

## Guidelines: Summer School on Collaborative Practice and Social Change

### 1. Who should apply?

- Artists based in the Republic of Ireland
- Artists must have a track record of working in the field of [collaborative](#) socially engaged arts
- Artists who are interested in exploring the questions outlined above, alongside their individual and shared practice

### 2. Who is not eligible?

- Undergraduate students are ineligible to apply

### 3. How to apply and deadlines

All applications must be made using the online form, which you will find on the Create website. Use the previous and next buttons to navigate through the form. However, please note that you cannot advance through the form without completing all compulsory questions. *(If for any reason you cannot use the online form and need to submit in a different format, please contact us via phone on 01 473 6600 or email [info@create-ireland.ie](mailto:info@create-ireland.ie)).* Also see section 4. *Applicant Supports* for more details on access supports.

#### Step 1: Expression of interest

**Deadline:** 5pm, Wednesday 5 April 2023

You are invited to submit:

1. An expression of interest - max 3 A4 pages (see below for more detail on what to include in the EOI)
2. A CV of max 3 A4 pages, to give a sense of previous projects.
3. A 300-word statement which includes:
  - a. **Biography** outlining your current preoccupations as an artist
  - b. **Statement of practice** Tell us about your experience of collaborative socially engaged practice, outline your collaborative methodology – how you engage with communities.
4. Up to 5 images or **examples of recent projects** with short descriptions. If you have relevant links to images and videos, please include them within these examples.

#### **Expression of interest - guidance note**

Outline why you are applying to the Summer School. Explain your interest in exploring the themes and questions featured in the call out and their relevance to your current and future practice.

Tell us about a current or future project that resonates with the thematic of the Summer School, what is your ambition for the project, how might the School contribute to the development of the project?

Tell us about possible challenges that you are facing in your current project and how might the school help you to develop your practice and take it to the next stage?

The Summer School offers an opportunity for exchange, networking, learning and sharing – why do you wish to learn and explore alongside other participants.

Please include any other information you consider relevant.

**\*\* ONLY ELIGIBLE & SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS WILL BE INVITED TO THE NEXT STAGE OF THE PROCESS \*\***

**Step 2: Short presentation on your practice & interview**

Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 April 2023

You will be invited to a Zoom call with Create, Counterpoints Arts and an external selector. This is an opportunity for you to expand on the original EOI, and for both the panel and artist(s) to ask questions about the proposal.

**Step 3: Notification of award outcome:**

Wednesday 3 May 2023

Applicants will be notified of the outcome by email.

#### 4. Applicant Supports

Create and Counterpoints Arts aim to make the application process accessible to all. We provide supports to remove barriers for artist applicants to the Summer School. These may include translation from other languages or transcription of audio and video files. We will use all reasonable endeavours to assist applicants eligible under the conditions of the Summer School. To find out more, please contact Create (info[at]create-ireland.ie or 01 473 6600) at least 2 weeks in advance of the closing date. If you feel your needs are not outlined here, please contact us and we will do our best to support you.

#### 5. Selection process

Selection will be made by a panel of representatives from Create, Counterpoints Arts and an external selector. The open call will be advertised through usual arts channels, informal networks and complementary fields of development.

**Applicants must be available to attend the interview and all of the days of the School.**

**Details of the programme and structure will be sent to attendees in advance of the School starting.**

**Create** is the national development agency for collaborative arts. Our work initiates cross-sectoral national and international partnerships which support artists and communities to co-create work of depth, ambition and excellence. Our mission is to lead the development of collaborative arts practice by enabling artists and communities to create exceptional art together.

As a resource organisation we offer supports for artists working in social and community contexts. These include professional development, mentoring, project development support, commissioning and project opportunities as well as research and training. We also manage the Artist in the Community Scheme for the Arts Council.

Create believes that by working together, artists and communities can purposefully explore how collaborative arts engage in distinct, relevant and powerful ways with the urgent social, cultural and political issues of our times.

**Counterpoints Arts** support, produce and promote the arts by and about migrants and refugees and communities of place/interest. Our work is done in collaboration through local, national and international co-productions – with artists, arts, cultural and educational organizations, neighbourhoods/communities of place and civil society activists. We believe in the ability of the arts to inspire social change and reach our mission via three integrated strands: ‘Enabling, Producing and Learning’. We develop strategic programmes and platforms, enabling organisations and practitioners to improve networking, develop practice and showcase work. We produce high quality work across different artforms and outputs - events, exhibitions, commissions, digital platforms, artefacts and residencies engaging diverse audiences. We facilitate learning through peer-to-peer learning labs and platforms - encouraging imaginative reflection, cross-sector conversations, skills transfer, and the sharing of evaluation and impact.

**Áine O’Brien** is Curator of Learning and Research and Co-Founder of Counterpoints Arts, London. Áine runs Learning Lab, a platform supporting cooperative (un)learning through socially engaged art (SEA). A recent collective learning initiative includes *Mutual Affinities 2022* (commissioned by Creative Scotland) and the publication *Art, Migration and the Production of Radical Democratic Citizenship* (co-edited with Agnes Czajka, Rowman International - Frontiers of the Political Series, 2022). She is currently developing a series of international, place-based commissions engaging socially engaged artists, investigative journalists and digital activists with Beyond the Now - a syndicated social practice platform working across curation, commissioning, research and production.

#### **Visiting artists and facilitators include:**

**Ismail Einashe** is an award-winning investigative journalist and writer who has written for BBC News, The Guardian, Foreign Policy, The Sunday Times, The New York Times and The Nation, among many others. At present, he is a Senior Journalist at Lost in Europe, a cross-border journalism project, which investigates the disappearance of child migrants in Europe. He has co-edited the book, *Lost in Media: Migrant Perspectives and the Public Sphere*, a collection of essays on the representations of migrants and refugees in the European media. In 2021, he won the inaugural Investigative Journalism for the EU (IJ4EU) Impact Award as part of the Lost in Europe team. In 2019, he won a Migration Media Award and in 2020 he was shortlisted for the European Press Prize. He is an Ochberg Fellow at the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University. He is also a member of the editorial board of the Tate Etc., the magazine of the Tate Galleries. <https://www.ismaileinashe.com>

**Dana Olărescu** is a socially engaged artist with a focus on challenging minority exclusion and environmental injustice. Through participatory methodologies that democratise access to art and knowledge, she aims to give agency to underserved migrant groups so they can become active co-producers of culture. She works at the intersection of performance, installation, and social design. At present, as part of the ESRC-funded ‘Open City’ project, she is working with residents of Hilgrove Estate in London, to co-create an experimental inclusive public space. Most recently, she has designed a collection of posters inspired by communities’ reflections on the closure of West Burton A power station, Gainsborough, as part of the ‘Decommissioning the Twentieth Century’; and co-designed and built a low-impact straw bale classroom with young asylum seekers at May Project Gardens, London. Her projects

have been presented at institutions in the UK and abroad, including Tate Modern, Museum of London, The National Maritime Museum, the London Short Film Festival, the Low Carbon Design Institute, Art Gene, x-church, ArtHouse Jersey, Incheon Art Platform (South Korea), and Tanzhaus NRW (Germany).

**Abdullah Alkafri** is an award-winning playwright and theatre director. He has also collaborated with arts organisations including LIFT (UK), the Royal Court Theatre (UK), IEVP (Norway) and Lark (USA). He also works as a trainer, strategic planner, fundraiser and designer for arts intervention initiatives, working with Culture Resource (Al Mawred Al Thaqafy) and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung among many others in Lebanon, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen and elsewhere. He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Arab Council for Social Sciences, the Artistic Committee of Sundance Institute's MENA Theater Lab and the board of the 10th Summit on Arts and Culture. In 2014. As a member of Ettijahat – Independent Culture, Abdullah was chosen to succeed Rana Yazji as Executive Director of the nongovernmental organisation. Ettijahat is dedicated to supporting Syrian artists and cultural practitioners and their peers across the Arab region and Europe, providing capacity-building and educational opportunities to artists, cultural practitioners and academics, as well as financial and legal support. He also teaches MA Theatre at l'Université Saint-Joseph, Beirut, where he was awarded a PhD in performing arts in 2022.



**create** national development  
agency for collaborative arts

**COUNTERPOINTS.**

