

Dancers' Career Development (DCD) services continue to be in high demand; this year we saw a 100% increase in requests for Retraining Grants. During 2024/25 DCD engaged meaningfully with 1,732 professional dancers and dance students, whilst simultaneously celebrating its 50th anniversary. We continued to transform our business model, ensuring we are fit for the future and able to sustain a meaningful impact on the dancers we work with.

Our Reach

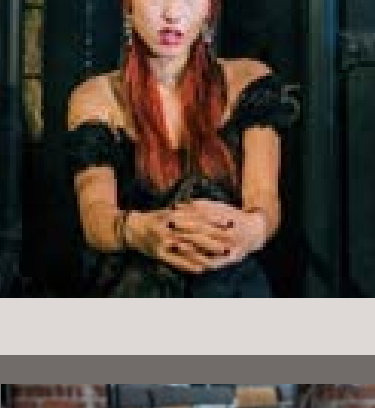
1,732
Dancers & students directly engaged

Sector-Leading

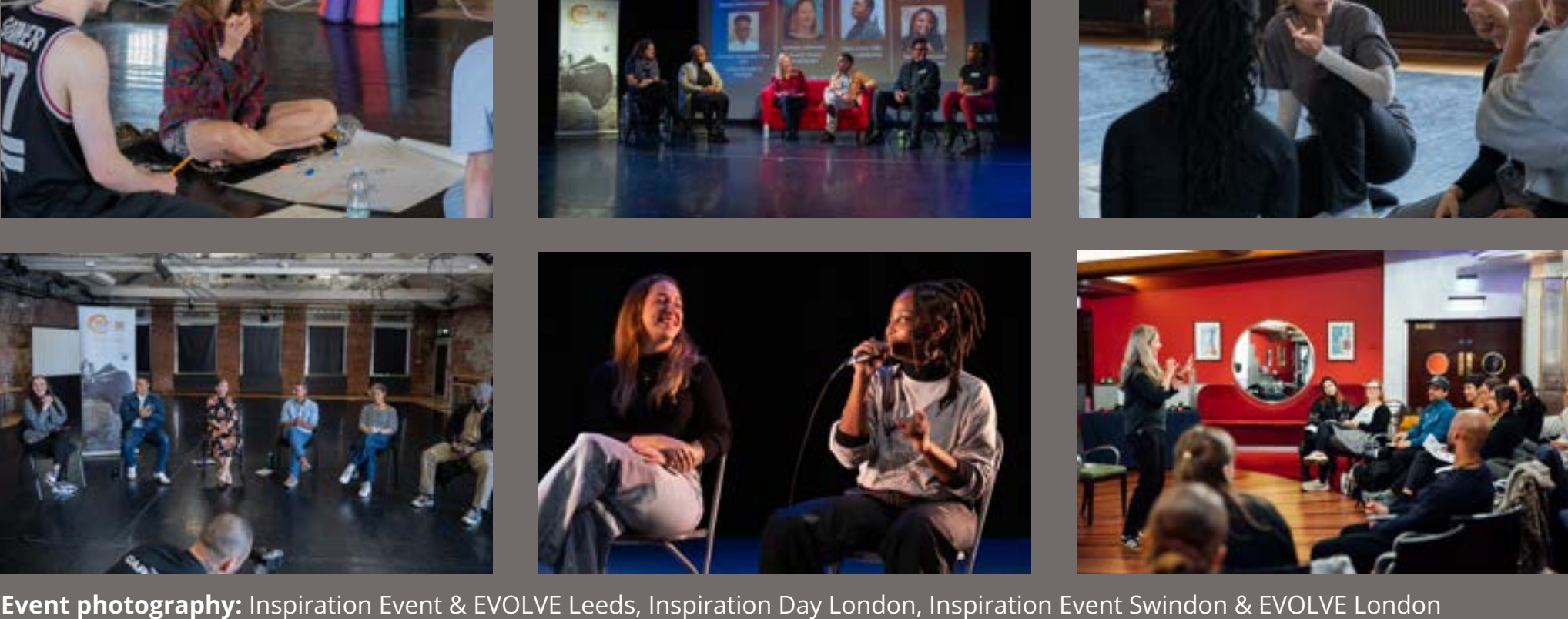
One Dance UK's **Dance Changemaker Award** recognised us as a bold, brave, impactful organisation that has driven progress across the dance ecology.

Investing in Dancers

£249,463
Awarded to dancers via **77** Grants



SUKI WONG used DCD's SHIFT programme to develop her portfolio career by expanding her music industry knowledge and improving her bass guitar skills. This has provided a valuable second income stream for Suki which will help her sustain her dance career for longer. As a result of SHIFT Suki secured contracts playing bass guitar with Connie Constance at Meltedown Festival (Southbank Centre), and at Slamdunk Festival, Vainstream Rockfest and Impericon Festival. SHIFT is delivered in partnership with ZooNation: The Kate Prince Company.



Event photography: Inspiration Event & EVOLVE Leeds, Inspiration Day London, Inspiration Event Swindon & EVOLVE London

Individual Support

- **216** Individual Career Consultations
- **69** Coaching sessions
- **16** dancers mentored
- **3** dancers on SHIFT Hip Hop

Workshops & Events

- **244** dancers attended **18** professional development workshops
- **481** attended **3** Inspiration Events
- **515** students attended **20** workshops

Extending Our Reach

- **10** Digital resources created
- **Online events** removing multiple barriers to attendance
- Events in London, Swindon & Leeds



RHYS DENNIS is a commercial dancer who has been awarded a grant from DCD to retrain as an Intimacy Coordinator for TV & Film. Rhys says: *"DCD has empowered me to carve a new and fulfilling career path with the right balance of support and guidance. This journey has added a meaningful new layer to my professional life, opening doors to an entirely new industry where I can engage with my skill set in fresh and enriching ways."*

Partner Companies

We are proud to work with our Partner Companies, offering workshops, coaching, retraining grants and mentoring opportunities to their dancers. We are grateful for their continued support, and that of our REACH Ambassadors, who promote DCD's offer within their companies.

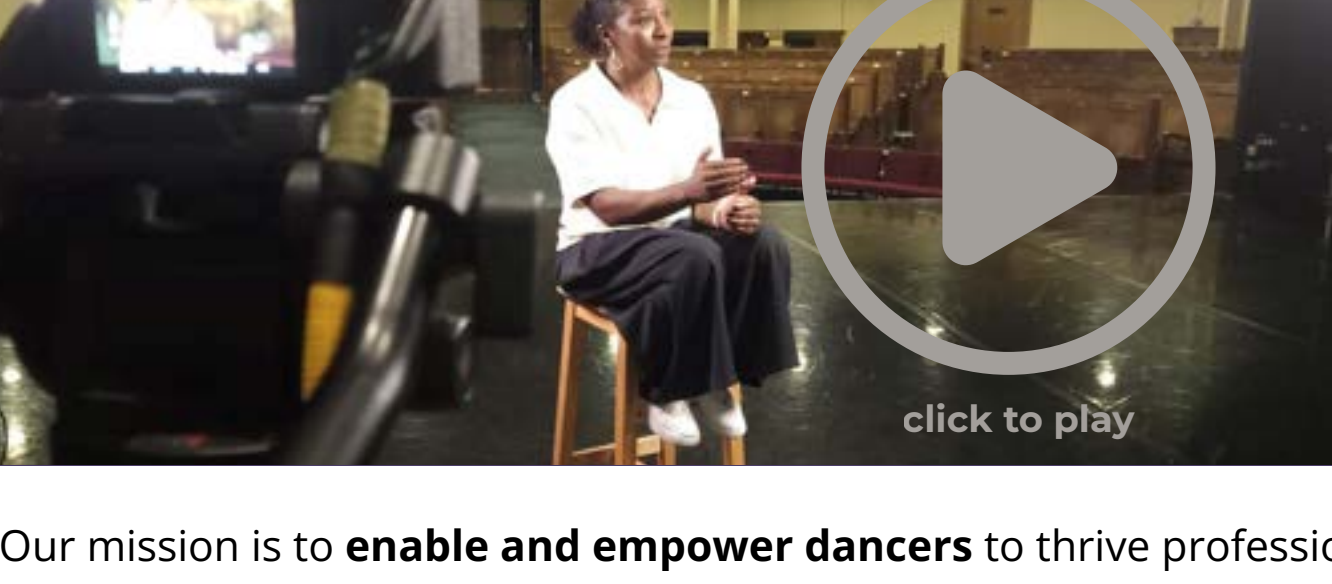
DCD Partner Companies: **Birmingham Royal Ballet, English National Ballet, Northern Ballet, Rambert, Scottish Ballet, The Royal Ballet.**

In 2024/25 we delivered **21** visits & workshops to our Partner Companies.

SHIFT partners

We are delighted to continue working with **ZooNation: The Kate Prince Company**, to deliver SHIFT for Hip Hop dancers.

We look forward to the addition of new project partner **Boy Blue** in 2025/26.



50th anniversary film

Featuring: DCD supported dancers now working in law, business consultancy and leadership in the arts and education.

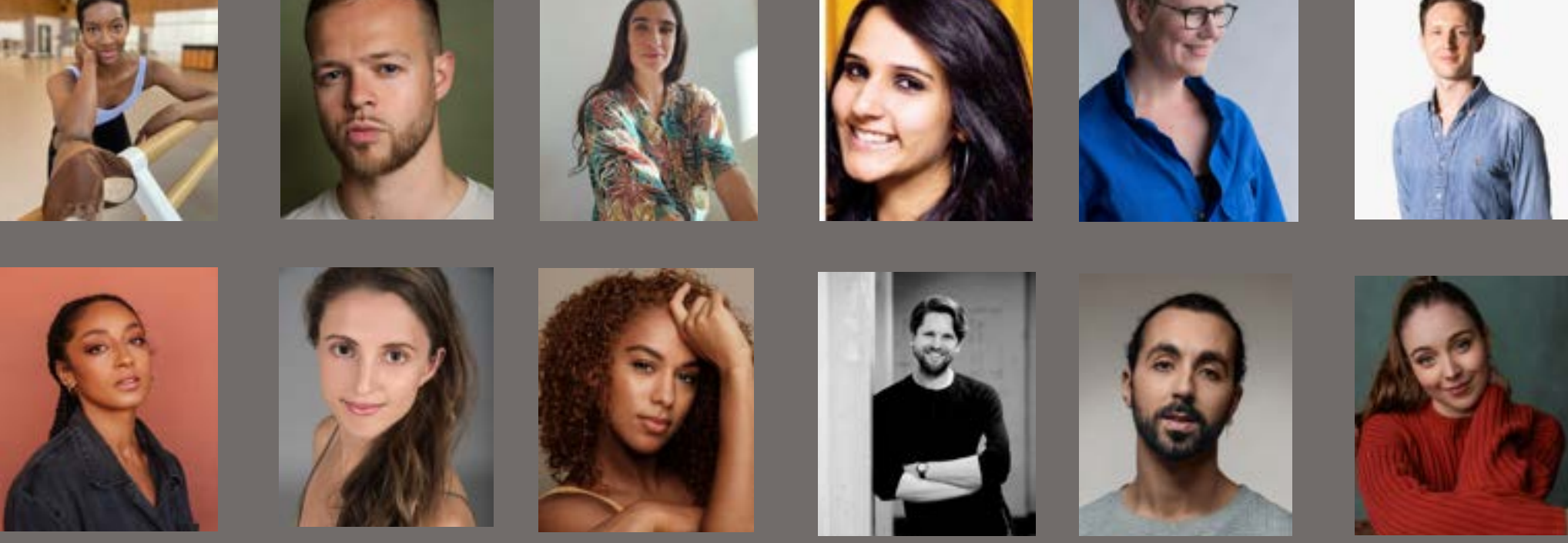
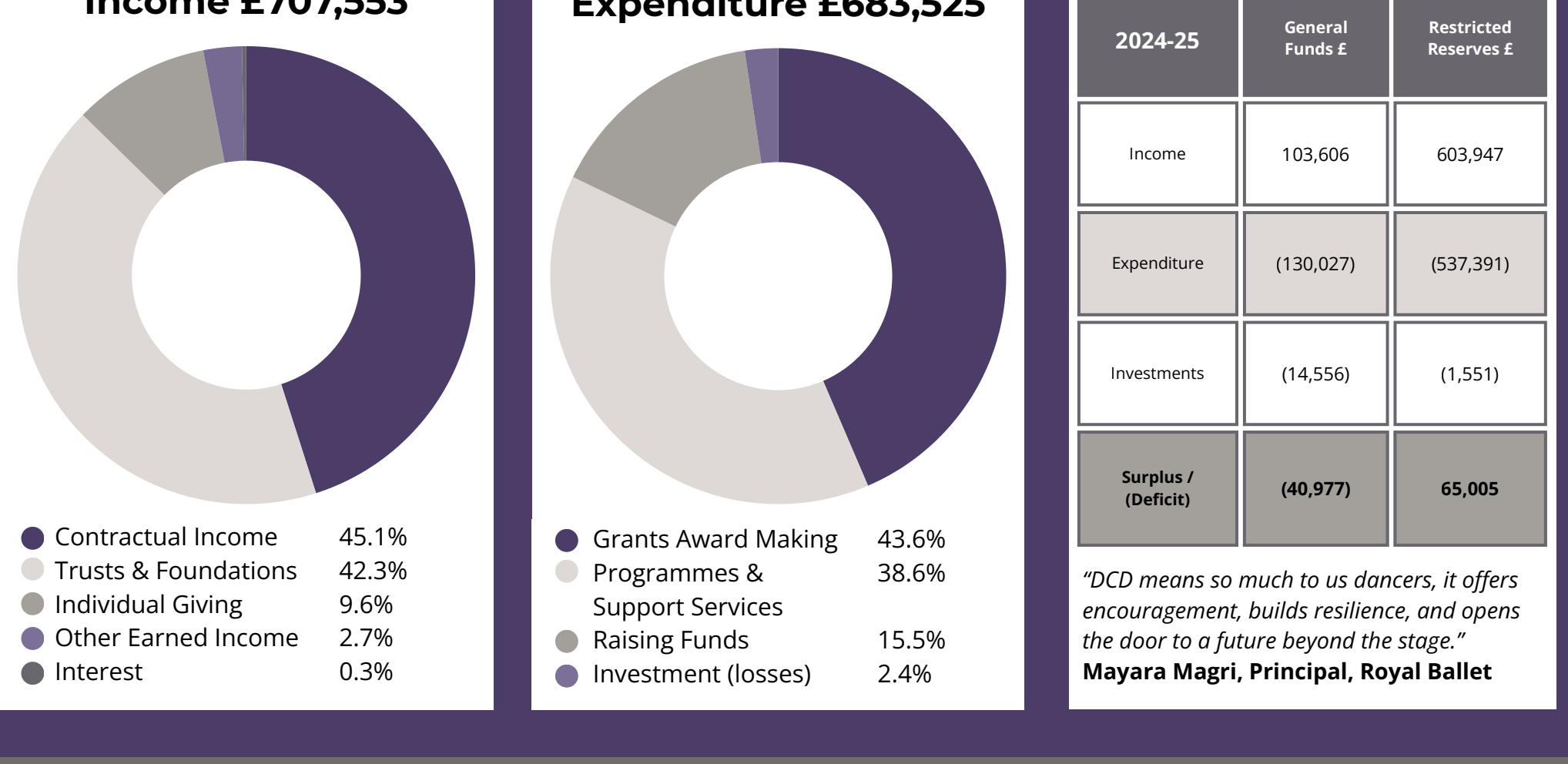
Filmmaker: Robert Gravenor (DCD supported dancer)

Pictured: Sharon Watson MBE

Our mission is to **enable and empower dancers** to thrive professionally and personally leading up to and beyond their performance careers. We aspire for all **dancers to be recognised and valued** for their individual and collective contribution to society during and beyond their performance careers.



ANDY MONAGHAN worked as a freelance dancer for 13 years, predominantly working for Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, and performing in film and TV productions in gaps between contracts. During Covid, when theatre work stopped, like many, Andy found himself at a loss of direction whilst trying to navigate the pandemic and his career halting at its peak. Having retrained as a florist, during this downtime from performance work, DCD funded some vital equipment to help Andy's floristry business. Andy has since been named as one of House and Gardens Rising Stars of 2025.



Dancers participating in DCD's Beyond Dance Mentoring programme, 2024/25



MARINA COLLARD has had an extensive dance performance career over 25+ years – largely as a contemporary dancer. During this time, she has also had a personal visual arts practice that she has sometimes explored within her dance performance projects. Marina maintained a career in dance for much longer than most, and at the age of 55 came to DCD, looking for help to build a new career focussing on becoming a visual artist. Her grant is providing financial support to access skills and opportunities through both a training course and through coaching with experts who can mentor and guide her.



50 Stories for 50 Years: A12-month project sharing the stories of 50 dancers supported by DCD during our first 50 years. Including those now in cultural leadership positions as well as a variety of other industries. An impressive glimpse of DCD's impact.



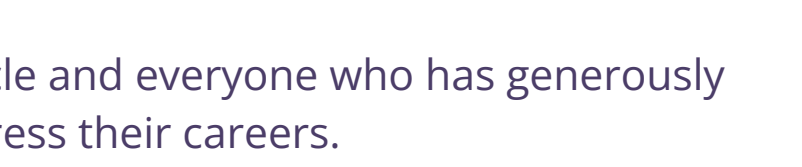
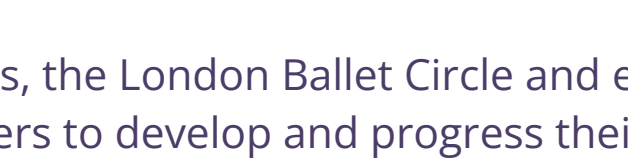
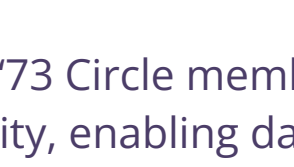
MASUMI SAITO is a Japanese movement artist, choreographer and mother of boys, based in London. Masumi trained at The Place (graduating in 2008) and built a unique and diverse career as a dancer. Masumi describes how the industry's competitive and demanding nature took a toll on her mental health, affecting both her self-worth and artistic practice. Masumi is now completing a Level 4 Diploma course at the London College of Shiatsu.

Funders

We are grateful to the following for enabling us to continue our transformational work during 2024/25:







Thank you

Thank you to DCD's '73 Circle members, the London Ballet Circle and everyone who has generously donated to our charity, enabling dancers to develop and progress their careers.

We are also grateful to our wonderful Trustees, Grants Committee, Mentors and EDI Working Group for their continued support and guidance throughout the year.

We also wish to thank all those project and strategic partners we collaborated with during 2024/25, and all those who took part in DCD Events throughout the year, including: add-victor, Clore Leadership, Dancers Network, Equity, IOTPD, Moving Ahead, One Dance UK, People Dancing, PiPA, Skills Builder Partnership, Stopgap Dance Company, Swindon Dance, The Jam Festival and Yorkshire Dance.

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Dancers' Career Development is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (registered company number 10137622) and a registered charity (registered charity number 1168958). Registered office: International House, 61 Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3HZ.



Event Photography: Sophie Bradbury & Becky Lee Brun (DCD supported dancer)