daCi

Dance and the Child International

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Twist and Twin
Exploring identities in dance

13th World Congress of Dance and the Child International
5th-10th July 2015, Copenhagen Denmark

Dance and the Child International (daCi) is pleased to announce the 13th World Congress hosted by Dansehallerne, Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports, University of Copenhagen and the Danish National School of Performing Arts.

Background, rationale and context

The World Congress will explore the theme of ***identity in dance*** as it is experienced in formal, non-formal and informal settings of education. It will be a unique opportunity for everyone interested in dance and young people to meet, dance, share, present and discuss issues related to the Congress theme across age levels and professions. The program will hold a variety of activities and presentation formats such as Nordic Dance Flavour workshops, invited keynotes, Creative Meeting Points, Twinning Labs, Youth Forums, Professional Forums, papers, panels, roundtables, research and dance workshops, project dialogues, lecture sharing, performances of young people and professional companies.

Dance is as both a practical area and a research area experiencing rapid growth. Dance is part of four recognized artistic areas within arts education, which is acknowledged as a key area within UNESCO's 21st Century Skills. Dance education in particular puts an emphasis on the role of the body in artistic processes, and the body is in current research in educational studies, psychology and neurophysiology highlighted as being the 'place' where experiences, cognition and identity processes are grounded. A person's identity is multi-faceted and believed to be constantly developing in intertwinement with embodied and cultural experiences, social relations and the various situations that the human being experiences.

The Congress will explore:

- How can we comprehend and describe identity in the 21st Century?
- What kinds of identity are experienced and expressed in dance practice of young people around the world today?
- What role does dance play for young people to define and perceive their own and others' identities?
- How do professionals working with dance and young people comprehend and articulate their own professional identity?

Twist & *twin* – the method

Throughout the Congress the participants will be involved in processes of 'twinning', which implicate two or more partners coming together about a common issue. This is not only sharing ideas, but creating new knowledge together. Twinning creates new possibilities for collaboration between people, new friendships, new dance experiences and for developing understanding about each other, our identities and cultures. Twinning can be virtual, or in the same space and can take place over a longer time – before, during and even

after the Congress. Twinning as a method can be encompassed and expressed in multiple ways, for example culturally, methodologically, pedagogically, across age groups, and between professions, institutions and communities. Twinning can be part of the proposals, developed before the Congress; or it can occur during the Congress.

Submission of proposals – *with a twist*

Please visit the website www.daCi2015.dk which goes live in January 2014 for more info about Congress activities, ways of twinning before and/or during the Congress and for detailed instructions of how to submit your proposal in any of the presentation categories described below.

Please note that a twinning aspect in the abstract of proposals is not a prerequisite for being accepted as presenter. There will be plenty of twinning opportunities on the site!

Young People's Performances

The Young People's Performances (YPP) is an opportunity for youth dance groups to bring a short choreographic piece to Copenhagen and share it with the other Congress participants.

If you wish to contribute to the YPP, you should apply according to the guidelines:

- The performance needs to adhere to the theme of identity.
- The performance should be created in collaboration between the choreographer and the young participants.
- Dancers can be from 6 and up to 18 years old.
- There should be a minimum of 3 dancers in the performance.

More specific information regarding YPP proposals can be found with the application form on the website.

Adult presenters

The Congress welcomes abstracts of presentations in various categories based on **identity** as an overall theme and related to any of the sub-themes unfolded below. Presentations which include a ***twist*** of collaborative/ twinning aspects that integrate practice and theory in corp/oral presentations, that ask new questions and that think of new ways of presenting research will be of special interest to the Congress. The theme and the method can be addressed from various viewpoints and contexts, professional and/or academic.

Practitioners are encouraged to articulate their ideas and experiences also orally and researchers are encouraged to include some practical way of sharing their work.

Congress sub-themes

Embodiment, learning and 'DANNELSE': What can the role of dance be in identity development and learning of young people? What are experiences of the body, culture and gender in dance? What kinds of bodies dance? What are essential skills in digitalized societies where even dancers 'dance' together in cyberspace, and what role does the body and the brain play in the future of learning and communication? What role does the social dimension play? Why is twinning a growing focus of political organisations occupied with learning? And how can young people develop positively as human beings through dance and collaborative practices? How does 'personal education' ('DANNELSE' in Danish) through dance come about in formal, non-formal and informal settings as defined by UNESCO?

Empowerment and well-being: What is the role of dance in processes of personal development and holistic well-being? How can dance be used as a means for young people to express themselves physically, emotionally and creatively? Can dance give young people opportunities to develop new senses of self in problematic and even catastrophic circumstances?

Assessment, research and evaluation tools: When dance is believed to be a site for identity development how do we then 'measure' competencies in dance? What is quality in dance education? And who decides what quality is in this area? How can we assess and evaluate dance learning from a multi-faceted perspective? What research methodologies in dance education will promote knowledge about embodied experiences and identity processes? How can the voices of young people be included in research?

Education, professions and policymaking: How can educational frameworks and policies contribute to development of competencies and professional identities in dance education - for dancers and for teachers? Does it make sense to distinguish between the art forms in education, or is the label of 'arts education' more fruitful for future practice and political attention to how dance as part of the arts plays a role in identity development?

Presentation formats

Papers: 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for discussion and may include a mix of corp/oral presentation.
Project dialogues: Includes two presenters who will be paired by the committee and will have 15 minutes for presentation each and 15 minutes for a shared discussion (focus can be on any kind of project: teaching, performance, cultural).
Panel discussions: Can be three-five presenters. Duration of each panel will be 60 or 90 minutes depending on number of presenters (divided into 10 minute presentations and 30 minutes for discussion).
Research and dance workshops: Focus on participatory and interactive practice (target group needs to be specified in the abstract). 60-90 minutes (please specify timeframe in abstract).
Lecture sharing: Focus on showing and involving the audience in practice and discussions about teaching. 60-90 minutes (please specify timeframe in abstract).
Poster/installation: Can be two or three dimensional, interactive, work as a speakers corner etc. Please describe your idea in the abstract. Timeslots for presentations will be allocated in the program.

All proposals are to be submitted on-line and should include title of the presentation, name of presenters and their affiliation, 4 keywords (essential for reviewing and programming purposes), 250 word abstract maximum (not including bibliographical references) and 100 word biography.

Panel proposals are to be submitted by the panel chair in a 250 word maximum abstract which summarises the contribution of each panel member, accompanied by contact details and a 100 word biography of each panel member.

All proposal abstracts will be reviewed by an international panel against the following criteria:

- Clarity and quality (focus, purpose, content and format).
- Relevance of content in relation to the overall Congress theme.
- Novelty of the content (does it advance knowledge and practice in the field?).
- Presentation format with a *twist* (if relevant to the focus).

All abstracts will be blind-reviewed by two independent reviewers.
Papers, panels and project dialogues will be edited and published in on-line proceedings after the Congress.

Graduate students and young professionals are urged to send in proposals for presentation in the project dialogues, workshop, lecture sharing and poster/installation categories.

Official language
The official language of the Congress is English. Language support will only be provided in young people's Creative Meeting Points.

Key dates

May 1st 2014:	Deadline for submission of proposals (all categories) (late submissions will not be accepted).
September 1st 2014:	Notification of acceptance of Young People's Performances by email.
September 1st 2014:	Notification of reviews of papers, panels, project dialogues, workshops, lecture sharing and posters/installations by email.
October 1st 2014:	Deadline for submission of revised proposals.
November 1st 2014:	Final notification of acceptance by email.
February 1st 2015:	Deadline for early registration with reduced fee.
October 1st 2015:	Deadline for submissions for on-line proceedings.

Organisers
The Congress is co-organised by and will take place at three main institutions in the city of Copenhagen:

- Dansehallerne, the Carlsberg area.
- Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports, University of Copenhagen, Northern Campus.
- The Danish National School for Performing Arts at Holmen.

Congress committee
Susanne Frederiksen (Congress Manager)
Charlotte Svendler Nielsen (overall Program Chair and Chair of Research Committee)
Anna Katrine Korning (Chair of Young People's Committee)
Sheila de Val (Chair of Dance Facilitators' Committee).

Further information
Please go to www.daci2015.dk , the website will go live in January 2014.
Congress Manager: Susanne Frederiksen, Dansehallerne: infodaci2015@dansehallerne.dk
Program Chair: Charlotte Svendler Nielsen, University of Copenhagen: programdaci2015@dansehallerne.dk

Dansehallerne, Copenhagen

Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports, University of Copenhagen

The Danish National School of Performing Arts