



### PDSW Origins 2021 - Sign-Up Guide

Welcome to Origins 2021! We are delighted that you're interested in applying for this special celebration of youth dance in the South West. Please find below all the information that & your group may need. There is a lot of information so please read through it carefully. Don't hesitate to get in touch if we can help with anything!

**Matt Hawksworth**  
Young People's Producer  
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Applications are now open for Origins 2021, hosted by PDSW, taking place on **Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 April 2021**.

#### **What is Origins?**

Origins 2021 is the South West regional platform of U.Dance, which is delivered in partnership with One Dance UK.

#### **Who can apply?**

We want to hear from individuals, school groups, youth dance groups, dance schools & collectives from Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole, Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset, Devon, Cornwall & Wiltshire.

Origins is open to all dancers aged **11-19 years & up to 25 years for dancers with disabilities**. We welcome applications from inclusive groups working with young D/disabled and D/deaf dancers.

We wish to champion dance groups that **celebrate diversity** & we would be delighted to hear from those young people & groups who have not entered a platform before.

All dance styles & genres welcome. We want to see as many expressions of dance represented as possible, including: hip hop, street dance, jazz, tap, musical theatre, ballet, dance of the African Diaspora, South Asian dance, folk dance & contemporary dance.

You must please work within Covid-19 guidance that is appropriate for your setting

Deadline for applications for **Origins 2021: Friday 19 March 2021**

### What do I need to create?

We would like you to submit a dance piece which is between **2 & 7 minutes** in duration for consideration for Origins 2021.

The theme for this Origins 2021 is ***Of Land, Sea & Sky***. Inspired by the beauty & breath-taking landscape of our region, we would like you to create a piece that draws on your connection to your home, somewhere special to you or the sounds & spaces you experience every day. Let imagination run wild.

This year there are 2 pathways. You can apply for the two following options:

*U.Dance on Stage*: for groups who are able to meet in person and create a piece in a studio

OR

*U.Dance on Screen*: for groups who are meeting remotely and wish to develop a screen dance piece

There is a maximum of 30 dancers allowed for **U.Dance on Stage** pieces.

There is no upper limit on number of dancers for **U.Dance on Screen** applications.

Please find the **U.Dance 2021 Guidance Notes** [on our website](#)

There is no fee charged for dancers to submit their entry.

The selection panel for Origins will create a shortlist of dance groups that meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrate excellence in performance
- Present excellent and engaging choreography\*
- Show dancers taking clear ownership of the choreography, appropriate for their age and experience\*
- Demonstrate respect and consideration to all

\*A note on the choreography: Excellent work selected for the U.Dance National Festival in previous years has been created by group leaders, teachers, young people, professional choreographers and any number of collaborations. There is no preferred 'type' of choreographer and no weighting in the selection process is given to who created the piece.

Given the changes to the platform this year, if you have any questions or want to talk through this, particularly about the use of & your options available for digital filming, please do reach out to chat to us. Equally, if you already have a piece that has been filmed since the Summer 2020, please do contact us.

### What will Origins participants experience?

PDSW will host this fabulous digital festival, celebrating the variety and diversity of youth dance from across the South West. Shortlisted participants will come together over a weekend, having the opportunity to take part in a series of online professional dance workshops, a Q&A with industry artists & choreographers & a streamed showcase performance of their original screen dance films.

There will be ticketed entry fee for households to watch the Origins showcase on **24 & 25 April**. This enables us to host the event & offer the best range of activities possible.

After the nationwide regional platforms, groups may be selected to showcase their piece at the U.Dance National Festival 2021 (**16-18 July**), drawing together some of the most innovative and ambitious youth dance work from across the entire country.

### How will my piece be considered for U.Dance National Festival 2021?

A National Panel will select a small number of groups from regional platforms to have their work showcased at the U.Dance National Festival 2021. (If you do not wish to be considered for the National Festival, please indicate this on your application form)

They will consider shortlisted work and select dance pieces which combined as a performance programme will:

- Reflect the diversity of dance styles practiced by young people across the UK
- Create an interesting and varied performance
- Showcase excellent and authentic work from range of settings

In summer 2020, One Dance UK presented an online format of the National Festival for the first time with U.Dance Digital 2020. The festival was a celebration of youth dance, offering online workshops, industry insights, masterclasses & showcases. Around 5000 young dancers from around the country took part.

For further information about U.Dance & the U.Dance National Festival please visit the One Dance UK website at: <https://udancedigital.org/take-part/u-dance-national-festival/>

## Are you ready? Here's how to apply...

Group leaders should fill in an **application form & submit their film entry**, on our website. Any solo dancers under 18 years old should ask a parent/carer to complete the form with them.

The application form cannot be saved & resubmitted, so we recommend that you have a look at the questions in advance & gather all the information needed before you submit.

Please submit the final finished version of your piece. Work in progress or incomplete pieces will sadly not be considered for selection.

Please note: The filmed dance submitted by application will be the piece considered by the regional panel. If selected, this is the video file PDSW will show as part of the digital regional platform Origins 2021.

Your dance film will be submitted via Dropbox. Please speak to us if you'd like support on what format to submit your filmed dance piece. We will provide Dropbox details on receipt of the completed application form.

Applicants should please not assume that they can use a piece of music for free - **the rights must be secured in advance**. PDSW are unable to pay to secure rights to any music accompaniment to pieces, and will not be able to stream the piece online if the rights are not secured. We highly recommend using royalty-free music. This also a fantastic chance to collaborate with a local musician.

For guidance on using music in your application please read the **Music Licensing Best Practice Document** on our website

**All applicants will be notified if they have been selected for Origins 2021 as soon as possible after the entry deadline.**

## Creating your entry & inspiration

To help you with the creation of your film, in December, OneDanceUK hosted 2 special webinars. These **Film Upskilling Workshops** were hosted online with screen dance experts and covered top tips for both *U.Dance on Stage* and *U.Dance on Screen* applications, exploring sound, lighting, camera technique, shot selection, apps, editing and more. The links to the recordings of the webinars can be found here:

Filming Dance for Stage - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=La\\_krfIpH1Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=La_krfIpH1Y)

Filming Dance for Screen - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=hQVMNdZH3ns>

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We continue to monitor the ongoing national guidelines closely. We understand that at present most applications will be following *U.Dance on Screen* format, unless you have content filmed for *Stage* before the most recent national Lockdown. Should the situation change or should you wish to contact us for suggestions on the creative ways to work with your group via digital media, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Our **Origins 2021 Theme Inspiration page** [on our website](#) might give you ideas you might like to explore for our theme of *Of Land, Sea & Sky*



### Access & Inclusivity

We want Origins 2021 to be open to **all** & to support all our young people in applying. Please reach out to us by email or phone if you would like to discuss how we can help you with your application and for any access needs you may require. We are particularly keen to support those who may not have applied before or may not have participated in the past. We would love to hear from you!

### Participation Consent & Safeguarding

If you are the group leader, please ensure that you have obtained consent from all parent/carers of your group before submitting your piece for Origins 2021.

Please also note that for safeguarding reasons participants' must not be identified by name in your submitted dance film. This means that you must not include individual names anywhere on the film, including in the film credits. For groups & soloists selected for the Origins 2021, we will credit all dancers separate to the filmed pieces.

If soloists aged under 18 years are selected for the Origins 2021, you will have an opportunity to chat to us about how we credit you in the streamed online showcase.

Please consider the location you are filming in. For safeguarding reasons we strongly advise against filming in identifiable locations where you live or private spaces such as bedrooms. We advise using communal or public spaces as filming locations, when it is safe to do so.

### Checklist:

1. Please ensure you have read both the **U.Dance 2021 Guidance Notes & Music Licensing Best Practice Document**
2. Read through our **Origins 2021 Sign-Up Guide** & our **Origins 2021 Theme Inspiration page (*Of Land, Sea & Sky*)**
3. Complete the **online application form**
4. **Upload your film** video via Dropbox (this will be sent to you shortly after we receive your application form)

For further information contact our Young People's Producer, Matt Hawksworth at [matthewh@pds.org.uk](mailto:matthewh@pds.org.uk)



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