

Theiyā Arts – Youth Dance Group Call Out 2026-27

We are inviting applications to register interest in joining Theiya Arts Youth Dance Group for 2026-2027

What is Theiya's Youth Dance Group?

Theiyā Arts Youth Dance Group is a pre-professional performing group. It is created in image of Theiyā Arts Dance Collective (TADC), the South-Asian Contemporary dance company of Theiyā Arts. Like TADC, the youth dance group explores contemporary themes using the vocabulary of South Asian classical dance through a contemporary lens. This years' theme will be climate crisis.

How does the training programme look like:

During our weekly Youth Dance sessions, the Youth Company generates material through various tasks and stimuli, fostering an understanding of choreographic tools and techniques.

This class is not the same as their weekly repertoire classes. Instead, the dancers collaborate with each other, both as solo artists and as an ensemble, to develop choreography under the direction, support, and guidance of our experienced choreographers, musicians and visual artist. The sessions will also include some tasks given to students to complete at home e.g. watching performances, reading about artists etc. You can find previous performances by youth dance group [here](#).

We also advocate for making this class a safe and inclusive place that promotes creativity for everyone including the teachers and peers, therefore everyone in the session is expected to be kind and generous.

Theiyā Arts Youth Dance eligibility criteria

- Participants must be between the age of 11-18 years.
- The young dancers should be based in Scotland.
- Applicants must either attend at least one repertoire class, focusing on South Asian classical dance techniques, either in Theiya Arts or other schools or should have trained in a South Asian Classical dance for more than 5 years.

How to Apply:

Please answer all the interview questions [here](#) by 17th October 2026, 11:59 PM.

All interested artists will be invited to a taster class and their parents for a chat with Theiyā Arts Dance Collective team on 31st October 2026, 1.00 – 2.30pm at North Merchiston Club (48 Watson Cres, Edinburgh EH11 1EP), Edinburgh.

What will we like to know in the interview:

These questions should be answered by the young dancers; parents can help them add the answers to the form.

Note to the dancers: There is no right or wrong answer to these questions; this is for us to understand what you like 😊

- Do you like creating your own movement? *Tell us in one line if have you tried creating your own movement, what do you like about it?*
- Do you like storytelling? *Tell us in one-line what kind of stories you enjoy, have you ever done storytelling through dance, what did you feel about it.*
- How do you feel about performing on stage with a group?
- Do you like working in teams with your friends? *Tell us in one line, have you worked with your friends to create something before, perhaps in your school, if you have not, would you be interested in it?*
- Are you interested in meeting new people and making new friends? (you can also say no 😊)
- Do you enjoy other art forms? (e.g. Music, poetry, painting, drawing etc.) *tell us if you will like learning other art forms, will you enjoy being introduced to music, painting etc.*

Information for parents:

By sending your child to this group you are agreeing:

- That you are happy for them to explore contemporary themes through their South Asian dance training
- You are happy for them to meet and perform with students of other dance styles.
- Teachers and students will collectively take decisions on costumes, choreography and music.
- Theiya Arts Youth Dance group will be representing Theiya Arts, therefore all their presentations will be in line with our ethos and values. You can read more about our ethos [here](#).

How will we select?

Typically, most youth dance companies in Scotland operate through auditions. However, Theiyā Arts adopts an ethos centered on inclusivity, accessibility, and equal opportunity. Therefore, we extend an open invitation to all dancers who meet the eligibility criteria to register their interest. The interview process will not assess technical ability but will instead focus on whether the child finds the idea of joining our youth dance group exciting and engaging.

Cost:

As Theiya Arts is now a multi-year funded organisation by Creative Scotland, we are pleased to say we can offer a subsidised rate for all students to join the youth dance group, the fees are:

Fees - £7/class and each class is a 1.5-hour session.

We have limited number of scholarship spaces for anyone facing financial barriers. To discuss this please email hello@theiya.org

Opportunities after being selected for YDG:

The youth company will be given the opportunity to perform in various spaces. One of the main opportunities will be YDance Destinations (subjected to selection). All other performance opportunities will be informed in advance, and parents will be requested for consent. This cohort of Youth dance group will create a full-scale production to be premiered in 2027

Past opportunities have included –

Destinations 2026 at Beacon Arts Centre organised by Ydance.

Summer Rumble at Dance Base, Edinburgh

Representing Scotland at U.Dance National Festival 2026

What do we expect from artists joining YDG:

- Enthusiastic participation in weekly sessions
- Regular attendance and commitment for weekly sessions
- Be prepared to work collaboratively and be open to exploring, experimentation & innovation
- Where artists are minors, parents take active measures to be involved in the process through WhatsApp groups and other communication channels.
- Where artists are minors, parents check regular updates about the sessions and support their children in becoming budding choreographers and performers.