OPEN CALL FOR 6 DANCE PROFESSIONALS

FREE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING TO TO DESIGN AND LEAD DANCE PROGRAMMES IN PRISON

Brindisi, Italy | 2027 | Erasmus+ | *IN-SIDE | Innovative Framework for Professional Dance Education in Prison Contexts*

Can dance create a space of freedom even within a prison? How do you teach dance in prison? What skills are needed to develop an artistic and educational programme for people deprived of their liberty?

The Erasmus+ project **IN-SIDE is launching a European open call for six dancers, choreographers and dance teachers** to take part in practical training at Brindisi Prison in 2027.

We are looking for professionals motivated to learn how to design and lead dance programmes in prison, sharing their artistic practice with people deprived of liberty.

Previous experience in prison settings is not required. A meaningful artistic and professional background, empathy, openness, listening skills and genuine motivation are essential.

Applications are open until 23 December 2026.

Training is free, and travel, accommodation and meals are covered by the project.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

IN-SIDE – Innovative Framework for Professional Dance Education in Prison Contexts is an Erasmus+ vocational education and training project coordinated by **AlphaZTL Compagnia d'Arte Dinamica**, led by choreographer **Vito Alfarano**, in partnership with **DA.TE Danza** (Spain) - led by choreographer **Omar Meza**, **Asturia** (Belgium) and **Ente di Formazione Futura** (Italy).

Since 2015, AlphaZTL has delivered an intensive, ongoing dance training programme at Brindisi Prison, supporting emerging talent and creating new productions every year. IN-SIDE builds on this experience to develop a European training model that can be adapted to other prison settings.
The programme combines observation, supervised practice and collective reflection, helping participants adapt their artistic and teaching skills to working in prison.

DA.TE Danza contributes to artistic training and participant selection. Asturia supports guided reflection on educational practice and learning assessment, while Futura contributes to competency assessment tools and the pilot micro-credential awarded upon completion and successful assessment.

THE TRAINING

Training takes place at **Brindisi Prison**, guided by **Vito Alfarano** (AlphaZTL) and **Omar Meza** (DA.TE Danza), with support from the project partners.

The Work-Based Learning programme comprises two phases:

- **25–29 January 2027 | An intensive week of group observation and guided reflection**

  Mornings: 5 hours of guided observation and supervised facilitation activities in prison.
  Afternoons: 2 hours of group reflection on learning.

- **March–May 2027 | Two consecutive weeks of supervised practice**

You will design and lead dance classes and choreographic workshops with a group of incarcerated participants.

The dates will be agreed upon following the selection process between the shortlisted participants and the project team, taking into account the availability and organisational requirements of the prison. **Confirmation of the schedule will be a priority** once the selection process has been completed.

WHO CAN APPLY

Dance professionals aged 18 or over, with documented experience as dancers, teachers and/or choreographers, residing in an **EU Member State**, **Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia or Türkiye**.

Experience in participatory, social or community projects and an interest in developing future dance initiatives in prisons are welcome.

Working language: English. Participants must be able to follow the training and take part in group discussions. Knowledge of Italian is an advantage but is not required.

PRACTICAL CONDITIONS

Training is free. Travel, accommodation and meals are covered by the project. Participation is unpaid.

Participation in the entire programme is required: the week of 25–29 January 2027 and two consecutive weeks between March and May 2027. Availability for the spring phase will be discussed in detail during the interview. Once the dates have been agreed, successful candidates will be asked to confirm in writing their commitment to participate in both phases.

Access to the prison is subject to the institution's procedures and security regulations.

Upon completing the programme succesfully, participants will receive a pilot **micro-credential attesting to the foundational competencies of the "Dance Educator in Prison Contexts" profile.**

HOW TO APPLY

DEADLINE: 23 DECEMBER 2026

Applications must be submitted **exclusively through the online form**, in English, providing

- **An artistic and professional CV in English with a recent photograph:** PDF, maximum 10 MB.
- **A motivation video:** maximum 90 seconds, shared via a link. Explain why you want to work with people deprived of liberty, what you would like to contribute and what you hope to learn. You may speak in your own language, with English subtitles. A smartphone recording is sufficient: technical quality will not be assessed.
- **Any available video links** showing your work as a dancer, teacher and/or choreographer.
- Brief information about your previous experience and knowledge of prison settings.

For accessibility needs, the form allows applicants to replace the motivation video with **a written statement in English of up to 1,500 characters**.

Videos may be shared through YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, Dropbox, OneDrive or similar services. Links must be accessible without requesting permission; include a viewing password if needed.

APPLY ONLINE → https://tally.so/r/5XjXEE

Selection involves an application review and an **online interview for shortlisted applicants with Vito Alfarano and Omar Meza**. The selection process will be completed by **31 December 2026**.

For **enquiries, technical assistance or access and support needs:** progettazionealphaztl@gmail.com
website: **https://alphaztl.com/in-side/**