

Cultural Collective Artists in Residence

Role – Artist in Residence

Budget: £19,000

Time commitment: The project will run for 48 weeks and the payment of £19,200 is to cover the artist's time across the entire engagement, we envision this will be split across a commission of original work, creation, exploration and research time, and delivering workshops and community engagement activity.

What we are looking for

We are seeking an Artist in Residence to develop a creative work in dialogue with our neurodivergent community, leading towards a final shared piece or outcome.

As a long time, co-presenter of A Play, A Pie and A Pint, we are particularly keen to hear from playwrights and performance makers who have an interest in building a project with the potential to end in a PPP production. We also welcome proposals from artists working in all performance, visual art, music, movement, digital practice or interdisciplinary approaches and are happy to hear proposals that include partnership working with other organisations.

We are looking for an artist who can spend time in residence, build understanding of the community and context, and create something artistically ambitious through the process. They should design a process that brings both space and time for their practice and a series of workshops, engagement and meaningful connection with Ayrshire's Neurodivergent community. The role offers space for an artist to embed their practice within a community setting over time. You will work closely with our Creative Engagement team to shape the residency and community engagement aspects. This opportunity forms part of our Culture Collective programme and will be supported by a project coordinator and their assistant, as well as our team.

The residency may run as a continuous programme or be delivered in smaller blocks, depending on the needs of the project and participants. We are committed to fair and flexible working with access and inclusion at its core.

The exact ideas, approaches, and final outcomes will be developed through discussion between the appointed artist and the team, allowing space for the artist's own practice, instincts and interests to guide what emerges. Your application will include a proposal for the residency outlining how you envision engaging with the community and how you would break down the time covered by the fee available. There will be limited provision for additional support across the residency including funds for a Facilitator to join some of the community outreach work, a small budget for R&D with additional artists (e.g. 3 days with actors). In addition, there will be some opportunities to engage with emerging artists or practitioners to enrich the outreach work and provide training opportunities. The £19,000 fee is intended to support the resident artist only and

represent an investment in a period of sustainability for the artist's practice.

We are keen to hear from artists who have a strong, established, creative practice, can work thoughtfully and flexibly within a residency setting, and are interested in developing ambitious work in dialogue with our neurodivergent community.

Success will mean:

- The artist creates a distinctive and high-quality piece of work through the residency.
- The residency supports meaningful artistic development and a strong creative process over time.
- The final outcome reflects a genuine dialogue between the artist's practice, the residency context and the neurodivergent community involved.
- The project leaves a positive legacy through artistic exchange, stronger relationships, and future possibilities for creative collaboration.

Key tasks

Undertake the residency	Develop and sustain a high-quality residency informed by the chosen artform, the setting and the artist's own creative practice.
Work accessibly and responsively	Approach the residency in ways that are accessible and responsive to neurodivergent people, adapting communication and process as needed.
Develop a final piece	Create a final outcome that grows from the residency and is appropriate to the chosen artform, context and creative process.
Collaborate with the team	Work with the Creative Engagement team on planning, scheduling, practical support and reflective development throughout the residency.

Person Specification

Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of developing creative work within community, cultural or residency settings • Experience of working in ways that are inclusive, accessible and responsive to different communication and sensory needs • Ability to work thoughtfully, respectfully and collaboratively within a community context • Strong planning, communication and organisational skills • Ability to develop and realise a final creative outcome
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PVG membership (we can support you with this if needed)
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with neurodivergent children, young people or adults • Experience of participatory arts, socially engaged practice or artist residencies • A background in writing, spoken word, storytelling or text-based practice • A meaningful relationship with Ayr, The Gaiety, or similar communities • Driving licence

The organisation

Ayr Gaiety Partnership is the charity and social enterprise that runs The Gaiety Theatre and an increasing range of producing, touring and creative engagement activity. While the theatre itself is nearly 125 years old, the organisation has been going for 16 years. The organisation sprang originally from the Ayr based Borderline Theatre Company and individuals in the local community. So, we have always aspired to be much more than just a theatre building, with community-based activity very much part of what we do.

Our Creative Engagement department operate within Gaiety 2. A Creative engagement venue just around the corner from our main Theatre. It is a community hub filled with classes and events for all ages allowing them to actively participate in the creative arts.

This space allows us to progress our community engagement work even further.

Application process

Please apply with:

- **CV**
- **Residency Proposal/Pitch**

We are looking to hear proposals of what you would like to accomplish with a residency of this manner. You don't have to have all the details ironed out, and the team will help you build a realistic plan and budget after the successful candidate is chosen.

You might want to submit a treatment or idea for a play with an accompanying proposal

THE GAIETY

for community engagement, a powerpoint outlining your inspiration and process, a workshop plan or a letter explaining how you would engage in the process to arrive at a creative outcome. You are welcome to submit in any format (written, audio, visual, video etc.) it must just be **clear what you are planning to do with the time, why you would like to work with us, your relevant experience and skill set, and give a sense of your creative ideas for the project including the intended outcome.** We are looking for ideas that **excite** us, artists that feel like they are **engaging meaningfully** with the brief and projects that **we think we can find a route to production** for. If you are looking to engage in a project based on our relationship with PPP please include this, if you would like to pitch ideas with other partners please indicate the level of your relationship and a rationale for working with them.

Materials you submit should be no longer than the equivalent of 3 sides of A4/8 minutes.

- **EDI form (optional)**

Submit via email to the Recruitment@ayrgaiety.co.uk with the subject line 'Artist in Residence Application' **by midnight Sunday 26th July. We aim to contact all successful candidates by 3rd August with interviews w/c 10th August.** If you'd like to discuss the post, please contact our Creative Director and CEO Laila Noble, by email laila.noble@ayrgaiety.co.uk to chat.

We are committed to building a vibrant, diverse workplace and welcome applications from people of all backgrounds as an Equal Opportunities employer.