

## **Blackpool Dance Festivals Rescheduled**

Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited (BECL) has announced the rescheduling of the WDC AL European Championships, The Blackpool Junior Dance Festival and the Blackpool Dance Festival following the advice of the UK Government, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Public Health Agencies in England.

Michael Williams, Managing Director of BECL said: "We regret to announce that the Winter Gardens has closed in light of the most recent official government advice. We will remain closed until further notice and will re-open as soon as possible, following government recommendations. We are hopeful that things will get back to normal soon and we hope to see everyone return to the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, in the not too distant future. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and understanding. I do send my sincere best wishes to you all and your families.

The safety of our guests and dancers from around the world who all attend our Festivals annually is paramount to us as we look to work our way through these very challenging times. We will remain in contact over the coming weeks to keep everyone up to date as the situation develops. From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March our Box Office and Dance Festival Office will be closed.

We would respectfully request that patrons refrain from calling us at this time as our team are exceedingly busy at present so please bear with us as we work through the rescheduling of shows and events at this challenging time."

Please refer to our website and social channels for further updates over the coming weeks.

I can now confirm that the following Festivals will be rescheduled as follows:

- The European Dance Championships in association with the DPA and WDC AL is now from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> October (Original dates 10 – 12 April)
- The Blackpool Junior Dance Festival is now from 31<sup>st</sup> August to 4<sup>th</sup> September Ballroom, Latin and Sequence events, and from 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September – Formation events. (Original Dates 16 – 19 April)
- Blackpool Dance Festival is now from 25<sup>th</sup> August to 6<sup>th</sup> September (Original dates 16 29 May)

The event organisers will be in contact with all entrants, patrons and exhibitors over the coming weeks to arrange any refunds and discuss the rearranged dates following consultation and advice from the British Dance Council (BDC).