

Creative Case NORTH Explorations (Residencies) Brief

Introduction

Creative Case NORTH is a programme of North Area sector-led activity exploring the Creative Case for Diversity. Taking the three interconnected themes of the Creative Case for Diversity; Equality, Recognition and Visioning; the programme brings together National Portfolio Organisations, Major Partner Museums, artists, freelancers and a range of strategic partners, for shared enquiry into these themes through a facilitated and meaningful programme.

A core element of the programme is facilitating the new and continued exploration of partnership models between creators and facilitators of artistic and participatory practice, and the range of spaces in which they make and share work with the public.

Creative Case NORTH Explorations is a second round of commissioned activity (previously titled Creative Case NORTH Residencies) championing the space for experimentation in partners practice. **Creative Case NORTH Explorations** will provide **time and space** for 6 partnerships pairings to undertake **mutual exploration** and **shared enquiry** of partnership practice. The Explorations will bring 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 for Diversity;
- To encourage a creative approach to exploring partnership models;
- To provide 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: Process vs. Output

The purpose of the commissions is to provide **time and space for exploration, experimentation and reflection around potential partnerships**; we are interested in the **processes, experiences and insights** of the partners during this **shared enquiry**. We are keen to support creative practitioners and organisations to try something new, and to take risks with any or all aspects of their approaches to partnership working.

We are open to the variety of ways in which creative practitioners and organisations may choose to explore their partnerships, be it through creative processes, conversations or observations, focusing on creative practice, programming, or strategic planning.

We are not seeking artistic/cultural delivery, outputs or products, but this is not discouraged if it is a natural outcome of the wider explorations that take place.

Creative Case NORTH Explorations Supporting Documentation includes information about the 2013-14 Creative Case NORTH Residencies, providing further contextual information about the nature and characteristics of activity we are seeking to support.

New Partnerships

We are seeking **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 working with small organisations; museum curators spending time in the studios of individual artists; artists, organisations, venues specialising in different art forms, coming together. We welcome 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
- 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 Creative Case Context

The proposed explorations 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 the supporting information.

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>

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 activity period.

Recording and Sharing

Partners will be asked to record and publicly share their processes, conversations and findings online throughout the commissioning period and at one of two **Creative Case NORTH Gatherings** in York and Liverpool over the period 16 – 27 March 2015.

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.

Budget

- £3,000 per partnership – to include organisational costs, fees for self-employed artists, travel, access support, resources and materials, including attendance at an evaluation meeting and a **Creative Case NORTH Gathering**.

Timescale

- Closing date for applications is **5pm Sunday 4 January 2014**;
- Successful applicants will be informed during the week commencing **Monday 26 January 2015**;
- The 6 day residencies will take place over the period **Monday 23 February – Wednesday 11 March 2015**;
- A half day evaluation meeting with all partner pairings will take place in Leeds on **Thursday 12 March 2015**;
- Exploration Partners will present at one of two Creative Case NORTH Gathering events in York and Liverpool over the period **16 – 27 March 2015**.

Commitment

Applicants must be able to commit to:

- 6 days engagement with their partner 23 February – 11 March 2015;
- Public sharing of processes, findings and outcomes of the residencies online;
- Attendance and participation in a half day evaluation meeting in Leeds on Thursday 12 March 2015;
- Attendance and participation at one of two **Creative Case NORTH Gatherings** in York & Liverpool over the period 16 – 27 March 2015.

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;
- At least one partner needs to be a venue, space or organisation which engages the public in arts and cultural activity;
- 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 Explorations are open to all organisations and artists working within the arts and cultural sector;
- Organisations/venues who are **Creative Case NORTH** Consortium Partners, are not eligible to apply;
- Organisations/individuals who participated in the 2013-14 **Creative Case NORTH** Residencies 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

What support can we offer?

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

Creative Case NORTH Consortium members are: ARC Stockton, Artlink, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Contact Theatre, GemArts, STAY, ZENDEH.

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

How to apply

To apply please submit a word or pdf document providing the following information. Please note where word count restrictions apply:

- Name, email, phone number and postal address of each partner;
- Brief partner biographies / organisation history and links to any relevant websites, blogs, social media that may support your application (400 words);
- How was this partnership initiated? (200 words);
- How is this proposed partnership different to your previous experience of partnership models/development? (300 words);
- How do you aim to explore partnership working? Where will it take place, and what types of activities/processes to you anticipate using during your shared enquiry? (400 words);
- How will your exploration be framed within the context of the Creative Case? (200 words);
- What are your plans for online recording and sharing of the process? (200 words);
- 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? (200 words).

For partnerships involving children/young people or vulnerable adults:

- Please provide a description of safeguarding procedures and support mechanisms in place to support the Exploration process? (200 words).

Please ensure you have consulted the Creative Case NORTH Supporting Documentation when preparing your application. This document is available to download from www.zendeh.com/blog.

Submissions should be emailed to north@zendeh.com by 5pm on Sunday 4 January 2015.