



ZooNation Youth Company (ZYC) Audition Sunday 5th September 2021 London

If you are interested in auditioning for ZYC, please read all information below carefully before completing the Registration Form via our website. Please complete this no later than **Friday 20th August at 5.00pm**. The form will close after this date and time.

After the 26th August, all invited and registered auditionees will be emailed the exact location of the audition. Please note it will be in London but we welcome applicants from around the UK providing they are happy to attend training on a Saturday in London (if successful).

What is ZYC?

ZooNation Youth Company (ZYC) was founded in 2006 and is comprised of some of the best young dancers in the UK with members from all over London and from as far as Stoke, Southampton, Wolverhampton and Dorset.

As well as performing as part of the cast of West End show [Into the Hoods](#), ZYC has performed in the Channel 4/BAFTA short film [The Holloway Launderette](#) (Channel 4/BAFTA/Big Dance), *Breakin' Convention*, *Move Like Michael Jackson* (BBC), *Nelson Mandela's 90th Birthday Celebrations* (worldwide broadcast) and BBC's *Blue Peter* to name but a few.

The company were incredibly honoured to be invited to perform for the International Olympics Committee at the Royal Opera House (heads of state, opening ceremony, London Olympics 2012).

ZYC performed ZooNation's [Groove on Down the Road](#) at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre, where they are resident company, in the summers of 2013 and 2014. They have performed as guests at the Dance Proms, at the Royal Albert Hall and at Fresh at The Place. In the last year alone, members of the company have performed at Southbank Centre, Royal Festival Hall stage, Move It at Excel, The Old Vic Summer Party, Kensington Roof Gardens, Leicester Curve, The Marlowe Theatre and London's New Year's Day Parade.

Summer 2019 saw ZYC return to the Queen Elizabeth Hall stage with their hit show [Tales of the Turntable](#).

Who can audition?

Prerequisites

- Aged between 10 – 20 years old on the audition date.
- Able to attend compulsory Saturday training sessions 10am – 6pm in London, during term time.
- Understanding that additional rehearsals will be required for performances. These may take place on week nights, and during the holidays.

What we are looking for

Essential skills

- A high level of dance skill and ability in the following styles; Locking, Popping, House, Breaking, Technical (including turns and across the floor work) and picking up choreography and the ability to execute this at a high standard.
- Ability to freestyle.
- A commitment to improving your skills and working with a professional attitude.
- A willingness to work as part of a company and as an individual.

Desirable but not essential skills

- Tricks
- Experience performing to large audiences.

What will happen at the audition?

Date: **Sunday 5th September**

Location: London

What to wear: Wear clothes you feel comfortable dancing in, trainers, and kneepads.

No Jeans, no boots or heavy footwear.

What to bring: Bring a large bottle of water, lunch and healthy snacks. No fizzy drinks or hot drinks will be allowed in the studio.

09:30 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:30	Group warm up (30 mins)
10:30 – 13:20	Audition (water breaks will be given)
13:30	Announcements of callbacks for afternoon session
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch for those successful in gaining recall
14:30 – 17:45	Recall Audition (water breaks will be given)
17:45 - 18:00	Cool Down
18:00	Depart

There will be a focus on each of the styles of Hip Hop and Street dance as mentioned above in essential skills. The group will be expected to pick up choreography quickly and be prepared to perform it back to teachers, within which you may be asked to perform a certain character or with an additional narrative.

At lunchtime, we will make a decision as to those participants that will be invited to attend the recall in the afternoon.

After the audition

ZYC membership

We will inform you no later than Wednesday 8th September whether you have been successful in joining ZYC,.

We will need you to confirm your place by Monday 13th September, with the autumn term beginning on Saturday 18th September. If we do not hear from you, we will assume you will not be taking your place.

Commitment to ZYC and ZAD

ZYC Saturday sessions, 10am – 1pm or 11am – 2pm, London

If you are successful in being offered a place in ZYC we expect you attend every ZYC training session we arrange.

ZYC fees apply: £100 annually

We do have some scholarships available. If you would like to apply for a scholarship, please inform us at the time of submitting your application form to audition.

ZYC training deposit: £30 per term

All members will be subject to a full refund of the termly deposit, provided the attendance rules are followed.

ZAD Saturday sessions, 3-6pm, Islington, London

If you are successful in being offered a place in ZYC we expect you to attend ZooNation Academy of Dance (ZAD). At ZAD you will continue your growth and development.

ZAD fees apply: £218 for each term. It is not an optional extra, every member of ZYC must also attend ZAD classes. Term fees are due at the start of each term. We do have some scholarships available. If you are successful at joining ZYC, then please speak to us about applying for a scholarship to cover your ZAD fees if needed.

Attendance and punctuality

You are permitted 3 planned absences a term (2 max either side of half term). If you have more than three planned absences, this will result in the £30 deposit for that term not being returned. These absences must be planned - i.e. agreed with ZooNation prior to the start of term to be counted as planned absences.

Any unexplained absences will not be accepted and the deposit will not be returned.

More than three unexplained absences will also result in a discussion with the management team about your ability to continue with ZooNation, each case will be assessed individually.

If a session starts at 10am we expect you to be on the dance floor, appropriately dressed and ready for warm up at this time. We therefore ask you to arrive in advance of the start time to make sure you are ready.

Lateness is not tolerated. If you are running late due to unavoidable circumstances, or ill, you are expected to inform the contact provided as soon as possible.

If you are late more than three times in one term, the £30 deposit for that term will not be returned. Further to that we will discuss removing you from the next ZYC performance, or the company.

Additional rehearsals and performances

Being part of ZYC means opportunities to perform. We will check availability prior to each performance, but generally we expect you to be available for additional rehearsals and performances. Where possible we avoid arranging rehearsals during school time, however, from time to time you may be required to miss school in order to attend and performance licenses will be issued in these instances.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is ZAD?

ZooNation Academy of Dance (ZAD) is the 'not for profit' education arm of ZooNation: The Kate Prince Company. It was born in 2008 out of a desire to work with young people and invest in their future knowing the great positive impact dance can have. ZAD is a place where young people of all ages (4 to 21-years-old), abilities, and backgrounds come together to build

relationships and develop their skills through the shared love and passion for hip-hop dance. It's also their chance to learn from the professional members of the company. Classes lead to an annual Christmas show where they perform all the different styles of Hip Hop dance they have learned throughout the year. Branches of ZAD operate at Urdang, Islington, and ZAD West at The Lyric, Hammersmith.

Can parents watch the audition?

No.

Do I have to pay to audition?

No.

How many ZYC places are available?

We will be offering places to a maximum of 20 dancers.

Who are the auditions open to?

The auditions are open to people who have not worked with us before, but also to members of ZAD and ZYC who will be familiar with the teachers, and each other. Everyone will be judged objectively.

Do current ZYC members re-audition?

Yes, all the current members of ZYC are expected to re-audition.

What do ZYC wear at performances?

This varies. However, if we ask you to take part in a performance as part of ZYC, we will offer you a ZYC t-shirt. We expect everyone to have black tracksuit bottoms or black leggings, and black/grey/white trainers. We ask that you bring kneepads to every training session and performance.

I was not successful; can I get feedback?

We are not able to offer feedback after the audition day. On the day of auditions, you may ask for areas where you can improve, however please respect the decision of the teachers and do not question their decision.

I was not successful, can I join ZAD anyway?

Yes, if you are interested in joining ZAD then please get in touch and we can check availability. Please email zad@zoonation for more information on joining.

Where are ZYC training sessions?

All normal training sessions are in central London. You may be asked to work on a project based outside of London; in which case we may be able to offer expenses. However, for any normal training session expenses are not covered.

Do I have to pay for ZYC training sessions?

Yes, the annual ZYC fee is £100 (approx. £33.33 per term). There is also a £30 training deposit per term.

Do I have to pay for ZAD classes?

Yes, £218 is due to cover your 3pm - 6pm ZAD classes per term. However, we do have some scholarships available. If you are successful at joining ZYC, then please speak to us about applying for a scholarship to cover your ZAD fees.

Are ZYC Members paid to perform?

No, we do not pay ZYC members to perform; we see the opportunities we provide at top level venues and productions as a fantastic opportunity, with value added through developing your professional performing experience.

From time to time there are opportunities to audition for paid jobs through our agency.

Can ZYC Members perform with other groups?

Yes, you do not have to be exclusive to ZYC, we encourage our members to learn skills and develop networks outside of ZooNation. However, your commitment to our training and performances is paramount. As mentioned above we expect you to be at all ZYC training sessions; competitions, and other rehearsals are not valid excuses not to attend.

Can I perform for ZYC and another group at the same show?

No. We ask that if you are performing with ZYC that you do not perform with another group at the same show.

Should you have any further queries regarding auditions and the programme please contact ZooNation's Engagement Producer & ZYC Manager Annie Taylor-Gooby
annie@zoonation.co.uk