


Make a Move
moving for the mind

Press release 8/2/17

Bath's Huge Children's Dance Event Seeks Sponsors

Every year thousands of children in Bath & NE Somerset take part in the **Dance Umbrella Schools Festival** - an amazing week of dance performed to an 800-strong audience each night.

This year there will be 99 dances in total, performed over 5 nights – every night sees performances from different schools across Bath. Tickets for the event, at Bath's Forum, are hugely sought-after and usually sold-out well in advance. Tickets were so in demand last year that this year an extra night has been added.

Dance Umbrella, now in its 14th year, is run by Bath and North East Somerset School Sport Partnership and sees pupils from schools across BANES perform pieces choreographed and rehearsed in PE lessons and afterschool club sessions. Despite the huge popularity of the event, funds are desperately needed to secure the future of **Dance Umbrella**.

Michelle Rochester is co-founder and key organiser of **Dance Umbrella**. Every year Michelle coordinates and rehearses over 2000 children and produces the show. Michelle says

*"This is the largest children's event that takes place in the county, and we are very proud of it. **We are also looking for a sponsor.** We encourage bath-based businesses, whether local or national, to get in touch and have a conversation with us, with a view to getting their name associated with this amazing, massive and inspiring event that touches the lives of thousands of children and their families every year. All level of opportunities are available, from support with the programme to sponsorship of the entire event."*

== ENDS ==

Notes for editors

Dance Umbrella performances are on Thursday 23 March (for Key Stage 1 students) and Monday 27 - Thursday 30 March (Key Stage 2 students).

Michelle Rochester, mentioned above, is also founder of Keynsham-based movement for wellbeing charity **Make a Move**.

About Make a Move

Make a Move is a charity made up of, and working with, expert practitioners to support children, young people and older people, new mums, employers & the community. The charity designs and delivers tailored sessions and projects using movement and other creative approaches to well-being, including mindfulness & meditation.

The importance of connection is fundamental to our work – the connection between body and mind, and connections between people. We take our work seriously but aim to inspire laughter, encourage a sense of fun and promote happiness.

We bring communities together by moving, talking, laughing and enjoying being part of something special. We aim to inspire everyone to make better life choices whilst engaging in physical activity and meeting others.

Charity founder Michelle Rochester is also co-founder of Dance Umbrella, an annual event which brings together thousands of children and young people from schools and youth projects across B&NES.

Make a Move is based in Keynsham, a small town near Bath and Bristol. Most of our work is in BANES but we also work in Bristol. In 2015 the charity received a lottery grant, to support our work with mums suffering from low mood, for three years. In 2016 we celebrated our 5th birthday.

Donations

Local Giving page: <https://localgiving.org/makeamove>

Newsletter

Signup to the newsletter via Facebook, the website, or here: <http://eepurl.com/b3a0AT>

Online

www.makeamove.org.uk

facebook.com/makeamoveorg

twitter @makeamove4

Contacts

Michelle Rochester, charity founder and CEO is available for interview – contact her directly using daturasdance@yahoo.co.uk or 07595 702 874

For other media enquiries please contact Beccy Golding, chief of communications, via beccy@makeamove.org.uk or 07946 400 228

Photos

These photos are from a previous Dance Umbrella. Contact us for bigger versions or photo opps for this year's event.

