





The Centro de Congressos do Arade in Parchal (Lagoa) will open its doors to the public on October 20 and 21 for the second edition of the Algarve Dance Open.

This international dance competition is for young dancers aged from four to 25 in a variety of styles, from ballet to hip hop, who will perform in front of a panel of international judges from prestigious companies and institutions. The sessions will be divided by age and style through the weekend.

There will also be workshops and even improvisation competitions.

The grand finale will be a gala of a selection of the winners early on Sunday evening. The estimated start time will be 7.30pm.

Dance schools have enrolled from across Portugal, the UK, Spain and Gibraltar, and the list of prize scholarships will send some of the talented youngsters across the globe to countries such as the UK, Finland, Italy, Croatia, USA, France as well as closer to home.

There will be a representation by the Balletshop of Faro and sponsorship for the improvisation competitions by Gaynor Minden and Ballet Rosa.

"Those with budding dancers in the family, who are not participating, should go along to the Congress Centre to watch and come to view the stock of this new regional ballet shop and discuss pointe fittings with the staff," said Carolyn Ellison, vice-president of cultural association Talented Proposal, organiser of the event.

Algarve Dance Open is supported by the Algarve Tourism Board (RTA), Lagoa Town Hall, Mapfre and other sponsors.

For further details of the daily timetable, go to [www.algarvedanceopen.com](http://www.algarvedanceopen.com) (<http://www.algarvedanceopen.com>) or Facebook page Algarve Dance Open.

Photos: JOSÉ ESTIVEIRA



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