

Charlie Ranken

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Experience

Young Devon

05-2024 - ongoing

Designing & Delivering Artistic Health Workshops

Building on my experience as an In-Reach Worker with some of the most vulnerable young people at Young Devon, I now work freelance to pilot creative practices, exploring approaches that support their wellbeing, resilience, and artistic development.

Landmark Theatre North Devon

09-2024 - 07-2025

Speak Up Project Manager and Artist

Project Manager for Speak Up, a National Theatre and Landmark Theatre programme, coordinating creative arts projects across multiple North Devon schools. Responsible for liaising with schools, artists, and partners, managing budgets, logistics, and schedules, and ensuring smooth delivery of workshops and performances. Developed inclusive, safe, and engaging spaces for young people to express themselves, supporting artistic participation, confidence, and creativity. Oversaw project evaluation, documentation, and reporting, demonstrating strong organisational, communication, and problem-solving skills.

Landmark Theatre North Devon

04-2024 - 08-2024

Lead Project Associate Playhouse

As part of the National Theatre Playhouse Programme, I support four teachers in developing their direction and facilitation skills. This involves attending in-school rehearsals, providing feedback on read and run-throughs, and offering notes to enhance performance quality. I assist teachers remotely, face to face and through CPD workshops. For example, 'Making Theatrical Decisions Under Pressure.' I maintain high-quality engagement with schools, encouraging full participation in the script and offer critical feedback to help teachers build confidence and suggest session activities that include all participants.

Theatre Royal Plymouth

01-2018 - ongoing

As a Performer, Practitioner, Choreographer, Movement Director, Assistant Director and Dance Consortium Associate I have had the privilege of working with the Theatre Royal community for over 6 years bringing to life performances and activities such as:

- *Our Space Progression Group*, as Lead Practitioner
- *It's An Emergency!* with the Artist For Change project
- *Genius*, with Playhouse House as Director
- Wolfclose Theatre Company, Movement Director
- *Brainstorm*, with the Young Company
- *Citizen*, as part of the People's Company
- *Sequel*, as a Lab Dance Performer
- Dance Sessions, as Lead Dance Practitioner

Personal Summary

- **Years of experience** collaborating alongside dance and theatre practitioners to bring creative visions to the stage.
 - **Passionate about the impact** that movement brings to artists, the community, and the audience.
 - Belief that **movement can be a tool** to illuminate many creative disciplines and contexts
 - Ability to use my depth of experience and broad skill base to deliver compelling visual performances and **support others to achieve artistic potential.**
- ## Key Skills
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- **Movement and dance** is a passion and something I weave through my work such as a Movement Director and Choreographer.
 - **Creativity** underpins all of my work and my natural collaborative approach enables me to encourage others to grow, develop and create a legacy.
 - **Inclusion** is one of my core values. I work to make the arts accessible and engaging to all - performers and audiences alike.
 - **Project management** My ability to problem solve and work at pace enables me to deliver high quality, on time and on budget.

- Theatre Hubs, as Lead Theatre Practitioner
- Play in a Week, Co-Creator and Director
- *The NHS Musical*, Engagement Producer

Quirk Theatre Exeter

10- 2022 - 01-2024

Movement Director. *Mary The Pigeon* and *5 Children & It*. I was responsible for choreographing a playful physical language to enhance storytelling and character development. I collaborated with the director to support staging, problem solving and delivered training to support techniques that improve physical expressiveness, character work and stage presence.

City College Plymouth

02-2022 - 02-2023

Performing Arts Movement Director and Choreographer and Dance Lecturer for BTEC theatre students. Supporting the curriculum with industry experience, dual working with college lecturers and challenging both actors and dancers to reach their potential.

Barbican Theatre

09-2019 - 2024

A regular contributor to productions and programme development at the Barbican Theatre I am able to share professional practice, perform and mentor other artists and work in interdisciplinary context through:

- Master Classes, Movement Practitioner
- Movers & Shakers with Alleyne Dance, Performer
- ReBels Youth Programme, Lead Practitioner
- Fisherman Parade, Movement Director
- Petrol Headz Tour, Dancer & Drummer
- Mentorship programme, Dance Mentor
- Rebels Who Changed The World, Choreographer

With Flying Colours

10-2019 - 09-2023

Lead Practitioner

Efficient project development excellent partnership skills and budget management have been critical to this role. I have collaborated with several primary school groups to create and direct productions for this project. These have been performed on stage, screened in community buildings, outside on playgrounds and accessed through QR codes. Understanding Co-Creation, working within a formal educational context and supporting children from disadvantaged backgrounds, have enabled me to develop skills to deliver high quality performances.

Plymouth Conservatoire

01-2019 - 07 - 2020

Assistant/Movement Director & Movement Practitioner

Production of 'Stony Mary' 3rd year Acting Degree and delivering movement training for 1st Year students.

Author Tour - Saudi

02-2019

Movement Practitioner Designing and delivering a combined programme for over 400 children at KUAAT school with illustrator and author Laura Wall. The programme considered of different ways children could tell stories; vocally, physically and through drawing.

Qualifications & CPD

Leadership Programme

Sep 2024

Lead and Create

INFUSE Residencies Chris Evans / Rhys Dennis / Chloe Dean

Feb 2024/July 2024/Dec 2024
Babel Theatre

Artistic Development Mentorship

March 2023

Alleyne Dance

MA Contemporary Performance Practice

August 2020

Royal Holloway University of London

PGDip Dance & Physical Theatre

November 2010

Royal Holloway University with Jasmin Vardimon Dance

BA Hons Dance

June 2006

University of Chichester

Art of Movement (Laban)

January 2020

University of Surrey

Diploma in Specialist Support for Teaching & Learning

August 2014

City & Guilds

Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector

December 2008

Edexcel

NVQ 2 Youth Work

July 2007

ABC Awards



Additional Experience

Young Devon, Youth Worker & In Reach Worker

2022 - 2024

Providing support for youth violence and hospital discharge projects enabling individual and groups of young people to take part in positive therapeutic activities and have their voices heard.

Partnership working and relationship development are essential.

The 40 Project, Founder

2019 - ongoing

A community project to provide vulnerable women in Plymouth with sanitary kits on a monthly basis. I brought a community of women together and raised funds and corporate support to deliver care and assistance to local women.

By Design Theatre, Co-Founder

2018 - 2022

Developed a collaborative theatre company delivering interactive dance and theatre experiences. Provided tailored packages in care homes and celebrations for the Mayflower 400. Developed website, resources and produced activities to engage a broad audience. Produced a radio play funded by Vital Sparks in the pandemic, with a community cast called 'Blooming Buds of May.'

English Martyrs Primary School, TA & LSA

2013 - 2015

As a teaching assistant and learning mentor I focused on class interventions and creating bespoke 1:1 learning opportunities centred on the child. A role requiring creative flexibility, clarity of boundaries and an ability to remain focused on the specific needs of the children.

Dance Core, Director and Founder

2009 - 2014

Fuelled by a belief that dance and movement should be accessible to all I founded and grew a not-for-profit dance centre engaging young people who would not traditionally have a pathway into dance. I created the brand, logo, website and marketing ideas. Managing a team of instructors and assistants across multiple sites, teaching over 100 dancers weekly, hosting annual shows with audiences of more than 400 people, again, many of whom would not traditionally engage in dance and theatre.

West Sussex County Council, Youth Worker

2004 - 2011

I worked with a range of young people and engaged them in informal education and positive activities. I established Vibe - a youth dance company - and ran a village youth club. A confident approach to other agencies and services, was a necessity.

Highbury College, Dance/Physical Theatre Lecturer

2007 - 2008

Creating course content, planning and delivering sessions, evaluating and grading course work and final assessments. I also had to structure termly programmes for different years and levels and provide tutorials and extra support where needed.