

Press Release:

Moray dance organisation receives national funding boost



Bodysurf Scotland's taster dance workshops at Culture Day 2014 (Photo: Diane Smith)

A social enterprise in Moray has received funding from Creative Scotland and Shared Care Scotland to bring contemporary dance to the region's communities.

Established in 2003 and based in Findhorn, Bodysurf Scotland promotes and produces contemporary dance to both local and inter/national audiences. The organisation has now received £83,000 from Creative Scotland through the Open Project Fund, and £8,125 from Shared Care Scotland through the Better Breaks fund, to develop its work.

"These funding packages will allow Bodysurf Scotland to continue to develop contemporary dance provision in Moray," said Artistic Director Karl Jay-Lewin. *"We have brought an incredible array of dance to the region over the past twelve years. This funding will enable us to extend our reach, bringing new dance experiences to communities in Moray and the Highlands."*

Bodysurf Scotland's Rise Dance Festival premiered in 2014 to an audience of over 600 at the Universal Hall, Findhorn. Seeking to expand its festival programme, the organisation has announced that a "Wee Rise" dance festival (for children aged 0-7) will take place in May 2015, an "Up Rise" dance festival (for young people) will take place in September 2015, and a large-scale Rise Dance Festival will return in 2016.

Emma Stewart-Jones, Development Officer, Creative Scotland said: *"We are delighted to support Bodysurf Scotland as they continue to expand and build on an already exciting festival programme. Their 2015-17 Performance Programme is an ambitious step forward for the organisation that will*

bring world-class contemporary dance by outstanding Scottish and international artists to Moray, underpinned by an engaging and broad audience development strategy.”

In addition to the above, Bodysurf Scotland has been named one of 69 organisations to receive more than £1.2 million from Shared Care Scotland for the continuation of its Dance and Movement Group – a programme of dance and movement workshops for children with disabilities in Nairn - and a new series of relaxed performances as part of the Rise Dance Festivals.

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About Bodysurf Scotland

Bodysurf Scotland is at the vanguard of a dance revolution. We are on a mission to promote and produce bold and imaginative events, offering people across the globe the opportunity to experience dance. Our reputation is built upon a potent combination of risk-taking, quality, and a commitment to challenging expectations. From our base in Findhorn, Moray, our activities include live dance performances, commercial workshops, community dance development and professional training.

About Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works and visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com, follow us @creativescots and www.facebook.com/creativescotland.

About Shared Care Scotland

The Better Breaks programme is part of the Short Breaks Fund, which is fully funded by the Scottish Government. The Short Breaks Fund is worth £3,000,000 per year. Shared Care Scotland administers the Short Breaks Fund on behalf of the National Carer Organisations in Scotland. Shared Care Scotland works to improve the quality, choice and availability of short breaks (respite care) provision across Scotland for the benefit of all unpaid carers and care recipients.

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