

GIRLS IN DANCE FESTIVAL

BIRMINGHAM
28 JULY 2025

Where Girls Move The World



WELLBEING + CAREER INSIGHTS + WORLD DANCE + ACTIVISM

Awa
DANCE

Our Festival **FUNDERS**



Supported using public funding by

**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**Women
& Girls
Match
Fund**

BigGive

Welcome TO THE GIRLS IN DANCE FESTIVAL

THE FESTIVAL *Where Girls Move the World!*

Hello and welcome!

I am absolutely thrilled to welcome you to the very first Girls in Dance Festival, a space created just for YOU, young, bold, and brilliant dancers and artists ready to take the lead. This festival isn't just about dance; it's about movement in every sense, movement of ideas, energy, and change.

At our charity AWA DANCE, we believe that dance has the power to shape the world, and you—yes, YOU—are the next generation of leaders, artists, and changemakers. That's why this festival is built on values that matter.

This festival is YOURS. Be bold, step forward, and make the most of every workshop, performance, and conversation. Whether you're here to dance, lead, or simply soak up the energy, know that you belong, you are powerful, and you can make an impact.

A huge thank you to the incredible AWA DANCE team, our wonderful group of volunteers, and, above all, our funders, Arts Council England, Another Way Women's Forward, Big Give and our generous sponsors, who have made this dream a reality. Without their support, this festival would not be possible.

Now, let's move the world!

With excitement and admiration,

Avatāra

Avatāra Ayuso
Founder & Director, AWA DANCE



**GIRLS IN
DANCE
FESTIVAL** 2026
Where Girls Move the World

July 2026
Birmingham

Pre-register now!



Our Festival VALUES

Changing Lives

Take these values with you and share them with those around you. We all need some help to be the better version of ourselves!

Creativity

Express yourself, try something new, and let your *imagination* take centre stage.

Inspiration

Learn from *incredible role models* and be inspired by the stories of others (while inspiring them too!)

Wellbeing

Move your body, nurture your mind, and celebrate dance as a way to feel strong and *empowered*.

Take charge of your journey, *own your voice*, and see how dance can shape your future.

Leadership

Community

Connect with others who *share your passion*, lift each other up, and create something unforgettable together.



RESPECT *and* SAFETY



**Be kind and respectful
with everyone**



**If you have any
issues, let us know**



**Stay in the Festival
areas during the event**

ACCESSIBILITY

If you have any accessibility requirement that you need assistance with, please don't hesitate to ask a member of the Festival staff.

Low sensory room

If you need to step away from the crowd and the noise, we have a quiet, low sensory room that you can access. Please ask someone from the Festival staff and we will be happy to bring you there.



DO YOU NEED HELP?

For general information or any concern, speak to the Festival team or go to the AWA DANCE desk on the first level.

After the Festival, you can contact us via email on info@awadance.org or through our social media channels

 @awadance_charity

 @AWADANCEcharity

SCHEDULE *Morning*

TIME	ACTIVITY & LOCATION			
10:00	REGISTRATION Entrance Foyer Show your ticket at the Registration table and receive your goodie bag			
10:30	LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER Level 2 An introduction to the day with a gentle warm up and a dance mantra			
11:00	GROUP 1 K-Pop dance workshop Level 2	GROUP 2 K-Pop dance workshop Level 2	GROUP 3 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1-2	GROUP 4 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1 - 2
12:00	GROUP 1 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1-2	GROUP 2 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1-2	GROUP 3 K-Pop dance workshop Level 2	GROUP 4 K-Pop dance workshop Level 2
12:55	LUNCH with panel interview and guest performance Outdoor Grab your lunch bag outside the Outdoor Theatre and join us for a special lunch			

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1st FLOOR

English Studio

Marketplace

Performance Studio

Marketplace

2nd FLOOR

Randle Studio

Marketplace

Foyle Studio

Dance workshops

OUTDOOR

Outdoor Theatre

Lunchtime

Share your pictures, comments or ideas with us by tagging us!

 @awadance_charity

 @AWADANCEcharity

SCHEDULE *Afternoon*

TIME	ACTIVITY & LOCATION			
13:50	GROUP 1 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1 - 2	GROUP 2 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1 - 2	GROUP 3 Irish Ceili dance workshop Level 2	GROUP 4 Irish Ceili dance workshop Level 2
14:50	GROUP 1 Irish Ceili dance workshop Level 2	GROUP 2 Irish Ceili dance workshop Level 2	GROUP 3 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1 - 2	GROUP 4 Marketplace & Dancetivism Levels 1 - 2
15:35	FREE TIME: MARKETPLACE & DANCETIVISM Levels 1 - 2 Free time to go back to the Marketplace and the Dancetivism areas and visit the stalls you have missed!			
16:00	WELLBEING AND SELF-REFLECTION Level 2 We meet for a final meditation, self reflection and goodbyes!			
16:30	END OF THE FESTIVAL			

S P A C E S

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Our Festival GUESTS



Sherisse Bisram

Commercial dance teacher and women's empowerment mentor



Avatara Ayuso

International award winning choreographer and Founder and Director of AWA DANCE



ME Dance Company

Contemporary dance company based in West Bromwich, led by Marcia Edwards



Jordan Hazrati

Safety culture lead, private pilot, dance teacher, writer and blogger



Ammaarah Faisal

'This Girl Can' Community Engagement Lead, Birmingham



Sophia Adzoa-Moore

Disabled performer and content creator.
Graduated in Musical Theatre



AWA DANCE TEAM



Vittoria Butti
Festival Coordinator



Amy Hession
Festival group Leader



Hannah ElMohankr
Fundraiser



Anastasia Jobson
Videographer &
Photographer
anastasiajobson.com



Ana Laura Neve
Digital Content Creator

**Shout out to our Festival volunteers,
our volunteer photographer Hannah
Corden, and our feedback queen
Maia!**

Your commitment and support are
very much appreciated!



Sam LeBihan
Safeguarding Lead



Claire Bingham
Communication
Strategist



Estela Merlos
Festival group
Leader



Tara Choudrie
Festival group Leader



Melanie Whitehead Smith
Festival group Leader



Tsipora St. Clair Knights
Charity volunteer



Bryony Rawson
Magazine Designer
brytesparkcomms.co.uk

Dance WORKSHOPS

K- POP

K-Pop, or Korean Pop, is a Korean music genre that draws on a wide range of popular music styles. Some of these styles include Hip Hop, Pop, R&B and Electronic Dance Music (EDM). K-Pop Dance is great to improve your posture and develop your self-confidence!

Your Teacher: Hanwool Park

Hanwool Park majored in Street Dance - Hip Hop / K-Pop at Seoul Arts Culture-Seoul in Korea. After that, she worked as a backup dancer for many Korean artists and as a performer on various stages. Hanwool Park has a unique teaching technique that can cover all ages and levels.



IRISH DANCE CEILI

In this Irish dance workshop you will learn a ceili dance (social dance) called The Bonfire Dance. This was traditionally danced around the bonfire on St. John's Eve and is now still performed in social gatherings. The Bonfire Dance is great to improve group work and create a sense of community!

Your Teacher: Ana Laura Neve

Ana Laura Neve is a dedicated Irish dancer who trained originally in classical ballet before focusing on Irish dance. She has competed in seven World Championships and earned multiple podium finishes in regional championships, currently ranked 2nd in the Midlands and Wales. Ana also performs regularly across the UK and Ireland.



Special THANKS

HUNGRY
2 MOVE



English
National
Ballet



LONDON
STUDIO
CENTRE

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BALLET
COMPANY

BRYTESPARK
COMMUNICATION