



**DANCE
WITH
US!**

**BECOME A DANCER
WITH
PLATFORM K**

Do you dream of becoming a dancer? Are you interested in developing and challenging your own ways of moving? Are you open to learning from other dancers and makers? Then Platform K might be what you're looking for!

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BECOME A DANCER WITH PLATFORM K

1. WHAT DOES PLATFORM K DO?

Platform K is an inclusive dance company **1** for disabled dancers, offering contemporary dance training. **2** Through dance training with experienced coaches and artistic projects **3** Platform K prepares dancers for the professional field. **4**

1. A dance company is a group of people who dance and create performances together. Platform K is an inclusive company, which means that Platform K works with both disabled and non-disabled people.

2. A contemporary dance training programme is a place where you learn about and create contemporary dance. Contemporary dance is a style of dance. Alongside set techniques, there's also room for free movement and improvisation. Improvisation means making up movements on the spot, based on your imagination or a prompt. In our contemporary dance training programme, you're guided by various dance coaches towards becoming a contemporary dancer.

3. Platform K's artistic projects are art projects — such as performances — where dancers collaborate with professional artists to create something new.

4. The professional field refers to the people and organisations who make a career out of dance.

Platform K is committed to creating inclusion and connection on the dance floor. We organise open dance sessions for anyone eager to move. Together, we create a safe(r) and inspiring space for all forms of movement.

‘Open Dance Jams’ are free improvisation moments with live music where everyone is welcome to join, regardless of level, age or (physical) ability. (Almost) every Friday afternoon, Platform K organises an ‘Open Friday’. These are sessions in instant composition ⁵ and improvisation for experienced dancers.

⁵. Instant composition means creating movements together on the spot, based on the space, your fellow dancers, your emotions, the music, etc.





In addition to weekly dance training, Platform K creates performances with experienced dancers from their dance company, in collaboration with professional choreographers. **6**

Platform K creates performances that reach broad audiences across Flanders and beyond. Platform K dancers have performed in countries such as Switzerland, South Africa, and Germany.

Through longer residencies **7** internships and workshops, advanced dancers gain experience in new environments.

6. Choreographers are people who create dance performances and ways of moving.

7. A residency is a period in which someone works on a project and develops new ideas, supported by an organisation. At Platform K, residencies always involve a collaboration with a choreographer.

Platform K collaborates with several cultural institutions **8** for residencies and training sessions, such as Kunstencentrum VIERNULVIER, KAAP, GRIP, De Grote Post, CAMPO and Opera Ballet Vlaanderen.

8. Cultural institutions are organisations focused on art and culture, such as museums, concert halls, theatres, etc.

2. DANCING WITH PLATFORM K

Platform K welcomes dancers who want to grow professionally, based on their individuality, motivation, and passion. We co-create a personal trajectory tailored to your interests, abilities and development.

the dance studio

The dance studio provides a professional contemporary dance programme for young adults with a disability, talent, and ambition to grow as a dancer.

We offer a curriculum of contemporary dance, yoga and space for personal artistic research. **9** Currently, Platform K runs two dance studios: one in Ghent and one in Brussels.

9. Artistic research is a process of exploring topics through art-making — for example, discovering new movements or ways of dancing based on a subject that interests you.

In the dance studio, you're free to explore new ways of moving. We encourage you to learn from coaches and fellow dancers, driven by curiosity and joy in movement. The training introduces different movement styles and gradually builds towards contact improvisation. **10** In this way, we not only discover our own bodies but also learn from group and partner work.

Your artistic individuality **11** and personal journey take centre stage. We reinforce these with dance technique **12** and choreography. This helps us push our boundaries, challenge ourselves, and build stamina. We care for our bodies by training strength, flexibility and balance in yoga. We go to performances and reflect on them together.

10. Contact improvisation involves creating movement together with others through physical contact.

11. Your 'artistic individuality' is the personal way you move, based on your talent and identity.

12. Dance technique classes teach you new movements and help improve your overall dance skills.

Depending on your individual trajectory, you train one or more days a week at the dance studio. You move through different stages and are gradually prepared for residencies, productions **13** and collaborations with choreographers.

13. 'Productions' is the word we use for performances.

We work in small and mid-sized groups to ensure proper guidance. Each training includes a teacher and support person. Platform K believes it's essential that you get the space you need to grow as a dancer. The team helps find ways to meet your needs — such as visualised day schedules, translation from English to Dutch, or a low-stimulation room. For extensive care needs (e.g., personal hygiene), we ask that you provide your own support where possible.

Every dancer progresses at their own pace. Some advance to the stage more quickly than others. You're challenged in proportion to your abilities and goals. Once a year, we organise a conversation in which you discuss your process and well-being with the dance coaches.

dance trajectories

The dance workplace consists of three trajectories. You start in the entry-level group and gradually develop into an experienced dancer.

Entry-level group

The entry-level group provides a basic training for dancers starting at Platform K. You train once per week. The focus lies on discovering your own dancing body, starting from a base of contemporary dance. You can stay in this group for a maximum of two years before moving on to another level. Talent and motivation to grow professionally are essential.

When?

Training every Wednesday, except during school holidays.

What do we do?

- One training session per week
- A public showing
- We attend a performance together
- One individual coaching conversation per year

Intermediate Group

The intermediate group is for dancers who are looking for more of a challenge beyond the basics. They can join sessions in both the entry and experienced groups. It's the next step for those ready to train twice per week. Sessions are faster-paced and include multiple teachers.

When?

Training every Wednesday and Friday, except during school holidays.

What do we do?

- Two weekly training sessions
- A public showing and some additional projects
- We attend performances together
- One individual coaching conversation per year

Experienced group

The experienced group is for dancers who want to fully commit to a professional dance practice. In addition to weekly training, you take part in workshops and are encouraged to pursue supplementary training in other programmes or companies. Professionalism, engagement and relative autonomy ¹⁴ are key. You develop your dance identity ¹⁵ and language: Who are you as a dancer? What stories and images do you want to share? How do you define your dance language? ¹⁶

¹⁴. Autonomy means you can work independently, with little additional support.

¹⁵. Your dance identity reflects who you are as a dancer, what you're curious to explore, and how you prefer to move.

¹⁶. Your dance language is how you move and respond to what you've learned.

When?

Training every Tuesday and Friday (Open Friday), except during school holidays.

What do we do?

- Two weekly training sessions
- Workshops and external internships (at other dance schools or companies)
- Public showings
- Attending performances together
- One individual coaching conversation per year



the compagny

The dance company consists of the dancers from the experienced group who are ready for professional productions. Dancers in the company can participate in (co-)productions **17**. As a company dancer, you are expected to keep your agenda open for rehearsals and performances. You are willing to train during evenings and weekends and to tour with productions. **18**

This may involve travel and time away from home, always supported by the Platform K team. We'll discuss all planning, needs and expectations together and in advance.

17. A co-production is a collaboration between different organisations who co-create a performance.

18. Touring means travelling to various cities or countries to perform.

residencies and projects

In a residency, you collaborate with a professional choreographer. Residencies offer time and space to dive into the studio without the pressure of a finalised result. Exchange and experimentation are central. A residency does not necessarily end in a performance, but often includes a presentation moment in some form. Platform K offers two residencies annually, supported logistically by CC De Grote Post and CAMPO, and funded by the City of Ghent, Province of East Flanders and the Flemish Government.

As a Platform K dancer, you can also take part in various other projects — such as Day of Dance, project weeks at art schools (KASK, P.A.R.T.S., Conservatoire of Antwerp), and initiatives by external artists or choreographers.

want to join?

try-outs 19

19. A try-out is a trial session — a chance to join a training and see if it's right for you.

Want to join our dance training? Register for one of our try-outs in September!

Visit our website for more info and dates: www.platform-k.be

During the try-outs, you'll discover whether our training suits you.

You'll meet the group and teachers, and take part in the training.

We look at your individuality, learning ability and motivation as a dancer. After two try-outs, we decide together whether you'll start the programme or whether the open dance offer is more suitable for you.

To register for the try-outs, go to www.platform-k.be. Go to 'Sign up for try-outs'. Fill in your details and we'll contact you as soon as possible.

register

Once we agree the programme is right for you, you can register as a dancer with Platform K.

Fees:

We use a pay what you can system with three rates: standard rate, reduced rate (for those on a tighter budget) and solidarity rate (you pay a bit more to help make participation possible for others).



practical

The dance training runs from September to June. There's sessions during (school) holidays and public holidays. Being part of the programme means commitment and regular attendance.

What does a typical day at Platform K look like?

Dancers are welcome from 09:30 to get changed and prepare.

10:30 – 12:00 Morning training (with a focus on body work)

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch break

13:00 – 16:00 Afternoon training with break (with a focus on contemporary dance)

3. WHO, WHAT, WHERE?

Platform K works with a core group of teachers, supported by guest teachers, volunteers and interns. You can find and contact all staff via the Platform K website.

GHENT

Kunstencentrum VIERNULVIER

Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 23, 9000 Ghent

Contact

frauke.seynnaeve@platform-k.be

Accessibility

The dance studios are on the first floor. The lift at the entrance leads directly to the dance studios.

BRUSSELS

P.A.R.T.S.

Van Volxemlaan 164-166, 1190 Brussels

Contact

brecht.vanvliet@platform-k.be

Accessibility

Training takes place in the building to the left of the main entrance. Studios are wheelchair accessible via the side of the building.

