

## MA / MFA Dance Leadership and Community Practice

This programme supports a career as a creative dance teacher/leader/facilitator, developing your knowledge, confidence and entrepreneurial skills to make a difference in people's lives through creativity and dance.

Dance is a powerful tool to build relationships within communities, enable a creative outlet, support people's wellbeing, rehabilitation and enjoyment of life. Learning creative dance practice, a socially engaged and inclusive pedagogy of ethics and care, and project management, will facilitate you with the practical knowledge and skills to create opportunities for dance to thrive.

A range of expert tutors and visiting professional artists in the field provide exemplars and inspiration alongside a heart centred pedagogy. Experience of assisting top London organisations such as Trinity Laban Public Engagement provides real world experience of working with people with very different needs and is invaluable for students studying to work within, or develop, the pre-vocational, participatory dance and dance for health sectors. This programme will support your understanding of dance as a socially relevant, creative, applied, and inclusive practice, and will springboard your career in dance.

Students are supported to find their own artistic and pedagogic identity and set their own goals within a positive and nurturing environment. Study accumulates in a self-selected area of practical research where you can develop individual areas of interest and experience, leading to a MA or MFA qualification.

*"My time at Trinity Laban was invaluable in helping me to specialise in an area of dance I feel very passionate about. It gave me a hunger to explore new possibilities within dance, and the skills needed to develop my artistry."*

Alum: Emily Jenkins 2013-14 [founder of MoveDanceFeel]

Develop as a dance leader and facilitator with knowledge of specialist theoretical and methodological approaches for appropriate and effective teaching and leading dance with, and for, diverse participant groups.

### **The programme has four key strands:**

- Dance leadership and teaching – develop knowledge and skills for working effectively to engage and support different kinds of groups, populations and communities through dance. Gain invaluable experience working with different group with organisations such as Greenwich Dance, Trinity Laban Public Engagement, CODA dance, Slide dance, Magpie Dance.
- Professional practice – encounters with practising artists and their work, supported by our partnerships with some of the UK's leading professional artists and organisations such as People Dancing, facilitates an understanding of your entrepreneurship potential and inspires your practice.

- Understanding community dance –explore the values and principles of inclusive wide participation dance pedagogy, how it happens, and its impact on individuals and communities. Learn about planning and delivering projects, and the networks and agencies that support community dance provision.
- Artistic development – progress your creative dance skills and artistic practice in a world-class conservatoire with first-class teachers and facilities.

### Who is it for?

The MA / MFA Dance Leadership and Community Practice is for people from a diversity of backgrounds who have a common interest in dance as a creative, participatory art form and a desire to make a difference through dance. We encourage applications from:

- Dance or performing arts graduates who have pursued teaching / education / community as a strand of study and want to continue this as a specialism at postgraduate level
- Graduates of non-arts subjects who have a dance background and interest / experience in participatory arts / teaching / community work
- dance professionals wanting to extend their practice, broaden their skills and knowledge, extend their qualifications, enter new areas of professional practice and develop research in the area of community dance.

### What are my study options?

- The **MA Dance Leadership and Community Practice** is a one-year (full-time) or two-year (part-time) taught programme, culminating in an independent research project.
- The **MFA Dance Leadership and Community Practice** is a two-year full-time programme. It shares the first-year taught programme with the MA. An extended independent project forms the second year, providing time for in-depth research.

The programme is on-site at Trinity Laban, so all students benefit from being part of the Trinity Laban Postgrad community of artists. With state-of-the-art dance facilities and extra-curricular opportunities such as practical technique classes\*, cross programme collaborative projects and a multitude of dance and music performances.

\*optional Dance Technique classes are a supplement to MA / MFA programmes of study and accrue an additional fee but are priced reasonably in relation to the cost of external classes.

### What will I study?

The programme consists of core modules of practical vocational study, alongside knowledge of research practices and independent research and enquiry. As part of the learning, students are expected to undertake assisting placements with Trinity Laban Public Engagement (Children and Young People, Dance for Health) and other community dance organisations for which students are required to have a DBS check.

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Term 1 (Sept-Dec)	Term 2 (Jan-Mar)	Term 3 (April-June/Sept)
Module: Res Lab		
Module: Creative and Inclusive Dance Teaching		
Module: Body Space Place		
	Module: Community Dance Leadership	
		*MA Module: Project 60 credits
MFA (Year 2)	Module: Extended Project (140 credits)	

**What do alumni say?**

“The course is brilliantly designed to cover all bases and each individual’s interests... There are so many opportunities to volunteer and work out in the community; this ensures that you will leave the course with the real-life experiences that are vital to starting a career... I feel proud and privileged to be a part of this exciting place.”

Corinne Meredith, 2013 –15

“Studying at [Trinity] Laban offered me the opportunity to develop both as an artist and teacher, providing a nurturing and supportive environment in which to explore my artistic interests. It has really launched my career, giving me invaluable skills and experience”.

Katharine le Roux 2014-15

“we learned about the full-picture of a community dance artist and got introduced to a range of inspiring artists.... and walked away with useful skills to use in “the real world”. “[The Tutors] showed us what it means to be a forward-thinking, open-minded practitioner embracing change in our industry.” “we gained confidence and invaluable teaching experience”

Sjann van de Langenberg 2021-22

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Module Credits</b>
<p>Res Lab</p> <p><i>Exemplars and exploration of a range of practice research methodologies enabling you to investigate and articulate research at Masters level within your own field of practice.</i></p>	30
<p>Creative and Inclusive Dance Teaching</p> <p><i>Development of your skills towards becoming an informed and confident, skilled and effective creative dance teacher/facilitator with the capacity to lead safe, enjoyable, accessible, inclusive and challenging participatory dance activities. includes 150 hours of real-world experience.</i></p>	30
<p>Body Space Place</p> <p><i>Explore the inter-relationships between body space and place through the lens of choreological practice and the Viewpoints methodolgy; using physical embodiment, observation, creation, discussion and critical reading, to explore human movement and develop your own artistic research enquiry.</i></p>	30
<p>Community Dance Leadership</p> <p><i>Exploration of the role of the dance artist in community contexts. Develop confidence and competence in proposing, planning, managing and leading dance activity for participants with varied backgrounds, experiences, needs and abilities with knowledge of the benefits of dance to those particular communities. Includes leading a taught project.</i></p>	30
<p>MA Project</p> <p><i>Supports the development of the reflective, innovative, autonomous, collaborative and resourceful artist-practitioner through a specific personal enquiry and self-managed independent project, so you can invest in person areas of interest.</i></p>	60
<p><u>OR</u> MFA Extended Project</p> <p><i>Opportunity to pursue a topic of interest in depth and explore the mode(s) of investigation and presentation under the guidance of, and agreement with, a supervisor(s) During a second academic year of study, developing your own specialism.</i></p>	140

## Fees and Finances

For details of fees please check the Trinity Laban website: [MA/MFA Dance Leadership and Community Practice - Trinity Laban](#)

UK offer holders will be able to apply for a Postgraduate Loan to cover fees.

Scholarships and bursaries, please check the Trinity Laban website: [Dance Funding - Trinity Laban](#)

## Entry requirements

Applicants are expected to have a first degree (or an equivalent qualification) or 5 years' professional experience in dance/performance/teaching etc.

Applicants for whom English is not their first language should demonstrate proficiency in English equivalent to IELTS 6.5 overall with minimum 5.5 in all 4 areas / Trinity College London – Integrated Skills in English III (ISEIII). Trinity Laban website provides guidance on the standard expected by reference to acceptable English Language qualifications. In addition, meeting external requirements of UK Visas and Immigration is essential.

Entry to this programme is initially by submitting a UCAS application by following the Link on the How To Apply page on the Trinity Laban website: [How to Apply - Trinity Laban](#).

Applicants will then be invited to:

- upload video submissions to Embark and on-line interview via zoom.
- Video documents:

Video documents are so the panel can see you in an embodied practice and assess your potential to be communicative through moving and engage others in moving. It can be filmed in any space available to you and you can record an introduction to your video documents. Guideline for length: around 10 minutes and it can include any of the following:

- dancing material from a dance/movement class (this can be in any movement genre) or doing a movement practice.
- Footage of movement improvisation with some information of the basis or inspiration for the improvisation. (guideline for length: 2-4 minutes)
- Addition Option: footage of you teaching dance, or facilitating a workshop in a community/educational setting. (Please ensure you have the consent of any other people who appear in the footage, to film and share the footage. Trinity Laban agrees only to view/share the filmed material amongst individuals on the Admissions Panel and purely for the purposes of considering your application to the Programme).

## Candidates should demonstrate:

- appreciation of, and engagement with, the values and principles of Community / Participatory Dance as a professional area of practice

- understanding of the programme and how it can develop you as a dance leader and community practitioner
- potential to teach and lead dance in a range of community and participatory dance settings
- commitment to undertaking the programme, including independent study and assisting opportunities alongside timetabled classes
- A first degree (or an equivalent qualification) or 5 years' professional experience in dance/performance/teaching etc.

### **MFA Applicants**

In addition to the above, MFA applicants should demonstrate their capacity to undertake self-directed research by submitting an initial project proposal, outlining the following:

- The reasons you wish to carry out an independent project over one academic year
- Your suitability for extended independent research in the context of an MFA Dance Leadership and Community Practice
- The nature of your intended research and a draft projected timeline with indicated outputs of research (which is understandably subject to change)

### **What can I do next?**

The programme prepares students for a breadth of possibilities and our graduates work in a variety of settings as dance artists, facilitators, teachers, and artistic leaders. The vocational focus of the programme ensures that it continues to support graduate practitioners into the profession on an employed or independent basis. Alumni profiles are available on the website: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-profiles>

[Erin McNulty - Trinity Laban](#)

[Helga Deasy - Trinity Laban](#)

[Corinne Meredith - Trinity Laban](#)

[Emily Jenkins - Trinity Laban](#)

[Anastasia Kostner - Trinity Laban](#)

[Kirsty Purnell joins Moving Stories as Dance Artist - Trinity Laban](#)

### **How can I find out more?**

Trinity Laban Website: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/course/ma-mfa-dance-leadership-and-community-practice/>

Attend a Postgraduate Open Evening: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/open-days/dance-open-days/>

Email the Programme Leader Melanie Clarke on [m.clarke@trinitylaban.ac.uk](mailto:m.clarke@trinitylaban.ac.uk)

Email the admissions department on [admission@trinitylaban.ac.uk](mailto:admission@trinitylaban.ac.uk)