



[www.secondhanddance.co.uk](http://www.secondhanddance.co.uk)

## Support Worker – Recruitment information

Second Hand Dance are a disabled-led dance company driven by Artistic Director Rosie Heafford and Executive Producer Claire Summerfield. Our mission is to create aesthetic and sensory dance experiences for and with children and adults. Our work is underpinned by a pursuit of inclusion to create bold and thought-provoking art.

We are seeking a calm, practical and nurturing support worker for Artistic Director Rosie Heafford. The role will support Rosie with the Co-creation of our new project *The Sticky Dance*.

### Dates:

- Monday 15 – Saturday 20 January 2024: Southbank Centre, London (Additional Responsibilities Week)
- Monday 22 – Friday 26 January 2024: Southbank Centre, London
- Monday 29 January 2024 – Friday 2 February 2024: South East Dance, Brighton
- Monday 4 – Friday 9 February 2024: Southbank Centre, London
- Friday 16 & Saturday 17 February 2024: – Dance East, Ipswich

**Fee:** £120 per day/ £15 per hour (varying hours with day and evening work) plus travel, per diems and accommodation.

For W/C 15 January the Support Worker will have additional responsibilities (detailed below) we shall pay an additional £15 per day or £60 a week.

**Application:** Please send a covering letter or video/audio recordings plus a CV outlining why you would be suitable for the post and previous similar experience. Please send your application to [admin@secondhanddance.co.uk](mailto:admin@secondhanddance.co.uk) by **Sunday 3 December 2023, 5pm**.

Interviews to be on **Wednesday 13 & Friday 15 December 2023**.

The Access worker would ideally have:

- Full clean driving license and use of car for work purposes
- Previous experience of or an interest in accessible working practices
- Located in Surrey or nearby

### About Rosie:

This role will be primarily to support Artistic Director Rosie Heafford in the creation of *The Sticky Dance*. Rosie has Hypermobility Spectrum Disorder (HSD) and Fibromyalgia. These are long-term conditions that mean she works with chronic pain and fatigue. These symptoms can change each day, sometimes they are worse and sometimes better. Rosie makes the following adjustments to her working environment to manage symptoms:

- Working shorter hours and taking frequent breaks to rest
- Working with a support worker or deputy director who can carry on in her absence

- Managing and minimising travel through working online or taking the shortest route (including taxis) and on longer distances travelling with a companion who can carry bags/arrange taxis and suggest the best travel routes.
- Using a mobility scooter
- Creating a comfy environment, such as using mats, cushions or a beanbag to sit or lie down while working

**Support worker tasks:**

- Read and understand Rosie's Access Rider and Flare Plan, ensuring Rosie's Access needs are met throughout the Engagement
- Managing Rosie's breaks and rest periods
- Ensure and set-up rest spaces
- Regular check-ins with Rosie
- Carry bags, foldable mobility scooter, food, laptop, technical equipment and yoga mat/chair
- Book/identify taxis and travel
- Book/identify restaurants (in line with dietary requirements – let restaurant know if advance if possible what requirements are)
- Drive or accompany RH while travelling
- Contacting train/plane providers to notify of access requirements and Blue Badge exemption applications
- Assist with taking notes
- Communicating with the wider team on Rosie's behalf as needed
- Undertaking research and administrative tasks as required
- Any other access assistance as mutually agreed
- Having weekly check-ins/debrief with Second Hand Dance's General Manager

**Additional Assistant Stage Manager Responsibilities:**

- Hosting/running the room
- Prompting timings, breaks, and check-out at the end of the day
- Letting dancers and other company members know where kitchen/toilet/fire Exits are
- Set-up of the space (music and speakers, set/structures, props etc.)
- Travelling with set/structures to rehearsal locations and store
- WhatsApp: sending a brief schedule each evening for the following day, reminding everyone to check travel etc.
- Videoing 'test' performances and uploading each evening to SharePoint

Please be aware that on days when Rosie will be unavailable to attend, these additional responsibilities are to support the rest of the Sticky Dance Team and Co-Creator Takeshi Matsumoto.

**Person Specification:**

- Excellent organisational, travel planning, logistic and communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills and the ability to work as a team member.
- Empathetic, willing to help and collaborative attitudes are the most important attributes required in this position
- Calm, supportive, rational and sensible, caring, easy going and nurturing personality
- Patient and generous nature
- Being able to work on own initiative

**About Second Hand Dance:**

Second Hand Dance is a disabled-led UK based dance company established in 2013 by Artistic Director Rosie Heafford. We create intricately layered, highly visual shows for children and adults that tour nationally and internationally. Collaborating with dancers, artists, musicians and the public we produce joyful, inspirational shows hold the audience experience at its centre. The work is often socially engaged, subtly participatory and can be presented in theatres, community spaces and outdoors.

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