

AKRAM KHAN COMPANY —

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CREATIVE LEARNING MANAGER (MATERNITY COVER)

Akram Khan Company

In July 1999 in the foyer of the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, an animated and curiosity-filled conversation took place between the young gifted dancer/choreographer Akram Khan and an ambitious former dancer and just recently graduated arts manager Farooq Chaudhry. That conversation laid the foundation stone for a dynamic collaboration, culminating in the creation of Akram Khan Company (AKC) one year later.

Akram Khan is one of the most celebrated and respected dance artists today. In the last 23 years he has created a body of work that has contributed significantly to the arts in the UK and abroad. His reputation has been built on the success of imaginative, highly accessible and relevant productions such as *Jungle Book reimagined*, *Outwitting the Devil*, *XENOS*, *Until the Lions*, *Kaash*, *iTMOi (in the mind of igor)*, *DESH*, *Vertical Road*, *Gnosis* and *zero degrees*. The Company also continues to build a meaningful footprint in the UK and beyond with its curated engagement programmes.

Upcoming Plans

This is an exciting time to join Akram Khan Company as we enjoy a busy programme of international touring. In 2024, we will continue to tour productions *Jungle Book reimagined* and *Chotto Desh* alongside plans for a new production. We are continuing to explore and develop new ways to connect with our audiences beyond the stage, both internationally and hyper-locally. From professional dancers and students to families and schools, we are committed to developing creative projects that have potential to reach our audiences and beyond in meaningful ways. We are striving to create a legacy for the company that opens up the world of Akram Khan Company to more diverse communities.

Company Values

Through the meeting of worlds, we invite people to see, dream and reflect on the beauty and complexity of being human.

- Courage
- Curiosity
- Caring
- Collaboration
- Connection

Our values are reflected throughout the company; in our productions, in our organisational structure and in the worldwide relationships we build and maintain with artists, collaborators, venues, festivals and funders.

Job Description

The Creative Learning Manager manages all projects that increase access, understanding and educational opportunities for our audiences, ranging from children and schools, to families, to community groups. Reporting to the Executive Director and working closely with the Legacy Manager, this role requires both project management and practical delivery and plays a key role in developing the legacy of the company, beyond the work seen on stage. Key projects include managing and delivering the Tower Hamlets Teacher Training Programme, managing the assisted performances of all touring productions and working closely with the Legacy Manager to develop our workshop offer.

Key Responsibilities

Tower Hamlets Teacher Training Project

The Teacher Training Programme works with five primary schools over two years, (2022-2024) introducing the Akram Khan Company approach of dance, making and storytelling to teachers and supporting them to become leaders of dance in their own schools. Working in partnership with each school, we contextualise dance for teachers and explore how to connect it to the curriculum in a meaningful way.

- Develop and manage the content of the programme (including dance workshops for primary-aged children, training and support sessions for teachers, creation of resources for teachers)
- Coordinate & manage the preparation and delivery of the programme with the network of schools and local partners
- Manage the budget in liaison with the Finance Director
- Deliver creative sessions, training workshops and extended projects as part of the programme
- Train and manage visiting artists
- Monitor and coordinate the evaluation of the programme for AKC and external funders
- Research opportunities for future funding for the development of the project beyond 2024

Access and Assisted Performances

- Develop opportunities for our touring work to be more accessible through Relaxed, Audio Described, Captioned and sign language interpreted performances
- Coordinate assisted performances for all touring work
- Monitor and evaluate assisted performances both in the UK and internationally
- Champion accessibility within the organisation
- Develop the Access & Inclusivity Policy
- Advise on the Access budget in liaison with the Finance Director

Legacy

- Develop partnerships with UK local and regional organisations in line with the Company strategy and plans
- Coordinate, develop and deliver a range of learning and participatory activities including (but not limited to) CPD sessions & school workshops
- Liaise with relevant departments of AKC and external partners to enable the successful delivery of creative learning and engagement projects
- Conduct research for development of new programmes and support the Legacy Manager with the development of AKC creative learning projects
- Develop and create learning resources in relation to AKC productions and Legacy projects
- Train and support Akram Khan Company dancers delivering workshops
- Manage the evaluation and reporting of all Creative Learning and Engagement projects including managing engagement stats and collecting data
- Develop and update the Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy
- Attend weekly staff meetings, relevant training sessions and any other company meetings
- Reporting to the Executive Director
- Other duties as required within a small team

Person Specification

The successful applicant will demonstrate the following skills, experience and personal qualities:

Essential skills & qualities

- Experience of planning and delivering workshops in participatory dance settings for both adults and children in a variety of different settings
- An ability to engage, excite and support a wide variety of participants of diverse ages and backgrounds
- Working knowledge of delivering dance projects in formal education settings
- Working knowledge of inclusive dance practice

- An ability to approach workshops with versatility and flexibility depending on changing needs of participants
- Experience of project management
- A commitment to the core values of Akram Khan Company
- A friendly and positive approach to your work
- Good communication skills
- Excellent organisational and time management skills, and the ability to prioritise and work flexibly under pressure and to deadlines
- An interest in and commitment to the work of Akram Khan Company
- Must have the rights to work in the UK

Desirable skills / qualities

- Knowledge of the dance sector, and regional and international theatre scene
- Experience sourcing and applying for funding opportunities
- Experience of working with participants with Special Educational Needs
- Experience of delivering Continuing Professional Development (training) sessions to teachers and/or artists
- Professional qualification (or equivalent) in dance, teaching or both
- Awareness of issues around safeguarding, child protection and health and safety
- Working knowledge of assisted performances
- Knowledge of the UK education system

Salary:	£35,000 (pro rata) plus statutory contributions to the Company’s pension (or alternative personal pension scheme)
Holiday:	Entitlement will be prorated based on 33 days of holiday per year, including UK bank holidays
Terms:	Part time (three days per week, ideally Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)
Start Date:	The role will start officially on the w/c 4 March, however there will be some additional paid handover days in January and February to allow the successful applicant to experience/observe key parts of the role.
Location and hours:	Office hours are 10am - 6pm, however this role works best with 9am-5pm core hours, including an unpaid 60 minute lunch break. The AKC office is based in Somerset House, however this role requires working on location frequently (mainly in Tower Hamlets). While we do allow a certain amount of working from home days, a regular presence in the office when possible is encouraged. A certain amount of flexibility is required, including some occasional evening and weekend work.

To apply for this position, please complete this [Google Form](#). You will need to upload your CV and a cover letter. If you have any problems or questions, please email applications@akramkhancompany.net with the subject ‘Creative Learning Manager (Maternity Cover)’.

Applications must be received by 12pm UK time on Monday 11 December 2023. Interviews will be held on Tuesday 9, Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 January 2024 at Somerset House. Successful applicants will be invited to a second interview on Friday 12 January, followed by delivering a trial workshop for primary school children on the 17, 18 or 19 January.
