

Creative Case NORTH

Residencies Brief

Creative Case NORTH is a programme of sector-led activity exploring the Creative Case. At the heart of the programme is the exploration and development of partnership practice within the context of the Creative Case.

The **Creative Case NORTH** Residencies will provide a new approach to commissioning, enabling exploration of partnership practice within a residency context.

There will be 4 **Creative Case NORTH** residencies, bringing together creative practitioners and organisations/venues with the following aims:

- To support the development of new partnerships between creators and facilitators of artistic, cultural and participatory practice, and venues, spaces or organisations which engage the public in arts and cultural activity;
- To support the development of new partnerships across art forms, spectrums of scale, and levels of experience;
- To stimulate and support joint exploration of partnership working within the context of the Creative Case;
- To encourage a creative approach to exploring partnership models;
- To provide residency partners with an opportunity to take risks and experiment with a new idea, or exploration of process, without implications;
- To share the processes, findings and outcomes of the residencies with the wider arts and cultural sector, and public.

What are we looking for?

Exploration of New Partnerships

The purpose of the commissions is to support exploration, experimentation and reflection around new partnerships – both new to the partners involved, and new in the types of pairings created. We encourage multi scale and multi art form approaches that break away from traditional partnership pairings/roles, providing the opportunity to see partnerships in a new light.

This may involve large organisations being resident in small organisations; museum curators resident in the studios of individual artists; artists, organisations, venues specialising in different art forms, coming together. We welcome joint proposals involving organisations, venues and companies large and small, individual artists and collectives.

We encourage applicants to be bold and daring in what a future partnership could be – there are multitude of levels and scales to be explored;

- North East, North West, Yorkshire
- City, Urban, Rural
- Venues, Museums, Galleries, Libraries, Community spaces

Creative Case NORTH

- Combined Arts, Dance, Music, Theatre, Literature, Visual Arts, Museum, Gallery, Archive, Library
- Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage & Civil Partnership, Pregnancy & Maternity, Race, Religion & Belief, Sex, Sexual Orientation
- Emergent, Emerging, Mid-Career, Established Creative Practitioners or Managers (Administrators through to Chief Executives).

The Heads Up films are a series of film portraits tapping into the hearts and minds of a group of arts leaders and their individual interpretation of the Creative Case for Diversity, and may provide further points of inspiration: <http://disabilityarts.creativecase.org.uk/Films-and-Media-heads-up>

Experimentation: Process vs. Output

We are keen to support creative practitioners and organisations to try something they haven't done before, and to take risks with any or all aspects of their approaches to partnership working. We are extremely open to the variety of ways in which creative practitioners and organisations may choose to explore partnerships, be it through creative processes, conversations or observations, focusing on creative practice, programming, or strategic planning.

An artistic/cultural output or product is not a requirement, but not discouraged if it is a natural outcome of the exploration. The residencies are a short experimental exchange and exploration; we are interested in the processes and experiences of the residency partners in this shared enquiry.

The Creative Case Context

The proposed residencies, explorations and activities must be framed within the context of the Creative Case, recognising one or more of its three central pillars: *Equality, Recognition, A New Vision*. Further information about these areas can be found at the bottom of this document.

Joint Development & Exploration

Proposals should be developed jointly by partner pairings, with proposed exploration being mutually beneficial, and involving active engagement by both partners during the residency period.

Recording and Sharing

Residency partners will be asked to record and publicly share their processes, conversations and findings online throughout the residency, and at the **Creative Case NORTH** Celebration event on Thursday 15 May.

Online sharing can be through existing online tools used by residency partners i.e. blogs, websites, social media (twitter, facebook, Instagram), as long as they are in the public domain and remain accessible on completion of the residencies. The information can be captured in whatever form the residency partners feel is appropriate to their exploration and art form/s, and need not be restricted to written text.

Creative Case NORTH

Budget

- £3,000 per partnership – to include organisational costs, fees for self-employed artists, travel, access support, resources and materials.
- Additional budget is available for proposed partnerships that involve significant access costs – please include information about access needs and costs in your proposal.

What support can we offer?

The **Creative Case NORTH** Residency Commissions are being managed by ZENDEH Theatre Company on behalf of the **Creative Case NORTH** Consortium.

Members of the **Creative Case NORTH** Consortium are available support the development of applications by facilitating introductions between creative practitioners and organisations/venues/spaces if required.

Each residency partnership will be paired with a Partner from the **Creative Case NORTH** Consortium to provide advice and guidance during the residency process, if required.

The **Creative Case NORTH** Coordinator will support the dissemination of online documentation during the residencies.

Timescale

- Closing date for applications is 5pm Friday 4 April
- Successful applicants will be informed week commencing 14 April 2014
- The 7 day residencies will take place Monday 28 April – Wednesday 14 May 2014
- Creative Case NORTH Celebration event will take place in Leeds on Thursday 15 May 2014

Commitment

Applicants must be able to commit to:

- 7 days engagement with their residency partner 28 April – 14 May 2014;
- Public sharing of processes, findings and outcomes of the residencies online;
- Attendance and participation at the Creative Case NORTH Celebration Event on Thursday 15 May 2014;

Eligibility

- Proposed partnerships must be new to all parties, not existing partnerships/projects or those already in development;
- Organisations/venues/companies must be based in the North area (North West, North East, Yorkshire) as defined by the Arts Council England ;
- Individuals can be based outside the North area, but must have an artistic connection to the North and demonstrate an insight, understanding and commitment to the area;

Creative Case NORTH

- Partnerships involving children/young people under 18yrs or vulnerable adults will be required to demonstrate that they have suitable safeguarding procedures and support mechanisms in place;
- The residencies are open to non NPO and MPM organisations;
- Organisations/venues who are **Creative Case NORTH** Consortium Partners are not eligible to apply.

Access Support

We are committed to ensuring that the residencies are open and accessible to everyone. This document is available in alternative formats, including audio, large text and EasyRead.

If you experience or anticipate any barriers within the application process, or require any help to make an application, please contact us as soon as possible.

Louise Taylor, **Creative Case NORTH** Coordinator north@zendeh.com / 0797 664 8867

How to apply

To apply please submit a word or pdf document **no more than three sides** of A4 including:

- Contact details of each partner (including address);
- Brief partner biographies / organisation history and links to any relevant websites, blogs, social media that may support your application;
- How was this partnership initiated?
- How is this proposed partnership different to your previous experience of partnership models?
- How do you aim to explore partnership working? Where will it take place, and how is it framed within the context of the Creative Case?
- What are your plans for online recording and sharing of the residency process?
- Budget detailing how you plan to utilise the £3,000 budget.

For creative practitioners based outside the North area:

- What is your artistic connection to the North and how does your work demonstrates an insight, understanding and commitment to the area?

For partnerships involving children/young people or vulnerable adults:

- Please provide a description of safeguarding procedures and support mechanisms in place to support the residency process (this information can be provided on an additional sheet if required).

Submissions should be emailed to north@zendeh.com by **5pm on Friday 4 April**.

Creative Case NORTH

About Creative Case NORTH

Creative Case NORTH is the second phase of sector-led activity exploring the Creative Case, building on activity that took place in Yorkshire, North West and North East in 2012/13. This activity encompassed events ranging from artist provocations, workshops and open space discussions, to presentation of innovative artistic work, and strategic research and development.

Reflections on the regional activity were of a very positive journey, from initial feelings of nervousness, fear and even frustration ('are we still talking about this?'), to one of excitement and hope that momentum was being created and could be maintained. There was a common feeling that a 'tipping point' may have been reached that involved a shift in ownership of the issues and opportunities of the Creative Case – from an Arts Council-led agenda, to one more owned by the sector.

Creative Case NORTH is facilitating continued exploration of the Creative Case, with a focus on partnership models between creators and facilitators of artistic, cultural and participatory practice, and the range of spaces in which they make and share work with the public.

The core programme of activity is:

2 x Seeding Events 18 and 19 February 2014, Newcastle/Salford

4 x Creative Case NORTH Residencies, 28 April -14 May 2014, North Area

There will also be a **Creative Case NORTH** celebration event on 15 May 2014 in Leeds, sharing learning from the residencies, and exploring ambitions for next steps in the North area. The programme is sector led, having been developed by a consortium of arts and cultural organisations from across the North area, including:

Creative Case NORTH Partners: ARC Stockton, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Contact Theatre, GemArts, STAY, ZENDEH Theatre Company.

Creative Case NORTH Critical Friends: Alchemy, Art House, Mind The Gap, Open Clasp, Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums.

An Introduction To The Creative Case for Diversity

The Creative Case is the Arts Council's approach to diversity and equality, setting out how diversity and equality can enrich the arts for artists, audiences and our wider society. Through the Creative Case the Arts Council is inviting the arts sector to engage with a new and different approach to diversity and equality in the arts.

By diversity we mean the multitude of ethnicities, faiths and socio-economic classes that make up modern England. This concept of diversity includes disabled people, older people and people of all sexual orientations. The geography of diversity spans England's regions, from the most rural to the inner city.

Our national diversity offers new opportunities for collaboration, from creative partnerships to sources of revenue. This arts-driven concept of diversity as opportunity represents a shift in perspective, from regarding diversity as a prescriptive aspect of equality legislation to understanding its creative potential and the ways in which it can promote long-term organisational resilience.

In moving away from a 'deficit' and 'problematizing' approach to diversity, the Arts Council wishes to encourage those they fund and partner to be responsible for creating the conditions on the ground for further equality in the arts. Diversity is an integral part of the artistic process, an important element in the dynamic that drives art forward, innovates it and brings it closer to a profound dialogue with contemporary society.

The Creative Case recognises that art placed in the margins through structural barriers and antiquated and exclusive approaches has to be brought to the centre of our culture and valued accordingly. The three interlocking progressions of Creative Case are:

Equality

There has to be a continued drive for equality to remove barriers in the arts world, releasing and realising potential and helping to transform the arts so that they truly reflect the reality of the diverse country that we have become but still do not fully recognise.

Recognition

There has to be a new conversation that attempts through various means to re-situate diverse artists, both historically and theoretically, at the centre of British art – whether that is the performing arts, the visual arts, combined arts, music, literature or film.

A new vision

We need a new framework for viewing diversity, one that takes it out of a negative or 'deficit' model and places it in an artistic context. Diversity becomes not an optional extra but part of the fabric of our discussions and decisions about how we encourage an energetic, relevant, fearless and challenging artistic culture in England and the wider world.

For full information published by Arts Council England around the Creative Case for Diversity visit:

<http://disabilityarts.creativecase.org.uk/>