

**JOB APPLICATION PACK:
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF SEEDTIME MUSICAL THEATRE
COMPANY**



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LONDON STUDIO CENTRE: A BRIEF HISTORY

The internationally recognised Higher Education Conservatoire, prides itself on training excellent dancers, singers and actors, allowing students to specialise in classical ballet, contemporary dance, jazz dance and musical theatre. But also producing graduates who have formed their own companies and established themselves as choreographers, teachers, producers and directors. London Studio Centre offers a comprehensive suite of programmes/courses including a BA (Hons) Theatre Dance programme for students who are dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of the theatre, an MA in Dance Producing and Management, for students looking to move into the production side of dance theatre making. Commencing autumn 2021 LSC will also offer an MA Dance Performance in all four specialist areas of classical ballet, contemporary dance, jazz dance and musical theatre. Plus a Foundation degree in Professional Dance Performance, BA Top Up Professional Performance, an MA in Dance Education and PGCert Teaching Professional Theatre Dance which will further enhance LSC's already robust offering of Higher Education provision.

London Studio Centre is rooted in Western theatre dance forms, and enjoys a tradition of dance education dating back to the end of the 19th century, when Leon Espinosa (1825-1904) settled in London. In 1872, he established a school for ballet and related theatre arts, after having trained at the Paris Opera and then danced and taught at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow. His son Edouard Espinosa (1871-1950) continued the family tradition as one of the founders of the Royal Academy of Dance and then the British Ballet Organisation.

London Studio Centre's founder, Bridget Espinosa, was heir to this distinguished tradition, to which she contributed her own expertise as a dancer and director. Under her leadership LSC pioneered a multi-disciplined dance education fitted to the needs of the modern world of dance and musical theatre, which included the possibility of university validation of its provision. Her son, Nicholas Espinosa, continued these developments and, in 1995 Middlesex University validated London Studio Centre's BA Honours Theatre Dance programme. The Director, Nicholas Espinosa is the Chairman of bbodance and a Trustee for Yorke Dance Project.

LSC began life in and around Tavistock Square in central London. In 1987 it moved into property on York Way, next to Kings Cross Station, where it remained until 2012. In 2012 the college re-located to artsdepot in North Finchley where it has created a unique collaborative partnership with the performing arts venue. The partnership provides the conservatoire with rehearsal and performance spaces that facilitate LSC's high quality training, and the building's bright, contemporary feel has quickly provided the ideal atmosphere for London Studio Centre's new home.

LSC's facilities comprise ten dance studios, two fully equipped theatres, drama and singing rooms, a library with IT suite and a lecture room. The triple-height atrium café and social areas also offer ample space for relaxation.

London Studio Centre is committed to providing an education in dance and related subjects for the professional theatre, in an environment where the individual creative talents of each student are nurtured. All programmes we offer maintain the Centre's mission to be a world-class conservatoire for professional dance and musical theatre, enabling artists to reach their creative potential in performance, creation and production and, thereby, shaping the future of the profession. LSC values and offers a holistic approach, one that keeps pace with recent developments in dance pedagogy. Student representation and student surveys contribute significantly to annual course monitoring and make an important and valuable contribution to quality management.

London Studio Centre is accredited by The Council for Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre (CDMT) and is listed as one of CDMT's Accredited Schools. The CDMT ensures the provision of high quality professional dance, drama and musical theatre training through accreditation of full-time dance and performing arts

schools and has provided the industry benchmark of quality assurance for professional dance and musical theatre training in the UK since 1979.

A review of the London Studio Centre by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) in May 2022, the UK's independent quality body for higher education, expressed confidence that 'academic standards are reliable, meet UK requirements, and are reasonably comparable' – the highest judgement available through the review process. The review team did identify specific improvements or areas for development.

In 2019 LSC received a Gold rating from the Teaching Excellence and Students Outcomes Framework (TEF) award from the Office for Students, cementing its 2018's Gold Award. LSC was part of a selective group of 76 prestigious universities or colleges in the UK offering excellence in higher education including; University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, The Royal Academy of Music, The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and The Conservatoire for Dance and Drama. To be awarded a gold rating LSC has delivered "consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for its students" and be of "the highest quality found in the UK". For our 2019 rating the Office for Students noted "that students from all backgrounds achieve consistently outstanding outcomes" and that LSC graduates have "exceptionally high" employment rates and student satisfaction rates.

The majority of the teaching staff are actively engaged in professional theatre, enabling students to be aware of new techniques and trends. Students are given an unparalleled range of opportunities to gain performance experience, both in-house and in professional venues.

LSC's alumni are working worldwide with dance companies, in musicals and mainstream theatre from the West End to Broadway, in television, film and commercial dance. Graduate students have embarked on successful careers, joining companies such as Rambert Dance Company, English National Ballet, Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, Michael Clark Company, Richard Alston Dance Company, Sarasota Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Scottish Dance Theatre, ZooNation, Vienna Festival Ballet, the Royal Shakespeare Company and Royal National Theatre; while others have appeared in leading roles in musicals in the West End and elsewhere including *American Idiot*, *Billy Elliott*, *Cats*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Chicago*, *Hairspray*, *Jersey Boys*, *Les Misérables*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Miss Saigon*, *Matilda the Musical*, *Memphis the Musical*, *Stomp*, *The Book of Mormon*, *The Lion King*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Thriller Live*, *We Will Rock You* and *Wicked* to name but a few. Many graduates are also working as independent, creative artists in dance and theatre.

Seedtime Musical Theatre Company

The Seedtime Musical Theatre Company was established in 1996 and is currently led by Artistic Director, Clare Bloomer. Each year the company features a new cast of professional performers from the prestigious London Studio Centre. The cast works cohesively with an experienced team of creatives in producing a full-length musical which is showcased in a limited season of shows at an established theatre in the UK.

Previous productions have included works such as *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Spring Awakening*, *Parade*, *Lucky Stiff* and *Godspell*. Former cast members of Seedtime have been seen in West End, Broadway and UK tours including *The Book of Mormon*, *Matilda*, *Shrek the Musical*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, *Miss Saigon* and *Les Misérables*, to name but a few. Beyond musical theatre, former cast members have also taken on leading acting roles in prestigious productions on TV and film.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Artistic Director of Seedtime Musical Theatre Company

General Functions:

The Artistic Director is responsible for all students in Seedtime Musical Theatre Company, their training and mentoring throughout this professional training year. In addition, to devising, developing and managing the production and tour for the company.

Consultation:

In carrying out their duties, the Artistic Director shall consult, where it is appropriate, with the Director, Dean of Studies, Programme Leader, Assistant Director, Head of Student Programming, Course Consultant, Company Tour Manager, and where necessary other administrative and teaching faculty at the London Studio Centre and external organisations as appropriate.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

Productions

- To be responsible for devising, developing and managing the company's repertoire and tour. They will be responsible for concept and overall quality of the outcome.
- To be responsible for rehearsals for all company pieces.
- To provide the artistic vision for the marketing of the tour and work with the marketing department to ensure it is fulfilled.

Course Delivery

- To contribute to the creation of module/unit handbooks, which include week-by-week teaching schedules.
- To be responsible for the curriculum development of the musical theatre pathway (Seedtime).
- To teach Seedtime Musical Theatre Company on a regular basis
- To ensure that the assessment process is properly managed and carried out in accordance with the university regulations.

Mentoring

- To mentor the students to support their training and to provide guidance about their professional aspirations.
- To provide support to students with student welfare issues as they arise, signposting them to LSC's Student Welfare department as appropriate.

Management of staff

- To be responsible for ensuring that faculty adhere to the requirements laid down in both programme, module/unit and staff handbooks.
- To identify, select and liaise with appropriate staff, choreographers, designers and theatre technicians to support the company production/tour.
- To help build team spirit and maintain team discipline and encourage and motivate good teaching practice.

Administration

- To attend all meetings as assigned, to include the Academic Board, Board of Studies, Admissions Review Board, Assessment Boards and others as noted.

Forward Planning

- To be responsible for ensuring that the standard of work in year's 1 and 2 of the undergraduate programmes/courses are appropriate preparation for the third year, alongside the Head of Department.
- To contribute to the admissions process of students applying to join the company.

- To contribute to the development of existing programmes/courses of study at LSC.
- To be an ambassador for LSC, promoting LSC programmes/courses where possible.

Continuing Professional Development

- To fulfil the expectations of staff development training for faculty and those deemed appropriate for the role, including but not limited to assessment procedures, equality and diversity and safeguarding training.
- To attend and participate in LSC's biannual staff development days 'Lift Off'.
- To participate in LSC's CPD recognition system, fulfilling the expected annual credits, and regularly recording any CPD activity on the CPD Record Form.
- To attend staff performance review meetings as required.

To Whom Responsible:

Director and Dean of Studies

For Whom Responsible:

Teaching faculty, choreographers and creatives, as appropriate
(In conjunction with the Director and the Dean of Studies)

How to apply

Application

To make an application, please send the following:

- CV and Cover letter
- [Equal Opportunities Monitoring form](#)

Please send these to humanresources@londonstudiocentre.ac.uk by **9am, Friday 2nd June 2023**.

If you have any questions regarding the position, please do not hesitate to contact Human Resources on the above email or at 02075202800.

Please note:

- Should you require this application in another format please do not hesitate to contact us
- All correspondence will be made by email, please therefore make sure a valid email address is provided and checked during the application process

Interviews

LSC aims to notify candidates as soon as possible after the closing date whether they have been invited for an interview. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview and class observation shortly after the closing date.

The proposed start date is September 2023.

Outcome

London Studio Centre will endeavour to inform all applicants of the outcome of their application (by email); however, if you have not received an invitation for interview from LSC within two weeks of the deadline, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

Please note we are unable to provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants regarding their application/interview.

Final appointment is subject to receipt of satisfactory references and eligibility to work.

Equal Opportunities

London Studio Centre is committed to being an Equal Opportunities employer for all roles and contracts. We welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons regardless of their gender, disability, race, culture, religion/belief, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic background, class, mental health or caring duties.

We are keen to hear from people from underrepresented groups in the performing arts (including people who are Black, Asian, Dual Heritage or from the Global Majority, D/deaf and Disabled people; people who are from lower socio-economic backgrounds; and/or people with caring responsibilities; or any other under-represented backgrounds in the performing arts sector.

Data Protection

London Studio Centre conforms with the Data Protection Act (1998) and General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and will treat all information received with the relevant security.