



Part-Time
1 August – 17 October

Monday to Thursday
5:00pm – 8:30pm

Saturday
10:00am – 5:00pm

Full-Time
19 October – 1 November 2026

Company B
Performance Season

Full-time

Graduation
4 November 2026

The Black Grace Academy is launching with a three-month intensive. This part-time academy is designed to train dancers, with pre professional or professional experience, primarily in the Black Grace technique and with the aim of identifying future company members.

The programme will be delivered by current and past Company members alongside guest tutors and specialists. The academy will also include classes in classical ballet technique, vocal training, Pacific dance, choreography and the creative process among other disciplines. For the successful candidates, the intensive will culminate in a paid, professional, Company B performance season.



2026 Season Black Grace Academy Application Form

Limited positions available
Applicants must be 18+

Programme Fee
\$5,000 NZD per person (national participants)
\$6,000 NZD per person (international participants)

**Application
Deadline**
— 3 July 2026

Limited full tuition scholarships for national participants are available, please outline in your application if you would like to be considered.

**In-person
Audition**
— 4 July 2026

International applications are welcome. International participants will be responsible for their own visa, travel, accommodation, and living arrangements.

Please note in-person
audition is not compulsory
for international applicants

To apply, please send the following to admin@blackgrace.co.nz

- Your CV & headshot
- Completed application form
- Video footage / showreel material

About Black Grace

Black Grace is New Zealand's leading contemporary dance company, founded in 1995 by Neil Ieremia, ONZM, with ten male dancers of Pacific, Māori, and New Zealand heritage. Drawing from his Samoan and New Zealand roots to create innovative dance works that reach across social, cultural and generational barriers, Mr Ieremia has changed the face of contemporary dance in New Zealand and turned Black Grace into one of the most recognisable and iconic cultural brands.

The company tours widely across New Zealand, developing new audiences and a new appreciation for dance. Its work is highly physical, rooted in South Pacific storytelling, and expressed with power and finesse.

Black Grace has toured internationally to Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Holland, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Scotland, Mexico, South Korea, Taiwan, and New Caledonia. It made its U.S. debut in 2004 at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, returning in 2005, and now tours regularly across North America.

Numerous firsts for a New Zealand company include a four-week season on New York City's 42nd Street, performances at the renowned Cervantino Festival in Mexico, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Harris Theater in Chicago, and return seasons at The Joyce Theater in New York City.

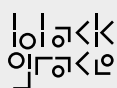
Honours include:

- 2010 'Black Grace Day' in Honolulu
- 2014 A Herald Angel Award at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe
- 2022 The inaugural Moana Creative Enterprise Award, Pacific Business Trust

Among his many achievements, Mr Ieremia has received:

- 2005 An Arts Foundation Laureate Award
- 2015 City of Porirua Anniversary Award
- 2015 Creative New Zealand's Senior Pacific Artist Award,
- 2016 Appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit
- 2021 Received a KEA World Class Award

The Black Grace Academy /
Company B is supported by:



2026 Season Black Grace Academy Application Form

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1 August – 1 November 2026

Application Deadline: 5pm, 3 July 2026

Please download and complete this application form and submit it together with your CV, headshot, and video footage or showreel material to admin@blackgrace.co.nz. For best results use Adobe Acrobat Reader to complete this form.

Use the subject line:
'Black Grace Academy Application – (Your Name)'

1. Personal Details

FULL NAME

PREFERRED NAME

DATE OF BIRTH

AGE

GENDER

NATIONALITY

CURRENT ADDRESS

EMAIL ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

CURRENT OR PREVIOUS INJURY

ANY MEDICAL CONDITIONS

2. Application Status

Please select one of the following options

National Applicant
(New Zealand)

International Applicant

If applying as an international participant, please confirm:

I understand that I am responsible for arranging my own visa, travel, accommodation, and living expenses.

3. Dance Training & Experience

Training Background

Please provide highlights of your dance training, including styles studied, institutions attended.

Professional & Performance Experience

Please highlight professional work, projects, performances, competitions, or relevant experience.

4. Motivation Statement

Please tell us:

- Why you would like to participate in the Black Grace Academy
- What you hope to gain from the programme
- Your future goals as a dancer and artist

5. Availability

The Black Grace Academy runs from 1 August to 1 November 2026 at the Black Grace Studio, 4 Ophir Street, Auckland Central.

1 August – 17 October,
Part time
Mon – Thurs: 5:00pm – 8:30pm
Sat 10:00am – 5:00pm

19 October – 1 November
Full time (performance season)

4 November
Graduation

I confirm I am available for the full duration of the programme.

If not, please provide details:

6. Audition

I will attend the in-person audition on 4 July 2026.

I am unable to attend the in-person audition.

IF UNABLE TO ATTEND, PLEASE EXPLAIN:

7. Scholarship Application (National Applicants Only)

Full tuition scholarships may be available for national participants.

If applying for a scholarship, please briefly outline your circumstances and why financial assistance would support your participation.

Yes, I would like to be considered for a scholarship.

No, I do not wish to be considered.

8. Supporting Material Checklist

Please ensure you have included:

Current CV

Video Footage / Showreel (if applicable)

Recent Headshot

Completed Application Form

9. Declaration

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance into the Black Grace Academy.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE