

IRIE!
dance
theatre

IRIE! DANCE THEATRE

WINTER PROGRAMME 2024

**SUPPORTING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES THROUGH
DANCE OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA**

WELCOME EVERYONE

It seems that 2023 flew by and it's hard to believe we are now in 2024!
Let me take this opportunity to wish a heartfelt HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our
participants, supporters, funders, partners, volunteers, and collaborators.

Last year was an eventful year for the company and many of you experienced elements of this journey with us. We delivered several exciting programmes of collaborative works, the highlights of which included: hosting 26 international guests from Grenada; celebrating Windrush 75 with our Tilbury Talks intergenerational event; the validation of our BA (Hons) Diverse Dance Styles by Goldsmiths University of London, with a new MA in Diasporic Dance Styles awaiting validation; and our Memories in Motion exhibition took us on a journey through IRIE!'s movement heritage.

We were delighted to reintroduce IRIE! dance theatre's performance company - a 5-week Research & Development period resulted in the creation of GROUNDATION Dancing from the Archive. This choreographic work was performed by the new company of 6 dancers and 3 musicians and was performed to and enthusiastically received by full houses for all 7 shows in London and Liverpool.

New developments for the new year include IRIE! Kitchen at the Moonshot Centre; we have revived the café area as a space where the community is welcome to share delicious food at affordable prices. From January to April, the cafe will host Soup Mondays and Juice Tuesdays as part of the Lewisham Local Warm Welcome programme for local people to enjoy for free or on a pay-what-you-can basis, alongside free and affordable activities.

In January, we will be piloting Dance Advance Training (IDAT) programme for young people between ages 13-18 and embarking on Talking Drum, a new project focusing on widening the participation in the heritage of drumming. In 2024 we aim for our community programme to continue to engage people across age groups, genders, ethnicities and communities and build on the organisation's success of reaching new audiences of up to 2,000 through outreach and inhouse activities last year.

This year we will continue to develop our partnerships with new schools, support our youth dance company to go from strength to strength, and increase the range of local groups hiring our space.

We are moving into the new year with a clearer vision for development, growth, and inspired partnerships as we continue to strengthen the company's operations. Naturally, the necessary ingredients for the success of IRIE! are YOU!, the IRIE! team, trustees, partners, funders, volunteers, students and the community. THANK YOU! Keep reading, as there is much more to get excited about!

Beverley Glean MBE
Artistic Director and CEO



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW 2023



Re-introduction of IRIE! dance theatre performance company – Research & Development, GROUNDATION Dancing from the Archive production.

175

Children and Young Peoples workshops delivered

3,507

children and young reached

One-week international exchange with Spice Dance Group from Grenada.



25

Volunteers engaged

12,201

people engaged in dance and cultural activities



Screening of Kumina Queen documentary by Nyasha Laing.

7

local and regional performances of GROUNDATION: Dancing from the Archive

2,097

unique participants

Delivered Memories in Motion physical exhibition – A Journey through IRIE!’s movement heritage.



18

professional artists engaged in the making of GROUNDATION: Dancing from the Archive

Goldsmiths

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Goldsmiths Validation of BA (Hons) Diverse Dance Styles.

Total reached

17,830

COMMUNITY IN-HOUSE PROGRAMME

African Dance

£6.00

Days: **Tuesdays**

Time: **7:30pm – 9:00pm**

23rd January – 26th March

Learn traditional West African dance and the drum languages in a fun and safe space.

Open to all abilities and ages.



Moonshot Lions Dominoes Club



Join Moonshot Lions Weekly Dominoes sessions. Open to all ages and abilities.

Days: **Wednesdays**

Time: **6:00pm – 9:00pm**

10th January – 12th March

FREE

Days: **Wednesdays**

Time: **7:30pm – 8:30pm**

24th January – 27th March

£6.00

Women's Only Class with Naa Dedei Honesty

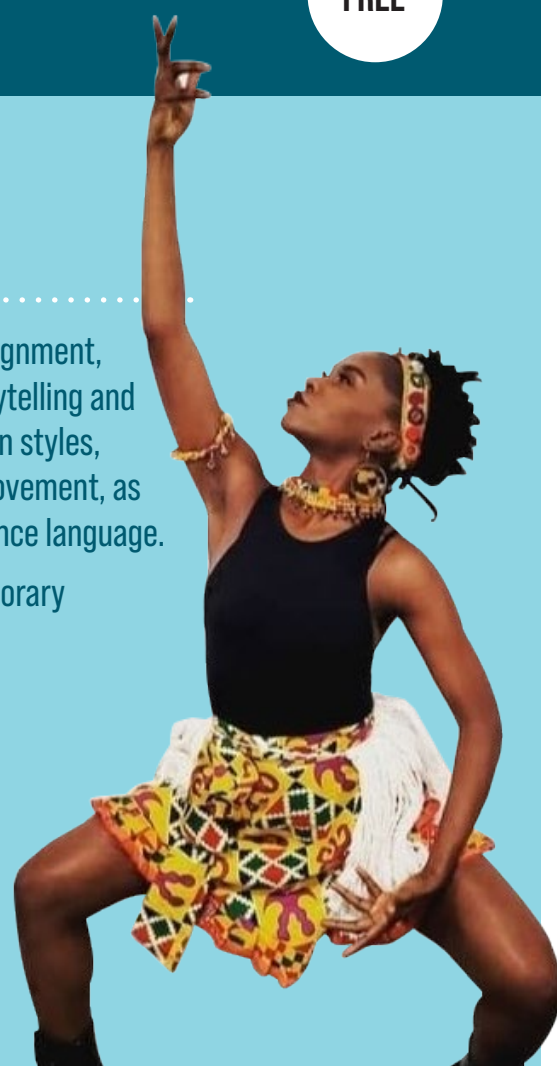
Naa Dedei Honesty delivers: Soul Driven Alignment, which allows the dancers to focus on storytelling and expressing themselves through Afro Fusion styles, primarily using West African traditional movement, as well as your very own unique free-flow dance language.

The class will be a fusion style of Contemporary and Afrobeats.

Focus points:

- **Have Fun**
- **Free to release in an inviting and safe space**

Open to all ages and abilities.



Hip-hop & Urban Dance Class



Cynthia is a professional dancer from Paris based in London. She is part of paradox sal crew, with whom she has been travelling worldwide performing and giving workshops.

Under the umbrella of street dance, she has focused on hip hop and house to express herself. She will be sharing her knowledge, help you gain confidence in your movement, as well as challenge your physical condition in a safe environment.

Intermediate to advanced level.

Days: **Thursdays**

Time: **7:00pm – 8:15pm**

1st February – 4th April

£6.00

Talking Drum at Drumology

Join Nii Boye and Nii Kwartey in talking drum as you learn the rhythms of Africa connect your mind, body and soul. The sessions are for all ages and skills levels. Come and participate with family & friends.

We strongly recommend, if you have your own Djembe drum, that you bring it to the class. If you wish to purchase (Djembe) please speak to Nii Boye or Nii Kwartey.

Drumology is part of IRIE!'s Talking Drum programme.

Open to all ages and abilities.



Days: **Saturdays**

Time: **11am – 1:00pm**

27th January – 30th March

£6.00

OTHER CLASSES AT IRIE!



Days: **Mondays**

Time: **10am – 11:30am**

15th, 22nd and 29th January & 5th February

Full Day Workshop:

Monday 26th February 10am – 5:00pm

BOTH Dance: Monday Morning Ballet

An intermediate /advance drop-in-class for adult learners who wish to keep strengthening their ballet technique whilst moving with fluidity and flavour.

Last class of each block will be accompanied by a musician.

www.bothdanceclasses.com

Info@bothdance.com

For bookings & more information.

£13.00 drop-in
£10.00 with
block bookings

Dancehall & Soca Fitness – Maroon Fitness

Days: **Mondays**

Time: **7:00pm – 8:00pm**

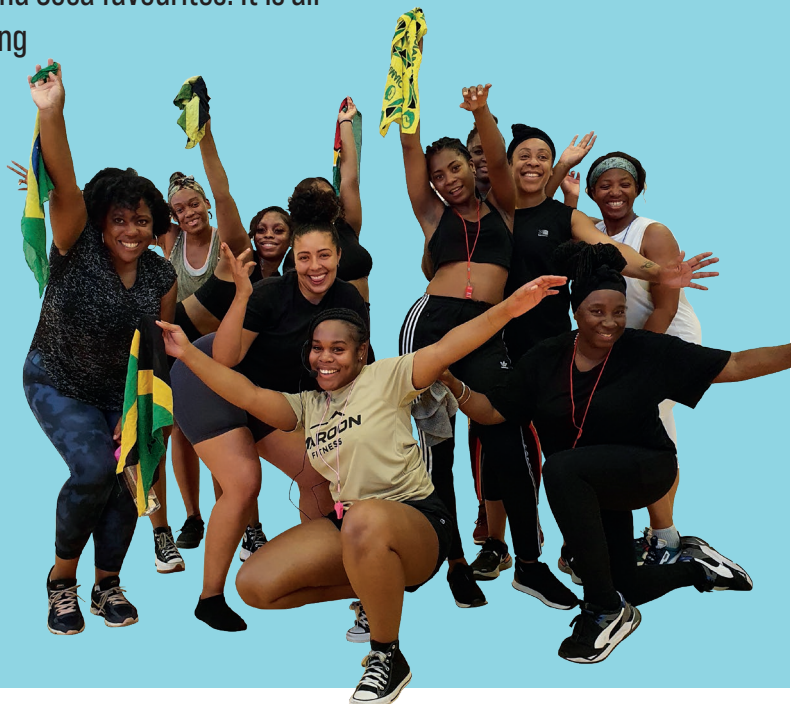
8th January – 25th March

£8.00

Dancehall & Soca Fitness brings the party every Wednesday evening. During this high intensity dance-fitness class expect to sweat, twerk, and whine to all your Dancehall and Soca favourites. It is all about fun and getting your cardio in.

Bring your bestie along to bruk it down with you!

Suitable for all levels. Please wear comfortable clothing, bring water, and loads of enthusiasm.



OTHER CLASSES AT IRIE!

Muay Thai

Muay Thai is known as the art of 8 limbs, practitioners are taught to strike with their hands, elbows, knees, and feet.

Richard has been a student and practitioner of this martial art since 1994 and the cross-over benefits of health and well-being are numerous:

- Balance
- Flexibility
- Co-ordination
- Strength
- Self-defence
- Self-confidence
- Self-control
- Stress reduction

The list could go on, his goal is to make the art accessible for everyone regardless of their current experience.

£15 per session
£50 block booking
for the month

Days: **Mondays**
Time: **7:00pm – 8:30pm**
8th January – 26th February



Planet Hoop

Hello everyone, my name is Clara from Planet Hoop, and I am your local Hoop teacher. In 2023, Planet Hoop is back at the Moonshot Centre in 2023, with an exciting new course.

Hoopng is a fun and creative way to move your body and train your mind. In this course, you will be introduced to a series of new hoop tricks, called isolations, body rolls and coinflips. I will walk you through the basics and give you direct feedback while you learn.

Everyone is encouraged to go at their own pace, and variations will be offered to all levels. Join our community and discover the fun in a plastic circle!

Find more details and book a spot at: www.planethoop.co.uk

Whatsapp: **07460767969**

Email: info@planethoop.co.uk

Saturday Special:

Days: **Saturdays**
Time: **11am – 12:30pm**
6th – 20th January

In-house:

Days: **Thursdays**
Time: **7:00pm – 8:30pm**
22nd February – 28th March

IRIE! Warm Welcome

IRIE! is delighted to be part of **Lewisham Local's Warm Welcome programme**, providing support to residents to help combat the impact of cost-of-living crisis on health and well-being.

Our warm welcome offers food, juices, activities and signposting. Everyone is welcome although our programme focuses on communities of New Cross, New Cross Gate and Deptford.

Check out our Programme

MONDAY

IRIE! Kitchen offering culturally diverse pay-what-you-can hearty Winter soups.

1:00pm
to 3:00pm



TUESDAY

IRIE! Kitchen healthy juices, connecting with NHS Diabetes Prevention Service weekly sessions at the Moonshot Centre.

9:15am
to 2:15pm

Meet Up – a partnership with Community Connection Lewisham (CCL) a space for local elders and younger neighbours to meet. If you are interested in attending contact Connor on:

connor.taylor@iriedancetheatre.org
or call: 0208 6916099

WEDNESDAY

Moonshot Lions Dominoes Club – a group for elders, all abilities are welcome to come and try this traditional game.

6.00pm
to 9:00pm



SATURDAY

Drumology – African and Caribbean drumming workshops building community and individual health and well-being.

11am
to 1:00pm



UPCOMING EVENTS

IDAT: IRIE! Dance Advance Training

Based at the Moonshot Centre in New Cross, IRIE! dance theatre is Britain's leading dance theatre company working in the field of African & Caribbean dance fusion, that supports young people who have an interest in Dance of the African diaspora (DAD). IRIE! delivers the BA(Hons) Diverse Dance Styles degree presenting African, Caribbean, Contemporary and Hip-Hop dance forms equally. Validated by Goldsmiths, University of London, it is the first degree of its kind in the UK. Through a first-class training programme, we are leading the way in creating opportunities for young dancers in the field of Dance of the African Diaspora training. Our students work with a large team of professional dance artists and other like-minded young people from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

We are looking for young people from London and the surrounding areas, with strong physical awareness, creativity, and the ability to work independently and as part of a team.

OUR CORE CLASSES INCLUDE:

- African Dance
- Contemporary Technique
- Caribbean Dance
- Hip Hop Dance styles

In addition to our weekly classes, we offer enrichment activities and additional support, including:

- Audition support and preparation
- Performance Opportunities
- Opportunities to view IRIE! Dance theatre rehearsals/ performances
- Theatre trips
- Summer Intensives
- Projects and workshops

Our curriculum gives a strong basic grounding in technical and creative skills. It is an ideal introduction to the wider dance profession, enabling all students to apply to a range of dance colleges, conservatoires, and universities, should they wish to.

The programme will start: **Saturday 20th January.**

For more information, please contact:
info@iriedancetheatre.org

IRIE! dance theatre - leading the way in creating opportunities for young dancers centred around African and Caribbean dance & movement.



IRIE! kitchen

THE CARIBBEAN FUSION CAFE

Pop in for a real coffee, pastries and snacks

EAT IN OR
TAKE AWAY

FANCY SOME LUNCH?

Why not try something from our menu?

A selection of Caribbean dishes, including vegetarian and vegan.

A selection from our menu available each day.

20%

DISCOUNT

if you produce this
flyer on your first
purchase

Opening times: 9.00am to 5.30pm

Tuesday to Friday



Come and check us out!
We're at IRIE! dance theatre,
Moonshot Centre,
Fordham Park SE14 6LU



BA at GOLDSMITHS

From September 2023, Goldsmiths, University of London will validate the BA(Hons) Diverse Dance styles by IRIE! dance theatre.

Based at the Moonshot Centre, just minutes from Goldsmiths' campus, the partnership offers the potential for exciting collaborations and opportunities to join forces with other creative and innovative practitioners.

Professor Frances Corner OBE, Warden of Goldsmiths, said:

“Goldsmiths has a strong history of challenging geopolitical and cultural norms in the subjects we teach and study, as does IRIE! dance theatre. Its work is vital in encouraging greater diversity in dance, and through that, into creative disciplines and the creative industries more widely. We are proud to support them in this mission and delighted to deepen civic links with partners here in our Lewisham home.”

Beverley Glean MBE, Founder and Artistic Director of IRIE! dance theatre said:

“This partnership will provide a solid platform for the practice of African and Caribbean dance and culture, including discourse, engagement, and greater understanding. We are committed to nurturing and developing the next generation of creatives in dance by providing a range of options to enhance their understanding of culture and diversity in Dance of the African Diaspora, making the forms important to their future career pathways, communities, and society.”

The BA (Hons) Diverse Dance Styles course was established in 2018 as the first of its kind to present African, Caribbean, Contemporary and Hip-Hop Styles equally. Goldsmiths and IRIE! are also developing a new MA in Diasporic Dance Styles, which will welcome its first cohort of students in September 2024.

Further Information and details of how to apply can be found at:

<https://www.riedancetheatre.org/ba-degree>



TABLE OF ACTIVITIES

Day	Class Description	Time	Cost
Mondays	BOTH Dance: Monday Morning Ballet	10am – 11:30am Full Day Workshop: 10am – 5:00pm	£13.00 drop-in £10.00 with block bookings
	Dancehall & Soca Fitness – Maroon Fitness	7:00pm – 8:00pm	£8.00
	Muay Thai	7:00pm – 8:30pm	£15 per session £50 block booking for the month
Tuesdays	African Dance	7:30pm – 9:00pm	£6.00
Wednesdays	Moonshot Lions Dominoes Club	6:00pm – 9:00pm	FREE
	Women's Only Class	7:30pm – 8:30pm	£6.00
Thursdays	Hip-hop & Urban Dance Class	7:00pm – 8:15pm	£6.00
	Planet Hoop in-house	7:00pm – 8:30pm	£108 – 9 hours across 6 weeks
Saturdays	Talking Drum at Drumology	11am – 1:00pm	£6.00
	Planet Hoop Saturday Special	11am – 12:30pm	

IRIE! dance theatre is proud to have led on the consultation for a Lewisham Maroon Heritage plaque to commemorate the Black People's Day of Action.

On Saturday 2nd March we will be holding an event at Moonshot Centre to remember the march. Check in for more details soon.



Image with kind permission of Peter Arkell Report Digital

AVAILABLE NOW



Moonshot Centre Room Hires

Our dance studios and meeting rooms are available for hire on **Mondays – Friday evenings and Saturday mornings** from only **£9.45 an hour**.

Call **020 8691 6099** for more information.

www.iredancetheatre.org/community-wellbeing

IRIE!
dance
theatre

IRIE! dance theatre
Moonshot Centre
Angus Street
New Cross SE14 6LU

Phone: **020 86916099**

www.iredancetheatre.org

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THE CLOTHWORKERS' FOUNDATION

Sporting Equals
Promoting ethnic diversity across sport & physical activity

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