

## A Chance to Shine

Professional dance training as a condition of community sentences is helping young offenders in Bradford and Leeds find their feet.

### Helen Carter

(1) It is less than five hours to go before *Dance Unite's* performance at the Alhambra theatre's studio in Bradford and all is not well. The young dancers are behaving very nervously and giggling when they should be concentrating on their performance. Tara Herbert, the artistic director, tells one of the girls to stop scratching. The girl loses her temper, swears, storms off in a huff, and is ordered out of the studio. Undeterred, the company continues its dress rehearsal.

(2) *Dance United* uses dance to engage young offenders. Its academy offers an intensive 12-week programme, 25 hours a week, in which young people are treated as trainee professional dancers and receive a certificate in basic practical performance skills.

(3) Last year 33 young people were referred to *Dance United* from the Bradford and Leeds youth offending teams as a condition of their community sentence. In this area, more than three-quarters are expected to reoffend within 12 months –

higher than the national average. Of the 33 referred to *Dance United*, 19 stayed on the programme and only half reoffended.

(4) A report out today by New Philanthropy Capital (NPC), analysing the most cost-effective youth offending programmes, highlights the work of *Dance United*. The report estimates that by stopping even one person reoffending, the charity can save the community from spending about £82,000.

(5) *Dance United* relies on the Arts Council, the lottery and youth offending teams for funding. NPC says that because the criminal justice field is averse to risk, fearful of tabloids and keen to look tough on crime, the voluntary sector – which is not stifled by a sense of what is 'publicly acceptable' – has a particularly important role to play. It explains: "By targeting support at organisations that are making a real statement, charities and funders can save children from a life of crime and get offenders back on the straight and narrow."

(6) Back at the dress rehearsal, the dancer who quit is back. Everyone sits in a circle and she apologises for her behaviour. "Thanks for having me back," she says. "I just want to make my mum proud." She hangs her head, embarrassed by the attention.

(7) After three weeks of training the young people will go into primary schools to help deliver dance lessons. Rob Lynden, head of programme development at *Dance United*, says the training is about people reintegrating with their families and picking up the pieces of their lives. “The young people are taken out of their comfort zone. When they first come along the kids will moan and scream about everything, and then they start to realise it is

something they actually enjoy,” he says.

(8) Connor (not his real name), 19, was permanently excluded from school because of his poor behaviour. “I used to find it very difficult when I began dancing and tried to focus, but now I just blank everything out. I am applying for university when I finish my course. I have met some amazing people who will be friends for life.”

*The Society Guardian, 2010*

## Tekst 7

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- 1p 22 What is the function of paragraph 1?  
The writer gives an introduction by means of  
A a conclusion.  
B a description.  
C a summary.  
D an opinion.
- 2p 23 Geef van elk van de volgende beweringen aan of deze juist of onjuist is volgens alinea 2, 3 en 4.  
*Omcirkel achter elk nummer 'juist' of 'onjuist' in de uitwerkbijlage.*  
1 Om bij Dance United te worden toegelaten moet je auditie doen.  
2 Dance United wordt afgesloten met een theorie-examen.  
3 Door Dance United komen sommige jongeren weer op het rechte pad.  
4 Dance United is een commerciële, winstgevende organisatie.
- 1p 24 'It explains: "...and narrow.'" (paragraph 5)  
What does 'It' refer to?  
A Dance United  
B NPC  
C The Arts Council  
D The voluntary sector
- 1p 25 In alinea 6 wordt het vervolg van een gebeurtenis uit een eerdere alinea beschreven.  
→ In welke alinea wordt die gebeurtenis voor het eerst genoemd?  
*Schrijf het nummer van deze alinea op in de uitwerkbijlage.*
- 1p 26 "When they first come along the kids will moan and scream about everything" (paragraph 7)  
Why do the kids behave like this according to Rob Lynden (paragraph 7)?  
A They are afraid of the new things they have to face.  
B They are angry about the punishment they received.  
C They are excited about the training methods.  
D They are thrilled about going home again.
- 1p 27 What is made clear about Connor in paragraph 8?  
A He doesn't have enough talent to become a professional dancer.  
B He has difficulties making new friends.  
C He has his life on track again.  
D He will always be sorry for his bad conduct.

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### Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.