging a strong focus on their individual development.

Guest teachers further extend technique through creative skills workshops and there is a great emphasis on the importance of communication as an ensemble as well as the implementation of creative habits to build confidence and encourage curiosity and exploration.

The program runs over three terms, developed alongside the ADC company calendar, and features performance opportunities.

Our Youth Ensemble's signature season, *Echo*, sees our young dancers perform in dance works created specifically for them by Australian choreographers. *Echo* highlights the talents of young creatives and designers and showcases our ensemble in their very own films curated for performance.

Another opportunity created for the Youth Ensemble dancers, is the potential to be offered scholarship placements with leading training institutions from around Australia and New Zealand.

Position Description:

Australasian Dance Collective's Youth Ensemble Program Director plays a pivotal role in guiding the aspiring dancers of the Youth Ensemble.

This position requires a creative professional with extensive industry experience, particularly in elite performance and choreographic development.

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The Youth Ensemble Director oversees all aspects of the program, ensuring alignment with ADC's ethos and industry standards, and the development of students' skills, physical mastery, creativity, and professionalism while promoting the health and wellbeing of the student cohort.

Key Employment Terms

Salary: Negotiable

Initial Contract Term: January-October 2025

Part Time Role: 19 hours per week split over a mid-week evening and Sundays. Includes both contact and administration hours

Primary Place of Work: ADC Level 3 / 420 Brunswick Street FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006

Reporting and Relationships: This position reports to the Artistic Director. Key internal relationships include Artistic, Marketing, Operations, Production. Key external relationships include Guest Creatives and Facilitators, Partners, Stakeholders, Parents, Students, Contactors

Key Duties:

1. Creative Direction & Project Management:

- Develop the Youth Ensemble program, including creative and physical skills development and teaching strategies for all Youth Ensemble activities;
- Detailed planning and scheduling of Youth Ensemble activities;
- Facilitate and deliver classes and upskilling for the Youth Ensemble;
- Caring for the young dancers needs in relation to the Youth Ensemble program;
- Assist in managing the budgets for all Youth Ensemble activities and Youth Ensemble performance seasons with the Head of Operations;
- Compliance with ADC policies and procedures in addition to any industrial award or agreement applicable to the work to be performed;
- Curate a varied program with a team of facilitators, guest artists and support staff, providing direction, mentorship, and support to ensure the effective nurturing of the cohort;
- Set the artistic direction for performances, showcases, and other creative endeavours undertaken by students, ensuring alignment with industry demands and standards;
- Contribute to all relevant child-safe policies;
- Act as a Child Safety Officer for ADC;
- Prepare relevant business plans or expansion proposals for executive management to support the growth and development of the program.

2. Instructional Leadership and Student Progression/Advancement /Development:

- Provide expert instruction, mentorship and pastoral care to students, fostering their technical proficiency, artistic expression, creativity, and professional demeanour;
- Cultivate a diverse and holistic training program, driving an integrative approach to dance education.

3. Stakeholder Engagement and Industry Collaboration:

- Cultivate strong relationships with industry professionals and organisations to foster future opportunities for graduating students including internships and career placements;
- Seek continual industry feedback to evolve and adapt the program to industry standards and trends;
- Collaborate with the ADC team on marketing strategies and content to promote the program effectively;
- Facilitate auditions and initiatives to attract and retain students;

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- Stay abreast of developments in the dance sector, attending conferences, workshops, and professional development opportunities to continuously enhance expertise and enrich the program.

4. Administration:

- In collaboration with the broader ADC team, manage administrative tasks for successful delivery of the program, including scheduling, budget management, marketing, reporting, resource allocation, and compliance with regulatory requirements;
- Compile progress reports and end of year reporting of the Youth Ensemble program;
- Assist with funding acquittals directly related to the Youth Ensemble program;
- Cultivate and support philanthropic endeavours attributed to ADC's Youth programs;
- Manage general public enquiries (Facebook/email/phone);
- Assist with presentations and other promotional materials for the Marketing team or Artistic Director in relation to the Youth Ensemble as required;
- Attend company, industry and networking events as required.

Criteria:

- Relevant tertiary qualifications in dance or performing arts education are highly desirable;
- Extensive experience as a dance artist, preferably in elite performance contexts;
- Extensive knowledge of various dance styles, techniques, performance and choreographic practices;
- Strong leadership skills, with the ability to inspire and motivate students, staff and collaborators;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills with the ability to engage confidently with stakeholders and to be spokesperson for the Youth Ensemble;
- Proven ability to cultivate relationships with industry professionals and organisations;
- Possess current and relevant industry connections and a strong understanding of the Australian performing arts industry;
- Proven ability to lead within a collaborative environment;
- Ability to manage competing priorities effectively;
- Hold a current First aid certification and Blue Card for working with children.

Other requirements:

To be eligible to apply for this position you must be an Australian or New Zealand citizen, permanent resident or hold a valid work permit or visa.

Access and Inclusion

Australasian Dance Collective is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to providing a safe working environment. We embrace and value diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Diversity includes all the ways in which employees differ, and the valuable contribution that all of these differences bring to the Company.

The Company encourages employment and program applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with diverse cultural backgrounds and people with disabilities. It is our policy to consider reasonable adjustments for qualified applicants with disabilities.

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Application process

To apply, please provide the following:

- A cover letter responding to the key duties and selection criteria, demonstrating how your skills and experience qualify you for the role (2 pages max)
- A current CV
- Contact details for 3 referees

Applications close **16 October COB**. Interviews for successful applicants will be scheduled from Monday 21 October. Please note that ADC reserves the right to interview and hire applicants prior to the closing date.