

**ROYAL ACADEMY
OF DANCE**

The Bedells Bursary

**Friday 31 October & Saturday 1
November 2025**

Candidate Information Pack

188 York Road, London SW11 3JZ
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Patron: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Vice-Patron: HRH The Duchess of Cornwall
President: Dame Darcey Bussell DBE Chairman: Stephen Moss Chief Executive: Tim Arthur
Royal Academy of Dance is a charity registered in England and Wales No.312826



ABOUT

Mission Statement

Recognising young dancers' excellence in artistic and technical achievement and providing opportunities for creativity.

The Competition

Named in honour of Phyllis Bedells, a founder member and vice president of the RAD, this bursary is awarded to young dancers who have passed the RAD Advanced 1 exam with 'Distinction'.

VENUE AND SCHEDULE

Venue

Royal Academy of Dance, 188 York Road, London SW11 3JZ

Schedule

Classes, coaching sessions and performances will take place on Friday 31 October & Saturday 1 November as follows

- **Friday 31 October** - All candidates to participate in a masterclass taught by a leading dance professional and be coached on your chosen Classical Repertoire variation and the Dancer's Own variation.
- **Saturday 1 November** – All candidates will perform classwork and variations in front of our esteemed judges and public audience. The day will finish with the announcement of the winner of The Bedells Bursary, Choreographic Award and Musicality Award.

You will be assessed in a **non-syllabus** Bedells Bursary class at **Advanced 1 level**, performance of your Dancer's Own and Classical Repertoire variation. Candidates must complete all sections of the assessed class to progress to the variations.

Timetable

The final timetable will be dependent on the number of entrants and will be sent to candidates after the closing date. **Approximate** timings for each day are as follows:

Friday 31 October

Activity	Timings
Masterclass	11.00 – 13.30
Coaching of Variations	14.15 – 19.30

Saturday 1 November

Activity	Timings
Classical warm-up	10.00 – 10.30
Performance of the Bedells class and variations	10.45 – 15.30
Announcement of winners and photocall	16.00

FACULTY AND JUDGES

Faculty and Judges to be announced.

ELIGIBILITY

Rules and Conditions of Entry

Candidates must fulfil the following by the closing date:

- Be current members of the RAD.
- Be of non-professional status.
- Have passed the RAD Advanced 1 exam with 'Distinction' awarded by 22 September 2025.
- Must be aged 17yrs or under on 22 September 2025.
- Have not taken the RAD's Advanced 2 exam before 22 September 2025.

Application and fee

- All entries must be made using the online application form.
- The fee of **£96.00** must be paid at the time of application.
- All applications must be received by the closing date, **22 September 2025**.
- Applicants who have taken the required Advanced 1 exam, but are still waiting for their result, may apply if all other entry requirements are met. Applicants must advise by the same date whether they are eligible to enter.
- Candidates who have not achieved the required result by 22 September will be refunded their entry fee.
- A short biography, of not more than 60 words, must be included with the application. Please include details of specific teachers or coaches who have been influential in your training if appropriate.
- A short explanation of why the candidate has selected the classical variation they are to perform, and what has inspired the creation of the Dancer's Own variation, must be included.
- Students may re-apply for The Bedells Bursary as many times as they wish, provided the entry requirements are met.

CLASSICAL REPERTOIRE VARIATIONS

Candidates should choose one of the Repertoire variations listed below.

Music

Reference links on YouTube are provided for information only and are not recommended as suggested tempi or choreography. The time listed indicates the starting point of the variation.

Variations performed en pointe	
Sleeping Beauty – Act III – Princess Florine (Bluebird) (No 24, Variation II L’oiseau Bleu et Florine, 2/4 Andantino time signature)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyc992NDsMw 04.01 – 05.01
Sleeping Beauty - Act III No.2 - Variation IV ‘Diamant’ (Diamond Fairy) (2/4 Vivace time signature, G major)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DF7to1qIGJs 0.00 – 0.54
Coppélia - Act I - Swanilda (Theme Slave Varie 3 rd Variation) (2/4 time signature, A major)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zn1bxP9pSfA 02:10 - 03.00
Swan Lake - Pas de Trois - First Female Variation (<i>Allegro</i> Semplice) (2/4 E flat Major)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrXkp-SjMdc 00:00 – 01:40
Variations performed not en pointe	
Giselle - Act I - Peasant Pas de Deux First Male Variation (2/4 Allegretto time signature, D Major)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4urOHOSP_M 00:00- 00:59
Giselle - Act I - Peasant Pas de Deux Second Male Variation (6/8 time signature, E Major)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NPVAXfOxaM 0:00 – 1:09
Napoli - Pas de Six - 1st Male Variation	Edvard Helsted: Napoli - YouTube

Pianists

You will be allocated an RAD pianist to accompany your classical repertoire variations, with whom will have time to rehearse. Alternatively, you may choose to be accompanied by your own pianist who must be available for both the coaching sessions and the performance.

DANCERS OWN VARIATION

This may be created by the candidate, their teacher or a peer, to a piece of music of their choice. However, to be eligible for the Choreographic Award the variation must be choreographed by the candidate themselves.

- Candidates must prepare a newly choreographed variation no shorter than one minute in length and no longer than one minute and thirty seconds, created by themselves, their teacher or a peer to of their choice.

Candidates are requested to use copyright-free music for their Dancer's Own variation. We cannot guarantee that Dancer's Own variations choreographed to music that under copyright, or licensing will be included in any possible recording of The Bedells Bursary.

Guidelines for choreographer:

- The competition faculty reserve the right to alter the Dancer's Own variation if necessary.

Choreographic considerations:

- Clearly define your choreographic intention and aim to express it consistently throughout your entire solo.

Music guidelines:

- Pieces should be no shorter than one minute in length and no longer than one minute and thirty seconds in duration.
- They should be taken from a recording which has been bought legitimately or recorded for, and licensed to, the candidate.
- If desired, pieces can be an original composition by the student or the result of a collaboration.
- There should contain no internal cuts to the music.
- Candidates are requested to use copyright-free music for their Dancer's Own Variation.
- You must email one copy of your music in .WAV format to the Learning & Participation Department participate@rad.org.uk by **6 October 2025**. This must be the final version that you wish to dance to with any fades at the end of the music already made. Such adjustments cannot be made at The Bedells.
- The quality of the track you provide must be of professional standard as it will be played for the performance to the live audience.

Things to think about:

- How does your music end? Remember it is easy to fade out music, but you cannot fade yourself out from the stage so easily!
- Please choose music carefully, as some tracks have restrictions
- Do not use popular songs, movie/TV soundtracks, e.g. Disney, video game music, or Broadway tunes.
- Be cautious with certain classical recordings, as modern arrangements may still be copyrighted.
- Ensure lyrics are appropriate and free of offensive language.
- To ensure the performance can be included in any recording, consider royalty-free or public domain music.

Choreography declaration:

If you declare that you have choreographed your own piece, it's essential that the work is solely your creation, without input from teachers, peers, or others. Any outside help received will make you ineligible for the Choreographic Award.

Similarly, if you initially indicate that you are **not** choreographing your piece but later state that you are after the closing date, we will not be able to consider you for the award due to programming, scheduling, and printing deadlines.

Please decide carefully and inform us accurately.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

The Bedells Bursary – Overall winner

Candidates are assessed on the work they show and not on any prediction of future promise. The following criteria are followed across both the class work and variations:

Technique

Incorporating:

- Secure posture and weight placement, use of turnout, articulated, clearly defined footwork
- Co-ordinated and sensitive use of the arms and hands in balanced harmony with the whole-body showing breadth of movement, use of épaulement, alignment, head and eye line
- Rhythmical and controlled pirouettes
- Controlled, sustained and co-ordinated adagio movements creating harmonious lines through the whole body
- Effective use of elevation, accurate batterie, and the ability to reflect the dynamics and artistic qualities of the allegro steps
- Use of space

Music

- Rhythmical accuracy and timing
- Inspired and considerate response to musical atmosphere, dynamics and phrasing

Performance

- Confident movements performed with ease and control
- An ability to interpret and express the varying artistic qualities and appropriate styles

Dancer's Own Choreographic Award

This award recognises and promotes choreography in The Bedells Bursary and gives an opportunity to explore creativity and imagination.

Criteria for Choreographic Award

The recipient of this award is the candidate choreographer who in the judges' opinion demonstrates the highest standard of choreography within the variation based on the following assessments:

- Structure
- Dynamics of movement
- Use of space
- Depiction of theme or story
- Choice of and response to music/sound

Musicality Award

Introduced in 2024, this Award recognises and promotes musicality and will be judged across the class work and variations.

Criteria for Musicality Award

The recipient of this Award is the candidate who in the Judges opinion demonstrates the greatest awareness of and response to:

- Dynamics
- Sensitivity to phrasing
- Atmosphere and Temperament
- Aspects of style

AWARDS

The Bedells Bursary

A prize of £1,000 will be awarded to the winner of The Bedells Bursary, generously supported by The Mary Kipps Bequest.

Choreographic Award

A prize of £250 will be awarded and is made possible by a generous bequest from the estate of the late Dr Ivor Guest.

Musicality Award

A prize of £100 will be awarded, generously funded by the Lynn Wallis Bursary Fund.

DRESS CODE

For Masterclass and Bedells Bursary Class

Practice Ballet attire should be worn, and the leotard may be of any colour. Tights should be regulation exam colour. For class, candidates should wear soft pointe shoes or flat ballet shoes and for the pointe work section, pointe shoes with ribbons.

Classical Repertoire Variations

The costume is the candidates' choice but should be appropriate to the variation and a headdress may be worn; alternatively, a leotard with, where appropriate, a tutu or appropriate skirt of any matching colour may be worn.

If you are performing en pointe you must wear pointe shoes with ribbons.

Dancer's Own Variation

Candidates may wear simple costumes and use hand-held props but not include scenery or masks. Costumes must be tasteful, family-friendly, and avoid copyrighted characters. The Bedells audience will include all ages, performances should reflect our diverse audience's values. Thank you for observing these guidelines.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Entry

The closing date is Monday 22nd September 2025.
Candidates must meet the entry qualifications stated.

Application

All entries must be made online – www.royalacademyofdance.org/event/the-bedells-bursary-2025

If you are having trouble using the link above, please go to the 'Events' page on the RAD website and filter on 'Event type' as 'competition' (royalacademyofdance.org/events/)

Competition entry fee

The Bedells Bursary entry fee is £96.00. This includes the masterclass, coaching sessions and the opportunity to perform in front of our judges and a public audience.

Welfare and wellbeing of candidates

At The Bedells, we place the highest importance on your welfare and wellbeing, and we encourage each of you to prioritise it as well. At the RAD, we have a duty of care to provide a safe and supportive environment and promote the health and wellbeing of all participants.

Medical conditions and allergies

When applying for The Bedells, you will be asked to notify us of any medical conditions or allergies. For your own safety, it is important that you give us this information.

In the event of an emergency

In the event of an injury or medical emergency, a qualified first aider will provide treatment and assistance. Parents or guardians will be notified of the incident, and an accident report form will be completed.

Chaperones

We provide chaperones who will be responsible for candidates under the age of 18 across the two days. All chaperones have current criminal record checks (DBS or equivalent) in place and are briefed on the RAD's safeguarding policies and procedures.

Candidates will not be permitted to leave the Royal Academy of Dance during the two days unless accompanied by a parent, guardian, or teacher.

Taking care of you

If at any time something or someone is worrying you, please speak to a chaperone or member of staff. Alternatively, you can email safeguarding@rad.org.uk, and we will be there to help.

If you have a safeguarding concern, whether it relates to yourself or another candidate, please speak to the lead chaperone immediately. You can also speak to the RAD's designated Safeguarding Manager or send any low-level concerns to safeguarding@rad.org.uk at any time.

Our full Safeguarding Policy & Procedures are available online and updated annually [Policies, Procedures, and Regulations - Royal Academy of Dance](#).

Your wellbeing is of the highest importance. There are dedicated staff, chaperones, and teachers available to support you, so please communicate openly with them.

Travel and Accommodation

Each candidate will be responsible for his or her own accommodation and travel to and from RAD headquarters. Please refer to the suggested accommodation list below;

<p>Holiday Inn Express London – Wandsworth Riverside West Smugglers Way Wandsworth London SW18 1EG Reservations + 44 (0) 371 902 1546 info@expresswandsworth.co.uk www.ihg.com</p>	<p>Room rate Rates from £79 per room per night, inclusive of taxes and fees 0.8 miles from RAD</p>
<p>Travel Lodge - Battersea 200 York Road Battersea London SW11 3SA Reservations 0871 984 6189 www.travelodge.co.uk</p>	<p>Room rate Rates from £78 per room per night, inclusive of VAT Breakfast available at an additional charge 0 miles from RAD</p>
<p>Travel Lodge – Clapham Junction 155 Falcon Road Clapham London SW11 2PD Reservations 0871 984 6370 www.travelodge.co.uk</p>	<p>Room rate Rates from £80 per room per night, inclusive of VAT Breakfast available at an additional charge 0.9 miles from RAD</p>
<p>The Lodge Hotel 52 – 54 Upper Richmond Road Putney London SW15 2RN + 44 (0) 20 8 874 1598 res@thelodgehotellondon.com www.thelodgehotellondon.com</p>	<p>https://www.thelodgehotellondon.com/res@thelodgehotellondon.com</p>
<p>Citadines, South Kensington, London Citadines South Kensington Apart hotel London (discoverasr.com)</p>	<p>Citadines South Kensington Apart hotel London (discoverasr.com) corporate@the-ascott.com</p>
<p>The Lavender Hotel 18 Lavender Sweep London SW11 1HA + 44 (0) 20 7585 2767 info@thelavenderguesthouse.com www.thelavenderguesthouse.com</p>	<p>Room rate Rooms from £70 per room per night 1 mile from RAD</p>

Premier Inn London Putney Bridge 3 Putney Bridge Approach London SW6 3JD 0333 321 127 www.premierinn.co.uk	Room rate Rooms from £120 per night 2.1 miles from RAD
Doubletree Hilton, Chelsea Imperial Road Imperial Wharf London SW6 2GA +44 (0) 20 7411 2200 www.jurysinns.com	Room rate Rates available on request 1.4 miles from RAD
Hotel Rafayel, Battersea 34 Lombard Road London SW11 3RF reservations@hotelrafayel.com +44 (0) 20 7 801 3600 www.hotelrafayel.com	Room rate Rates available on request 0.4 miles from RAD
Useful accommodation websites : www.londontouristboard.com/accommodation www.airbnb.co.uk www.booking.com/London-Accommodation www.trivago.co.uk/London-Accommodation	
<i>Rates applicable at the time of distribution</i>	

Ticketing

An audience of teachers, family and friends are welcome to attend the performance of the class and variations on **Saturday 1 November 2025**.

Tickets will be available to purchase via [the RAD website](#) at a charge of £18.50. All prices include VAT.

Further details will be sent when the tickets go on sale, with a family and teachers priority booking period.

Contact details

For further information please contact:
Learning & Participation Department
Royal Academy of Dance
188 York Road
London SW11 3JZ

Tel: +44 (0)20 7326 8000

Email: participate@rad.org.uk

Terms & Conditions

Competitions and Bursary Awards

1. Bookings

- a) Bookings are made via an online booking platform using a debit/credit card to generate a unique order number. Payment will be processed automatically at the time of registration. If payment fails, registration will not be completed and you will receive immediate notification.
- b) Automatic acknowledgement of a confirmed registration will be sent via email to the contact email address entered. Please keep this email to quote the unique order number if you need to contact the Learning and Participation Team.
- c) Further written confirmation and full details of the candidate's entry will be sent after the closing date. You are advised not to book travel or accommodation until you have received final confirmation.
- d) Bookings are not transferable to another activity or participant.
- e) Candidates are advised to enter early to ensure a place.

2. Cancellation of an event

- a) Competitions may be cancelled by the RAD if they fail to attract a viable number of candidates. In such circumstances, full refunds will be made.
- b) If a competition is cancelled due to the sickness of the teacher, a health epidemic, pandemic, infectious disease or any other unforeseen event, then we will try to reschedule. This may be on a different day and time from when originally scheduled. If you are unable to attend the rescheduled date and are in touch within the timeframe communicated, a full refund will be made. After the deadline, refunds will be subject to the conditions in point 4.
- c) If the RAD is unable to reschedule the activity, full refunds will be made.

3. Withdrawals and Refunds

3.1 Tuition Fees

Candidates who withdraw voluntarily will have their tuition fees refunded, subject to the conditions below:

- a) Withdrawals **15 working days prior to the first date** of the competition event (**where working days are Monday – Friday inclusive**) will incur a 10% administration charge.
- b) Withdrawals **between 14 working days and up to 6 working days prior** to the event will incur a 50% administration charge, unless a medical certificate is produced.
- c) There will be no refund for withdrawals made **during the 5 working days prior** to the event, in any event.

3.2 Notice of withdrawal

Notification of withdrawal must be emailed to the Learning and Participation team at participate@rad.org.uk, after which acknowledgement will be issued. Refunds will be based on the date of receipt of withdrawal notification. Date of receipt will be that on which the email or letter is received by the team. The Learning and Participation Team takes no responsibility for non-receipt of email or postage notifications.

4. Insurance

Applicants are advised to consider taking out insurance against withdrawal due to injury/illness, medical treatment or hospitalisation, or due to personal or family reasons, which might prevent them completing the activity. Applicants with an existing injury attend at their own risk.

5. Waiver

- a) Physical contact may be necessary by members of the teaching faculty. If you would like to discuss this, please contact the Learning and Participation Team.
- b) In the event of an injury or medical emergency during the activity, a qualified First Aider from Royal Academy of Dance will provide necessary treatment and assistance to the participant. A parent/guardian will be notified of the incident. An accident report form will be completed, copies of which are held by the HR department. If you have any questions regarding this, please email participate@rad.org.uk.

6. Content

The RAD reserves the right to alter the advertised programme or faculty and judges without prior notice. The information presented on the RAD website and in other printed or electronic notices is correct at the time of publication.

7. Eligibility

Any decision relating to the meeting of entry criteria is at the discretion of the Learning and Participation Team. Please email participate@rad.org.uk if you have any questions.

8. Code of Conduct

All candidates will be sent a Code of Conduct with their confirmation details (please read these with students where possible). Failure to observe the code may result in candidates being asked to leave. The RAD reserves the right to refuse admission to any candidate prior to, or during the event. In this instance no refund will be given.

9. Changes to the terms and conditions

We reserve the right to change these terms and conditions.

10. Agreement to the terms and conditions

- a) Candidates and their parent/guardian must acknowledge their acceptance of the terms and conditions by ticking the relevant box during the online application process.
- b) The terms and conditions must be accepted to enter the competition as a candidate with the RAD. Applications cannot be submitted until the acceptance box has been ticked (see Clause 10a).

Data Protection Statement

The RAD holds information and contact details requested at the time of your booking that enable them to provide you with information relating to a candidate registration for the competition. We will not disclose your information to a third party except where legally required to do so.

In addition, our new Privacy Statement and Company Privacy Policy are available to view and download: The full RAD Privacy statement is available to view online [here](#).