

This PLACE

THIS PLACE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE BRIEF

1. PROJECT SUMMARY

The Millennium Court Arts Centre is inviting proposals from artists who wish to participate in ‘This Place’, a gallery-based creative engagement and exhibition programme.

We are offering two artist in residence opportunities as part of the project. The artists will be offered time and space to research, explore and develop ideas for a new body of work that responds to their interactions with local people and the themes emerging from the project participant’s personal reflections on their locality. The Millennium Court Arts Centre will host engagement sessions, offer additional support from other creative professionals and offer guidance and support on the delivery of the project activity.

‘This Place’ is part of the *Connected* project, an ambitious new collaborative cultural programming initiative being delivered in cultural venues across the borough of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon in 2018/19 and co-funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland’s Local Government Challenge Fund.

2. PROJECT AIMS

- Providing opportunities for older people and those who experience rural isolation in areas surrounding the centre to engage in a wide range of enjoyable, sociable and memorable creative experiences with artists in the gallery and in the community
- Providing resources and support for artists to work collaboratively and productively with local people as they develop new work
- Supporting the formation of new groups of regular users for the centre
- Increasing opportunities for local audiences to connect to the content of the exhibition programme and play a role in the development of a project

3. THE RESIDENCIES

There are two residency opportunities available. Each residency will take place over a 3-month timeframe in the Millennium Court Arts Centre (MCAC) – either throughout April, May and June 2019 **or** September, October and November 2019. We welcome proposals from individual artists and from (no more than 2) artists seeking to collaborate on the project.

During the residency, the artist will engage at least 2 groups of older people on a weekly basis as they research and develop a new body of work. There will also be additional resources available to bring in a partner or partners in any creative field, to provide support and ensure the participants have access to a wide range of experiences.

The resident artists will be based in the artist studio at MCAC. At the end of the project, both artists will be required to create a joint exhibition of their own work, based on, or influenced by their experiences of working with the groups over the course of the residency. The exhibition will be installed in the main gallery of Millennium Court Arts Centre in Jan/Feb 2020.

4. YOUR PROPOSAL

We are interested in proposals from artists working in any medium that communicate an intent to take an exciting, radical and accessible approach to engaging local older people. Tell us how you would approach developing a new body of work that connects with the personal experiences of the participants. Describe how this approach is relevant to your own professional creative practice.

Your proposal should clearly outline how you intend to build high quality opportunities for enjoyment and social interaction with the participants and demonstrate that you have carefully considered how and why they might enjoy engaging in the project. We expect artists to be bold and creative with the types of experiences they open the participants up to, avoiding conventional approaches and highly formal workshops or methods that may alienate the potential participants.

Artists may also consider in their proposals the potential for online engagement in the project. A strong artistic vision that is sensitive to those who participate must be upheld throughout the project and be evident in the work for the final exhibition.

5. FEES

The fee for each successful proposal is **£8250**. The fees for a joint proposal from two artists is **£16,500**. This fee includes your travel expenses, living expenses and materials for the creation of new work. Accommodation is not provided. Additional resources can be made available for hire of equipment and/or purchase of materials for the final exhibition. A schedule of payments will be drawn up with the successful applicant/s.

The artist in residence is required to commit 30 days to engagement with community groups within the 3-month timeframe. This includes planning, preparation and contact time. We also require a commitment to 30 days studio time in the MCAC Artist Studio for the development of new work. This can be within the timeframe of the residency or at any time between March 2019 and Jan 2020 and by agreement with MCAC staff.

6. TIMEFRAME

The residency will take place within two timeframe options:

OPTION ONE: 1st April – 30th June 2019

OPTION TWO: 1st September – 30th November 2019

Please indicate which timeframe option you are applying for in your proposal. Joint proposals from two artists must cover both timeframe options.

7. HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please submit the following information before the deadline of **22nd February 2019 at 5pm**. Proposals will be scored against the selection criteria detailed below. Please read this carefully before writing your proposal.

1. A written proposal (max 1 x A4 page) outlining your approach to the project, how you intend to meet the requirements of the brief, indicating which timeframe option you are applying for and describing how the project would benefit the participants and your professional practice.
2. A written statement about your professional practice that includes a description of your experience in delivering **2** participatory arts programmes. Please include details of the types of groups who engaged, the numbers of people involved and the frequency of engagement. You must include the contact details of a referee for each project. (Max 500 words)
3. 6-8 samples of your work. Files that are too large for email should be sent via We Transfer.
4. A recent CV (Max. 3 x A4 pages)
5. A proposed project timeline indicating your availability for engagement and studio time
6. An outline budget for the residency fee of £8250

8. PROJECT TIMETABLE

Event	Date
Proposals invited by	22nd February 2019
Short-listing of artists	Week beginning 25 th February 2019
Presentation to the selection panel	Week beginning 4 th March 2019
Appointment of successful artist/team	8 th March 2019
Successful artist undertakes residency one	1 st April 2019
Successful artist undertakes residency two	1 st September 2019
'This Place' exhibition	Jan/Feb 2020

9. APPLICATION PROCESS

All submissions will be subject to a 3-stage evaluation process:

Stage 1: Pass/Fail

In order to qualify for Stage 2, all applicants must provide evidence that clearly demonstrates:

- Proven track record of presenting your work in gallery exhibitions equivalent in scale and content to the 'This Place' project exhibition. Include at least one example in the past 3 years.
- Experience of developing and delivering at least two participatory arts programmes that are relevant in scale and content to the project.

Stage 2: CRITERIA TO MOVE TO STAGE 3

Assessment criteria	Weighting	Possible score
Quality of previous work and demonstrated capacity to deliver the proposal	7 x 5	35
Quality, innovation and relevance of the proposal to the brief	5 x 5	25
Potential benefit of the proposed engagement activity to the project participants	5 x 5	25
Budget, timeline and value for money: Provide an outline budget breakdown and timeline demonstrating the level of activity in terms of research, studio time and engagement you will deliver within the set budget.	3 x 5	15
TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE		100

Scoring Methodology

Score

Excellent response that meets the requirements. Indicates an excellent response with supporting evidence and no weaknesses.	5
A good response that meets the requirements with good supporting evidence. Demonstrates good understanding.	4
Meets Requirements. The response generally meets the requirements, but lacks sufficient detail to warrant a higher mark.	3
A response with reservations. Lacks convincing detail to be applied. Medium risk that the proposed approach will not be successful.	2
An unacceptable response with serious reservations. Limited detail. High risk that the proposed will not be acceptable.	1
The Tenderer failed to address the questions.	0

Stage 3: Presentation

If you achieve a score of 80% or higher in Stage 2, you will be invited to give a presentation to the selection panel. This will be marked and the residency awarded to the proposal/s that achieve the highest score.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions must be sent on or before **Friday 22nd Feb at 5:00pm** by email to:

Louise Rice, Community Arts Development Officer

E: louise.rice@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

