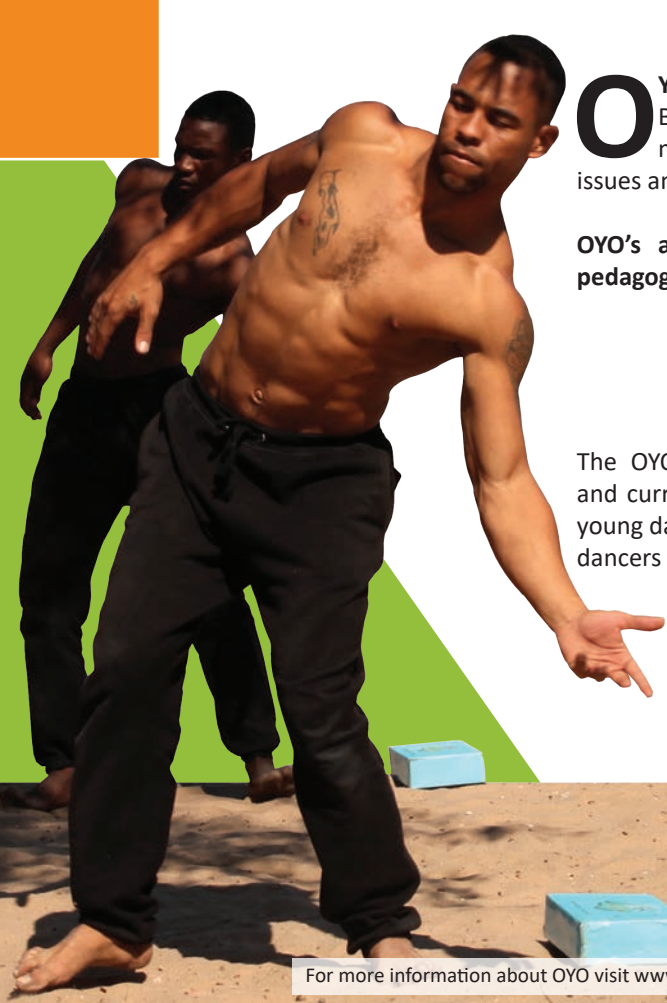


# OYO DANCE TROUPE

2018 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



SUMMER OPTION: 30 JULY – 24 AUGUST  
FALL OPTION: 15 OCTOBER – 09 NOVEMBER



**O**YO is a Namibian trust that creates social awareness using the arts. Building on the cultural significance in Namibia of dance, drama and music, the OYO Trust uses arts with young people to tackle social issues and promote behaviour change.

**OYO's application of a highly participatory... and learner-centred pedagogy represents a model of excellence and best practice.**

**Hon. Nangolo Mbumba,**  
*MP, Minister for Education, September 2009*

The OYO dance troupe, created in 2009, is the first, and currently only, dance troupe in Namibia employing young dancers as performers. Our troupe comprises 10 dancers and two understudies.



For more information about OYO visit [www.ombetja.org](http://www.ombetja.org) or like our facebook page [www.facebook.com/OYOtrust](http://www.facebook.com/OYOtrust).

## OYO'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

**O**YO's dancers are self-taught. They all come from under-privileged backgrounds. With experiences ranging from two to nine years, they have developed an amazing repertoire and a revolutionary way to look at dance as a tool for social change. This programme aims to share our approach while learning from dancers who have trained differently from us.

We are seeking six outstanding, self-motivated and energetic dancers with a desire to experience dance in a development context and work with members of the OYO Dance Troupe to create a piece to reach students and members of the public.

The piece will directly tackle a social issue that is pertinent to the moment and community. We are looking for talented individuals who have the skills to work creatively and to a tight deadline, who are vibrant, reliable performers and who are interested in sharing, learning and making a difference.



**O**n this dance experience with OYO, there will be three weeks of full-day rehearsals in Windhoek to exchange skills and create the new piece, immediately followed by performances.

Each invited dancer will be in charge of a day, to share with others and the company his/her skills. You will therefore have a chance to teach, but also learn from other professionals and from the OYO dance troupe.



The show venues may be schools, with indoor or outdoor spaces, and/or community venues. There will be no sprung floors and sometimes surfaces will be concrete and/or dusty. Performances may be followed by facilitated discussions to maximise the opportunity for behaviour change. There could be one or multiple venues in a day, and each day will include unpredictable last minute changes, so we're looking for adaptable positive people who are expert at improvising, not just as dancers!

Extracts from past work:

**The phantom of Namibia:**

<https://youtu.be/zWQchb8E1fc>

**Thiasus:**

<https://youtu.be/D5DI9YwHlx8>

**R**ehearsals will

be led by OYO's founding Artistic Director, Philippe Talavera.

The visiting artists will be invited to facilitate classes and will contribute to the creative process. OYO uses mostly physical theatre techniques, with influences dependent upon the expertise of the visiting artists (i.e. you and the Namibian dancers).

As a professional dancer you will gain a unique experience working on different surfaces, experiencing a different type of training, moving differently with dancers who have been trained in a rougher manner. You will also gain experience about development, the NGO world and the impact narrative dance can have to address social issues.

We will also benefit from your experience. We will hopefully learn from your technique, your movement vocabulary, your experiences. This programme is about sharing and creating new dance networks between Namibia and the rest of the world.



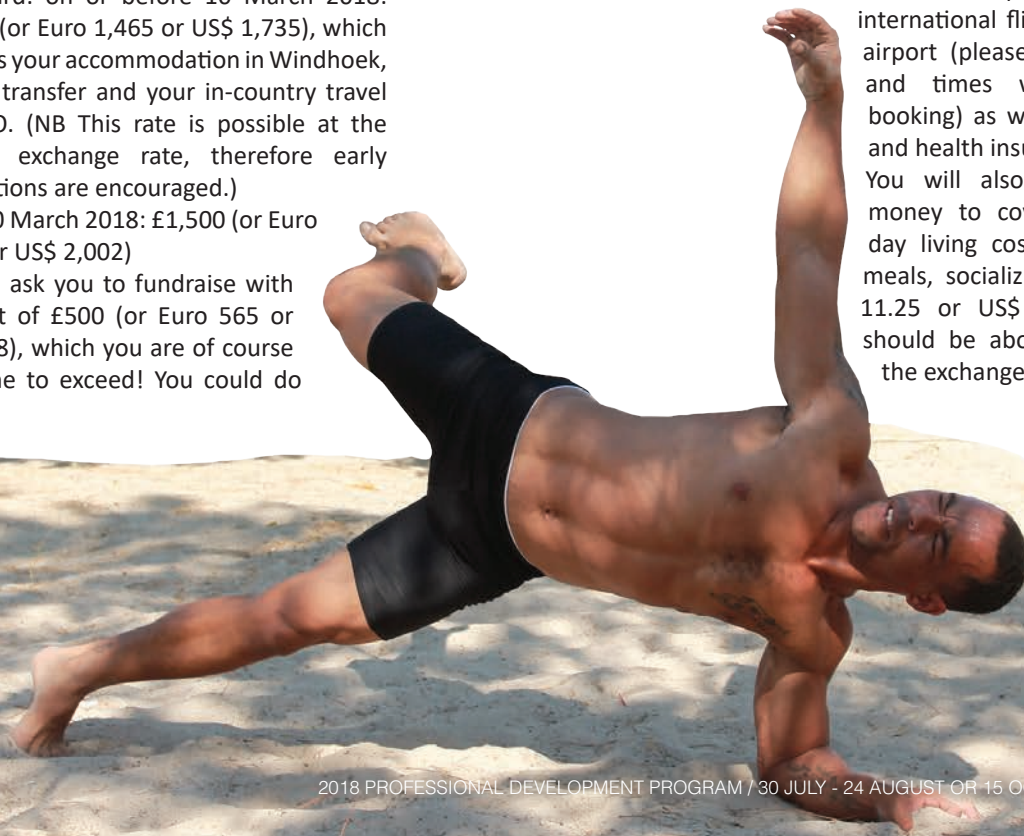
## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

- Early bird: on or before 10 March 2018: £1,300 (or Euro 1,465 or US\$ 1,735), which includes your accommodation in Windhoek, airport transfer and your in-country travel for OYO. (NB This rate is possible at the current exchange rate, therefore early applications are encouraged.)
- After 10 March 2018: £1,500 (or Euro 1,690 or US\$ 2,002)
- We will ask you to fundraise with a target of £500 (or Euro 565 or US\$ 648), which you are of course welcome to exceed! You could do

a sponsored run, singathon, speed-dating or wine-tasting. This is to raise awareness of what you are doing and to provide OYO with much-needed core funding.

- You need to book and pay for your own international flight to Windhoek airport (please agree on dates and times with us before booking) as well as your travel and health insurance.

You will also want to bring money to cover your day-to-day living costs i.e. transport, meals, socializing £10 (or euro 11.25 or US\$ 13.30) per day should be about right, though the exchange rate varies.



## HOW DO I APPLY?

**P**lease send us your CV and your statement of interest, explaining why you'd like to spend four weeks with OYO. Indicate if you are applying for the summer or the fall option. Include what you think you could offer to the OYO Dance Troupe in terms of your dance skills, experience and interest. Please confirm in your letter that you are able to cover all the costs indicated above. Email your CV and motivation letter to [OYOinternship@gmail.com](mailto:OYOinternship@gmail.com) with a copy to [philippe@ombetja.org](mailto:philippe@ombetja.org) and [info@ombetja.org](mailto:info@ombetja.org)

Pre-selected candidates will then be invited to a skype interview. Successful candidates will be informed within two weeks of the interview.





- Learn
- Share
- Perform
- Care

# OYO'S DANCE TROUPE

**2018 PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
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