



# LONDON CHILDREN'S BALLET

## LCB TOURING COMPANY INFORMATION

To be given a place in an LCB Touring Company is a unique and exciting opportunity to receive intensive, high calibre performance training, to learn original choreography that will stretch your abilities, to work with a small group of talented young dancers from across the country, and become an integral partner with London Children's Ballet in delivering our charitable mission to change lives through dance.

The standard on tour is always very high; you should be very proud to have done so well at auditions. Many dancers who have performed in our touring companies go on to make it into the main Company, and equally, there are many dancers who have danced in the main LCB Company who then dance in our tours. The calibre of these Touring Companies is extremely important to us, and we very much look forward to working with you this year.

### What is an LCB Touring Company, where do we go and how does it work?

- The LCB Touring Companies are led by Choreographer and Movement Director, LCB Tour, Colleen O'Keeffe. The Touring Companies train as a 12 dancer company over a series of intensive all-day rehearsals, and perform choreography adapted from the main stage production of *A Little Princess (Feb and May/June)* and *Anne of Green Gables (September)*. All dancers will perform a number of roles in the ballet.
- Touring Companies perform at care/residential homes, special schools and day centres across Greater London, bringing the pleasure of LCB performances to very isolated individuals who are physically unable to go to the theatre and have very little to look forward to on a day to day basis.
- In 2020 February and June touring companies will perform *A Little Princess* and the September Tour will perform *Anne of Green Gables*.
- Original costumes from the LCB's productions are worn on tour.
- Original choreography is adapted for the LCB Tours.
- Children travel together on a coach, accompanied by chaperones.
- Each company will do one studio based performance to parents before they go on tour.

### **Feedback from previous LCB Tours**

#### *Venue – John Chilton Special Needs School*

"My school has just had the extreme pleasure and privilege to watch the beautiful performance of 'Rumplestiltskin' and take part in the fantastic workshops afterwards. I can't tell you how impressed and delighted the pupils and staff were by the whole extraordinary experience! The dancers, costumes, music.... were all truly brilliant, so well organised, friendly, talented and, most importantly, inspiring. My pupils, many of whom (because of their disabilities and backgrounds) have never seen ballet (and may never again), loved every minute of the performance and interactive workshop. A huge thank you to you all."

**Aidan Meech, John Chilton School**

#### *Parent*

"Abi has had the best time ever (her words). She relishes the whole tour business and has absolutely loved being part of the company.

LCB2 is so much more than a dance experience. I'm convinced they come away with the confidence to talk to anyone, anywhere and with far less fear of frailty, disability and 'difference'. It's a wonderful scheme and she is a privileged young girl. Thanks once again for enabling her to be part of it."

**Tobe Alexander (Abi Alexander's mum)**

### **LCB Touring Company Member**

"Dancing in the LCB tour of *A Little Princess* (based on the story by Frances Hodgson Burnett) you can bring smiles to faces every day. That was the best part. Watching your audience appreciate the dance and costumes and love the music is worth all the work behind the scenes! The sweaty rehearsals and competitive casting sessions, the quick

changes and stress attacks. All of that melts away in the music and the sheer pleasure of watching people take joy from your dancing.

“Not that the rehearsals weren’t both fascinating and lots of fun. I will never forget getting tied up in the maypole for the Indian servants dance and the first day we saw our costumes, swapping and altering until everything sort of fitted!

“On the first day we were all really nervous. Twelve dancers from nine to fifteen years old, met mostly for the first time at the Dance Attic in Fulham. However as we all had the same general interests and all really enjoyed ballet there were friendships forming right away. Everyone worked hard because they wanted to impress and excel, get praise and earn good parts. I was a ballet class girl, party girl and Indian servant.

“On the first day we went to two schools for disabled children and then they would join in after the performance, holding our hands during the dance and trying on our costumes.

On Friday afternoon we joined a Wimbledon concert where even the mayor of Wimbledon and his mother congratulated us on our performance! We danced at old peoples’ homes as well and they loved us, asking us questions and making us do bits of the dances again because they liked it so much.

“Wherever we went however the monkey was everyone’s favourite. The cartwheels and cheeky faces would make anybody laugh and at the schools the monkey dance was the one all of the students wanted to try in the workshops. At every venue we were told to come back again in 2013. This has been an amazing opportunity and I was so lucky to earn a place. I can’t wait for the Secret Garden auditions and I`m sure I will see everyone else from the tour there!”

**Eliza Tracey, LCB Touring Company member**

# LCB MISSION

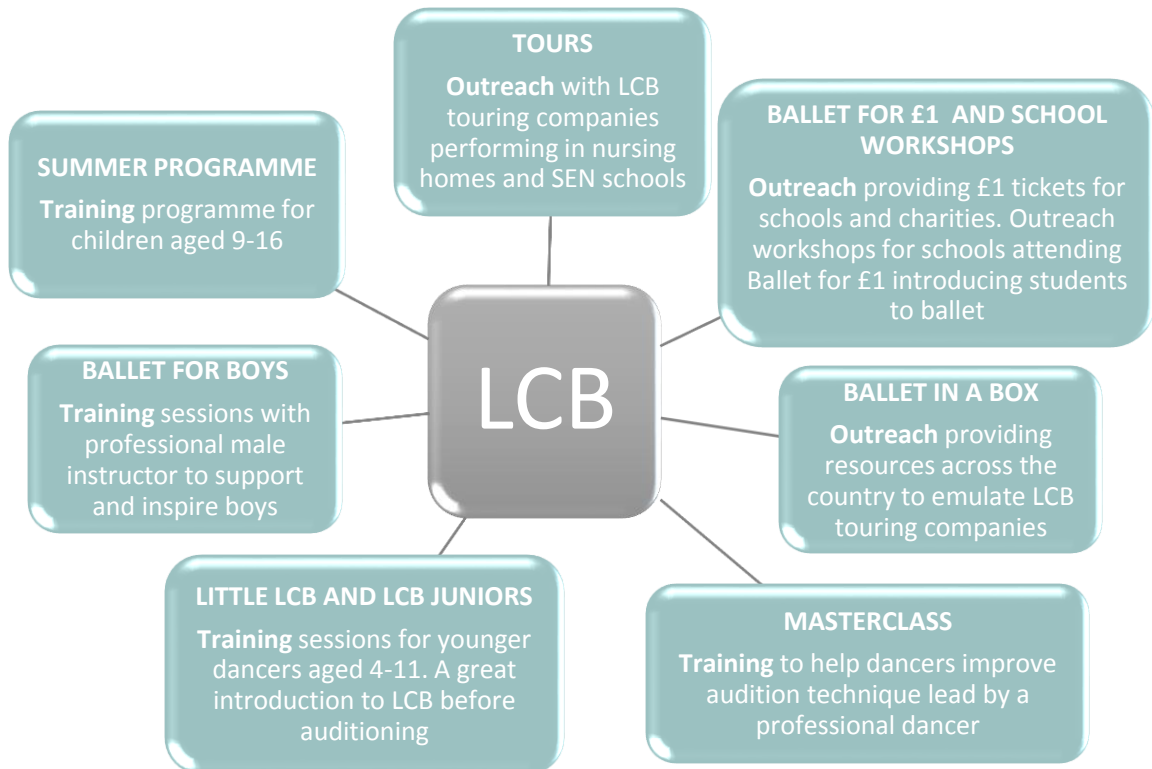
To inspire the pursuit of excellence and change lives through dance

## LCB OBJECTIVES

- **Provide** free, professional quality rehearsal and performance experience to children from all backgrounds.
- **Offer** career opportunities for dancers, musicians, composers, choreographers and designers.
- **Give** information and access to ballet performances of professional quality to those who cannot afford or easily access live theatre productions.

## LCB PROGRAMMES

LCBs core work does not only include the Tour and Production they feed in to additional programmes of outreach and training:



## **LCB REACH AND IMPACT**

LCB touches the lives of more than 10,000 people annually

### **LCB Touring Company**

LCB has 3 touring companies, each with 12 dancers, giving 36 more children an LCB experience. The tour goes to hospices, care homes and special needs schools, reaching 1,200 audience members.

### **LCB Annual Ballet**

600 children registered to audition for LCB this year, with 60 selected for the Company and 100+ hours of free ballet tuition offered to each child. Emerging choreographers, composers, and costume and set designers are given the opportunity to create what is, for most, their first ballet. LCB sells out 8,000 tickets each year.

### **Ballet for £1 and Schools Workshops**

Every year 1,800 people from approximately 24 schools and 30 charities attend the *Ballet for £1* matinees on £1 tickets. Free post-ballet workshops are then run by LCB in over 20 schools, reaching 600 children each year. For most attending *Ballet for £1*, this is their first experience of ballet or live theatre.

### **Training**

100 children attend LCB's summer school; an Auditions Masterclass is offered to improve audition technique and Ballet for Boys classes encourage boys to develop and retain their interest in ballet. As well as our new programmes Little LCB and LCB Juniors for younger dancers to develop and maybe experience LCB for the first time before auditioning.

## GUIDE TO WHO'S WHO! LCB STAFF

OFFICE NUMBER: 0208 969 1555

Your main point of contact for the LCB Tour should be **Lara Waterfield**. Lara is contactable by email on [lara@londonchildrensballet.com](mailto:lara@londonchildrensballet.com).

Please feel free also to contact the office if you have any questions especially about payment and press. You can call any of the office team any time during office hours (Monday – Friday, 9am -5pm).

### **Choreographer and Movement Director LCB Tour**

#### **COLLEEN O'KEEFFE**

**Rehearsal Day Contact** (07917 094 358)

Colleen is our Tour Director, Colleen adapts, casts and restages LCB choreography for all Tour venues.

Please contact Colleen for any information regarding Tour rehearsals.



### **Operations Director**

#### **VICTORIA DAVISON**

([victoria.davison@londonchildrensballet.com](mailto:victoria.davison@londonchildrensballet.com))



Please contact Victoria if you would like to discuss your child's experience of LCB. Victoria's also the one to speak to if you have any ideas for the development, growth or strategic direction of the charity. Victoria manages our relationships with our sponsors and the corporates that support LCB to make this experience possible. Victoria is also the LCB team member to contact if you have any **PRESS** connections

### **Programmes and Outreach Manager**

#### **LARA WATERFIELD**

([lara@londonchildrensballet.com](mailto:lara@londonchildrensballet.com))



Lara is Colleen's **MAIN CONTACT** in the office so if you have any urgent questions or concerns please phone or email. Any question about the often complicated performance license application she will be able to help or clarify the information that is required. **If you would like to CHAPERONE on the tour** and have a chaperone licence or have a DBS check in the last 3 years please get in touch. Also, if you have any **FUNDRAISING IDEAS** (such as bake sale, sponsored run, giving through work etc)

### **Creative Director**

#### **ZOE VICKERMAN**

([zoe@londonchildrensballet.com](mailto:zoe@londonchildrensballet.com))



Contact Zoe if you know a ballet school who would be interested LCB's **BALLET IN A BOX** and creating their own touring company. We are particularly looking for schools outside London.

### **Relationships and Events Manager**

#### **AMANDA CHRISTIE**

([amanda@londonchildrensballet.com](mailto:amanda@londonchildrensballet.com))



Amanda sits within LCB's Fundraising team working on our large events. She will be organising our Premiere evening for *Anne of Green Gables*. Contact Amanda if you have any questions about the **PREMIERE**. She organises our events and committees.

### **Arts Administrator and Production Assistant**

#### **EMILY BROOKS**

([emily@londonchildrensballet.com](mailto:emily@londonchildrensballet.com))



Emily will be the costumes supervisor for the touring productions. She attend some tour rehearsals and is the second office contact for any queries.

### **Finance Manager**

#### **LYNDA HEAVEY**

([lynda@londonchildrensballet.com](mailto:lynda@londonchildrensballet.com))



Lynda manages LCB's finances and although you will probably not need to contact Lynda she is a very important member of our team.

### **Other Tour Staff**

**Amy Hollins** Ballet Mistress February and September

**Charise Renouf** Ballet Mistress May and September

**Abby Bebbington** Weekend Chaperone

**Other Chaperone TBC**

## LCB 2020 Tour Dates: Ballet Shoes

### February Tour 2020

#### Rehearsal Dates

Sunday 2 February	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 9 February	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 16 February	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Saturday 22 February	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 23 February	12:00pm – 5:00pm

#### Tour Dates

Wednesday 26 February	Timings for tour days to be confirmed
Thursday 27 February	
Friday 28 February	
Saturday 29 February	
Sunday 1 March	

### May/June Tour 2020

#### Rehearsal Dates

Sunday 17 May	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 24 May	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Monday 25 May	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Saturday 30 May	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 31 May	12:00pm – 5:00pm

#### Tour Dates

Wednesday 3 June	Timings for tour days to be confirmed
Thursday 4 June	
Friday 5 June	
Saturday 6 June	
Sunday 7 June	

### September Tour 2020

#### Rehearsal Dates

Saturday 29 August	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 30 August	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 6 September	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 13 September	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Sunday 20 September	12:00pm – 5:00pm

#### Tour Dates

Wednesday 23 September	Timings for tour days to be confirmed
Thursday 24 September	
Friday 25 September	
Saturday 26 September	
Sunday 27 September	