

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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Call #1 NCDF Performances

What is the adjudication process?

A team of 3-4 adjudicators will review the submissions in a blind review process, considering each work for innovation, clarity of artistic perspective, clear communication of ideas, thought-provoking material, performance quality, and suitability for the available NCDF venues. We make sure that the adjudicators are diverse in terms of race/ethnicity, age, aesthetic perspective, and relationship to dance. These adjudicators will select a pool of “finalists,” and Dance Project staff will make final programming decisions from those finalists, taking into consideration the available performance venues, mix of choreographers and dance works, and flow of the performance.

What forms of dance do you present?

The NC Dance Festival’s focus is primarily modern and contemporary dance. However, we see “contemporary” dance as more than a technique; rather, we see it as a choreographic approach, a way of working with ideas. We encourage collaboration between genres and creative application of contemporary ideas. The NC Dance Festival considers strong contemporary and innovative approaches to choreography, including fused and collaborative forms (contemporary ballet, contemporary African, contemporary hip-hop, etc.), dance theater, and experimental work. Think your work takes a contemporary approach to choreography? Tell us why/how in your application!

Can rehearsal footage or a studio showing be submitted for my work sample?

Yes, it is acceptable for NCDF applicants to include clear and concise rehearsal footage in their application. However, the footage you submit must be of the FULL dance you are proposing. Please be clear on what your costuming and lighting ideas are in your application.

I have my dance planned out, but I only have the first part on video. Can I submit what I have?

No, you must submit a full, complete dance with your submission. The adjudicators will not consider incomplete or unfinished work. We are not adjudicating the *potential* of a work, but rather the specific work itself, so we need to see the dance in its entirety.

I am a dance professional, but my work is set on student dancers. Is that ok?

It is our strong preference to present work created and performed by NC professional dancers. We recognize that you may wish or need to submit a work set on students, however please let us know in your application if you intend to recast with professional dancers if your work is selected.

How should I submit my work sample?

We prefer that you submit your video as a Google Drive or Dropbox link. If possible, keep files under 1GB, 1080p resolution (1920:1080 aspect ratio). We will compile a folder of video submissions for the adjudicators. If you are not able to submit your video this way, please contact us at anne@danceproject.org for other options.

Why do you charge an application fee?

Application fees received will support artist payments during the season. We have recently lowered our application fee, to make it more affordable to apply for consideration. We are also implementing an “early bird” fee waive deal; applications submitted by Feb 5 do not need to pay the submission fee. Have questions? Please contact Anne Morris (anne@danceproject.org).

I would like to submit a site specific work. Should I apply?

It depends. At this time we are soliciting applications for theater performance spaces. If your work is best presented in a space different from these, please contact us prior to applying (festival@danceproject.org).

What about dance film?

The statewide performances primarily present live performance, rather than film, at this time.

Can I submit more than one work for consideration?

Please submit just one work for consideration for the NCDF statewide performances. You will be submitting the actual work you plan to present. However, if you are also applying to other calls, you may submit other work samples that best fit those artist calls.

What if my work could be presented in either a formal or non-traditional setting?

Please choose the setting in which your dance will be best seen/received. If your dance is full of intimate gestures, a large stage may not be the best way to present it. Likewise, if your dance would suffer by being presented in a small, non-traditional space without traditional lighting options, best to choose “stage space” setting. If your dance truly could adapt well to either setting, you may select “either” on the application form.

Can I submit a dance that I’ve submitted to another festival/showcase?

Yes. However, please let us know where else this dance has been performed recently (and any that are possible/likely in the next year). Our preference is to present work that has not already

been seen by our audiences, or presented in multiple local settings recently. If your work is selected, we ask that you not present this work between April and November 2024 in the tour city(ies) you are contracted for, without prior approval from NCDF.

What kind of information do you need to see on my resume/CV?

Generally, your resume/CV gives us a sense of your professional and educational experience. Especially if you have not applied before, it serves as an introduction of yourself as an artist. Please note relevant training, choreography, presentation experience, teaching experience, artistic honors, and anything else you think is important to paint a picture of yourself as an artist. HOWEVER, your CV is not part of the adjudication process in which your work is considered on its own.

I am not living in NC. May I submit work?

At this time, submissions are only accepted from artists living in NC. If you do not currently live in NC, but will be a resident at the time of the Festival performances, please contact us to discuss your situation.

I am a student. Why can't I apply?

If you will have finished your degree-granting program by the time the season begins, you may apply. While we recognize that there are many talented student choreographers in the state, and continue looking for ways to encourage and support this talent, we are focused on presenting the work of professional artists working in NC. We also recognize that artists may return to school for advanced degrees, or may be in school for non-dance fields. For consistency, we apply the policy across the board. You may wish to consider the Artist Residency program, particularly if you are preparing to graduate from a college/university program and want to continue rooting into the community. If you have a question about your specific situation, please contact us.

What are your COVID-19 plans for next year?

As we've seen, situations can change quickly when it comes to COVID-19. We will adapt as necessary, and our priorities are to keep our artists, audiences, and communities safe. Precautions for performances and classes may include (but are not limited to): proof of negative rapid COVID test, masks for audience and/or performers, limited audience for performances, etc. The specifics of the venue, as well as the current community situation at the time, will inform our decisions, which will be announced closer to the performance(s).

If I'm selected, what happens next?

The NC Dance Festival will extend an offer to you to be part of the season. It will describe the intended performance in as much detail as known for now, including performance compensation. If you accept the offer, we will ask for photos of you/your selected work that we can include on our season announcement and in our publicity. We ask that you not present this work between

April and November 2024 in the tour city(ies) you are contracted for, without prior approval from NCDF. You will also be required to obtain all necessary copyright permissions for music, text, imagery, etc. Please let us know if this permission extends to virtual performances, in the event that is necessary. Before the season begins, we will have at least one meeting with the season artists and technical director, to discuss the season and get to know each other. During the season, artists will be responsible for:

1. Travel, lodging, and meal expenses for performance, unless otherwise specified in performance contract.
2. Technical needs beyond what NCDF venues include in standard rental fee. It may be necessary for the artist to provide fees for exceptional video, lighting, sound needs. Examples include: hazer, piano, projection from the floor or wings, etc.
3. Promotional materials and efforts as requested by NCDF administrators.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Call #2: Artist in Residence Program

How will you choose artists in residence?

The curatorial team is made up of Festival Director Anne Morris, a representative from Barriskill Dance Theatre School, and 1-2 artists from a previous Artist in Residence cohort. We strive to convene a cohort of artists who complement each other in style, perspective, and career stage, and represent the diversity in our NC community. We also consider other access to rehearsal space that applicants have (in general, we hope to offer space to artists who have limited access to other space). We consider both the potential for artistic development for individual artists as well as the potential for development of our regional community.

Does it matter what style of dance I am involved in?

No, we've had many different kinds of dance artists in previous Artist in Residence cohorts, from modern/contemporary, to jazz, to hip-hop & breaking, to dance filmmakers, and more.

I've been an artist in residence in a previous cohort. Can I apply again?

Artists who were part of the 2022 or earlier cohorts may apply again. Artists who were part of the 2023-24 cohort must wait a year before reapplying.

How do I know which track to apply to?

The Embark track (6 months) is designed for early-career artists, including recent college or graduate school graduates. Applicants to the Embark track will likely have limited or no experience presenting their choreography outside of academic settings.

If you have more experience presenting your choreography outside of an academic setting, OR you've been an Artist in Residence before, you may apply for the Explore track for a 1 year residency. If you are a recent graduate school graduate, you may select the track that feels like the best fit for your previous experience.

I am not a recent graduate, but I can't commit to the full year residency. Can I apply to the Embark track instead?

We are reserving the Embark track specifically for recent graduates or early career artists who need support rooting into a community. If that doesn't describe you, please contact us about your situation if you can't commit to a full year residency (festival@danceproject.org).

I'm just finishing my BFA degree and I've applied to many opportunities for next year. I think I'll be in the area until December, but I'm not sure.

This may not be the right opportunity for you at this time. We understand that sudden life changes may happen at any time, but this program is designed for people who would like to establish themselves in this dance community, at least for 6 mo-1 year, and are willing to make that commitment to their own residency and to the rest of the residency cohort.

Do I have to present a finished dance at the end of the residency?

No, there is no expected "product" from this residency. You may create a finished dance, or rework a previous dance, or investigate your choreographic process, or start 3 dances without finishing any of them, or any number of outcomes. However, you will be sharing your work in some form with your cohort along the way and with the public at the end of the residency.

I want to do a project with multiple dancers, but I don't know many dancers in the area.

We can help by hosting an audition for you and other Artists in Residence who may also be looking to cast performers. We will work out the details with selected artists.

Am I required to pay my dancers?

We do not require our Artists in Residence to pay their dancers/collaborators, but we strongly encourage compensation of some sort, as a way to maintain a healthy creative ecosystem. Local and statewide artist grants may be an option to support the cost of paying dancers. Please ask us about these or other resources.

When will my rehearsals be?

We will discuss schedules with the selected artists. Note that the summer schedule may differ from the fall schedule, due to summer camps in our studio. Occasional schedule shifts are fine, but otherwise, once your rehearsal schedule is set, we do expect you to show up for those rehearsal times unless you have contacted us about a conflict.

The call for artists mentions a "creative buddy." What does that mean?

Each artist in residence will be assigned a “buddy” from the current or a recent cohort. This is someone you check in with regularly, just to chat about how things are going. This person may end up being someone who attends rehearsals and gives feedback or just someone you know is there if you need to reach out.

What kind of work sample should I submit?

Your work sample should give us some sense of your work and/or your process - who you are as an artist. If you are interested in doing something completely different during your residency, tell us that! You may submit a work in progress or a finished work. Please upload a link to view your sample (youtube/vimeo/google drive, e.g.).

What kind of information do you need to see on my resume/CV?

Generally, your resume/CV gives us a sense of your professional and educational experience. Especially if you have not applied before, it serves as an introduction of yourself as an artist. Please note relevant training, presentation experience, teaching experience, artistic honors, and anything else you think is important to paint a picture of yourself as an artist.

Why do you charge an application fee?

Application fees received will support the many services we provide to our Artists in Residence during the residency, including publicity, mentorship, audition support, and informal performance opportunities. We have recently lowered our application fee, to make it more affordable to apply for consideration. We are also implementing an “early bird” fee waive deal; applications submitted by Feb 5 do not need to pay the submission fee. Have questions? Please contact Anne Morris (anne@danceproject.org).

I don’t live in Greensboro. May I apply?

Our Dance Project studio is located in Greensboro, but recent artists in residence have also come from surrounding areas to participate (Burlington, Durham, Raleigh, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, etc.). This year, we also have a studio location available in the Durham area, which may be more convenient for Triangle-based artists. You DO have to be based in NC, but you do not have to live in Greensboro or Durham, as long as you can fulfill your rehearsal time on a regular basis.