



Call for Artist-in-Residence at Trinity College Dublin (Grand Canal)

Overview

Trinity College is pleased to invite applications from artists for a 12 month artist-in-residence position (part-time) commencing in March 2020. The artist will be based at TTEC (Trinity Technology & Enterprise Centre), Grand Canal. The aim is to enable the artist to develop new work through a collaborative process of engagement with communities which should include local residents and school children and may also include technology and creative start-ups and businesses, as the site transitions towards a new campus at the heart of the proposed Grand Canal Innovation District (GCID). The new site will have a focus on technology and creative arts, housing researchers, industry and start-ups, as well as providing a welcoming space and opportunities for local residents. It is intended that this artist-in-residence position will be the beginning of a long-term commitment to integrating art into the campus and wider innovation district. Submissions are welcome from artists working in any art form.

Context

In July 2018, Taoiseach Leo Varadkar launched the proposal for an Innovation District in the Grand Canal area where a campus site is being developed by Trinity College Dublin. The development of the Grand Canal Innovation District has the potential to transform Dublin, and Ireland, into a location of choice for globally leading researchers and innovative industry and start-ups, driving inward investment and high quality jobs.

The TTEC site comprises 5.5 acres and is situated at the heart of the proposed GCID, which encompasses the area within an approximate 1-mile radius or 15 minute walk from TTEC. The GCID incorporates many of the world's leading technology companies, legal firms and professional services businesses. It includes higher education institutions, schools and community centres, as well as a community of both local residents who have been in the area for many generations and new residents who have located to the district in recent years. It includes cultural organisations from the Lir Academy of Dramatic Art to the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, many local businesses and services from hotels, to cafes and retail shops.

The campus will be a place that people want to visit, both local residents and others. It is not intended to be a business park, but a destination for attending the theatre, going for a meal or coffee and providing space for community events and social gatherings. It needs to be open to the community.

The concept of the proposed campus is to meaningfully integrate research in technology and innovation with the creative arts. We want to open up this formerly industrial campus to the community, and to work collaboratively with our neighbours. The artist will be based on site in Unit 18 (ground floor) which faces onto Macken St. This unit has an office, which the artist can use and will be shared with 1-2 other Trinity employees and a large adjoining open space, which can be used for exhibitions or engagement events. Interested applicants will have the opportunity to view this Unit at the briefing meeting outlined below under the Application Process.

Terms of residency

The artist-in-residence will focus on collaborative, community oriented programming, working with local residents of all ages, school children and community groups. Applicants will be expected to produce new work, engage with the history and culture of the area and site, as well as considering the proposed plans for development. Our hope is that they will listen to the issues that affect this community and respond to these issues with collaborative art that is ambitious, radical, engaged, and meaningful. This is an open brief and artists may use a range of art forms, including but not limited to theatre, story-telling, film-making, music, visual art, dance, writing, animation.

The artist will be expected to work in close collaboration with the Trinity team tasked with the TTEC development.

S/he should plan on hosting a number of events or workshops over the course of the year, with the primary target audience being Docklands residents, but open of course to a wider audience. These should include a celebration of the final product, whether exhibition/performance/publication/other as well as public gatherings throughout the year, e.g. for research opportunities, collaborative art work or simply informal coffee gatherings. The artist will be expected to document their journey, for use in reports and presentations. Trinity will provide support with events and documentation.

The artist will be provided with a shared office within Unit 18 to work at TTEC and expected to have a regular presence on site. The large adjoining open space can be used by the artist for performances or exhibitions. This open area will also be used by Trinity employees, community groups or events on a scheduled basis, for example computer coding classes for teenagers or coffee mornings for local older residents. Access will be available out of hours subject to prior agreement. The artist may also be required at times and as is reasonable to help schedule external groups working on other community projects.

Objectives of the programme

- To offer an artist the opportunity to work as part of the TTEC and GCID project and to develop their collaborative arts practice in this context.
- To bring local community onto the site, from school students to older residents, and provide them with the opportunity to create exceptional art with a professional practitioner.
- To connect local residents with the themes and the potential of the new campus and wider innovation district.
- To act as a testbed for community art programmes which could form part of the long-term development at the campus.
- To evaluate uptake and impact of these programmes through surveys and regular meetings between the College and local community groups, with a view to adapting as required.

Trinity personnel will provide the required support with these objectives.

Support and Fees

The Artist-in-Residence position will be for one year part-time (3 days/week) with a fee of €33,000 to include the artist fees, materials and other expenses/ inclusive of VAT. Working days/hours are negotiable.

The artist will be supported by and report to a committee comprising representatives from Trinity and external agencies with an interest in art and the community. Trinity will support, where appropriate, applications by the artist for further funding sources for this project. Day-to-day reporting and support from Trinity will be provided by Mary Colclough, Community & Enterprise Engagement Manager and Dr Ciarán O'Neill, Trinity's Community Liaison Officer and Assistant Professor in Nineteenth Century History.

Feedback is important to the College and the artist will participate in regular meetings with the supervisors to evaluate the residency and how well it meets the objectives of all.

The artist will collaborate with Trinity College in the promotion and public dissemination of the residence, e.g. through video of performances, media etc.

Application process

This is a two-stage process. Stage One requires a written application (details below) which should be submitted by Monday 3rd February at 5pm. Applications will be shortlisted up to 5 entries and those artists will be asked to take their ideas further for the closing date for Stage Two on Friday 28th February. They will be paid €500 to do so. The successful applicant will be chosen by a panel of 5 comprising representatives from Trinity and external artistic experts.

A briefing meeting will be held for interested applicants on Wednesday 15th January in Unit 18, TTEC (the proposed location for the residency) from 10am – 11.30am to answer questions about this application and the TTEC development. Access is via Macken Street.

Criteria for assessment

- Understanding of the brief and context
- Strength of the proposed process and outline programme
- Merit of the artistic concept
- Track record of the artist

Stage One application

Please submit the following before Monday 3rd February at 5pm:

- Letter of application (no more than 2 * A4 pages) outlining:
 - Why you are interested in this opportunity
 - Your experience of working with communities of interest and/or place
 - How you would propose spending your time within the residency
 - An initial overview of your proposal for this artist-in-residence programme
- Supporting material to demonstrate your work from a community project, e.g. imagery, short video, written material

Applications should be submitted by email as a pdf to the Community & Enterprise Engagement Manager, Mary Colclough, mary.colclough@tcd.ie

Queries should be addressed to Mary by email or telephone +35386-8175466

- **General Conditions**

- Late submissions will not be accepted.
- All materials submitted should be clearly labelled with the applicant's name and contact details.
- The selection panel, whose decision is final, has the right to clarify any issue which may arise in the course of selection.
- Artists may be asked to supply the names and contact details of referees as part of the selection process.
- Trinity reserves the right not to award commissions and in this instance reserves the right to pursue other selection processes.
- Submissions will not be returned

- **Terms and Conditions**

- Trinity will not insure equipment belonging to the artist or their associates.
- The artist must undertake an induction covering College procedures, events management requirements and adhere to College Health & safety guidelines.
- The artist will be responsible for the security of their personal property at the unit.
- Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection: Selected artists will be required to follow national policy with regard to commissions involving interaction with children, young people and, vulnerable adults and where applicable undergo training in this area, as per national requirements.
- The appointed artist/team will have to supply an up to date tax clearance certificate prior to signing of contract and for the duration of the commission.
- Applicants should note that fees awarded are VAT inclusive, (whether VAT liability lies with the artist or the Commissioner). Non-resident artists from EU and non-EU countries must be aware of any tax or VAT implications arising from the commission and ensure that any costs arising from this are included in their budget.