

DANCEEAST

ASSOCIATE ARTIST SCHEME GUIDELINES AND FAQ

DanceEast is custodian and curator of the Jerwood DanceHouse; the home of dance in the East of England. Its vision is to make the East of England a place where everyone has the opportunity to engage with great dance. Its mission is to raise aspirations and transform lives through a programme of work that champions excellence, engages the public and inspires artists.

DanceEast provides extraordinary dance performances, life-affirming participatory opportunities for all and a world-class environment for artists at all stages of their careers.

DanceEast is ambitious for the local area. Ipswich and East Anglia are a great place to live and work and the facilities at Jerwood DanceHouse are world-class; we work with a range of artists, companies and UK and international partners to make the most of them.

This scheme forms one strand of our programme of support for dance artists and companies; through it we will work collaboratively with up to four Associate Artists for two years starting in April 2018.

Associate Artists will be provided with a bursary of up to £5000 over two years plus access to state of the art facilities at the Jerwood DanceHouse and support from our specialist team. In return, Associate Artists will actively contribute to the artistic life of DanceEast working across our Creative Programme which encompasses Learning & Participation, Programming and Artist Development.

Our 2015-2017 Associate Artists were James Cousins, Rosemary Lee, Anna Williams, Alexander Whitley and Tom Hobden and Kate Flurrie.

It was hard to anticipate what all of the benefits of the program would be at the beginning, but the warmth and trust from audiences and the community around DanceEast is what I feel I will take away from it most. Alexander Whitley

"For me, it offered a house, a home to go to when I needed advice, or for practical things. I had space to breathe, to research, to ponder and to take time to investigate things"

Rosemary Lee

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

The scheme is not stylistically specific. We hope to recruit a diverse group of artists pursuing distinctive lines of enquiry, working across dance and movement, which could include interdisciplinary fields with movement as a central concern. This includes choreographers and community dance practitioners working in participation, teaching and engagement.

We welcome applications from artists living and working in the East and are keen to hear from artists with and without disabilities and from BAME backgrounds.

Applications should be made by individual artists but may include activity which involves their company where appropriate.

For three Associate Artist positions, we are looking for applications from practitioners with a significant track record, e.g. a minimum of five years professional experience, and evidence of demand for their work. Choreographers will be producing work of a quality and scale appropriate for the DanceEast Artistic

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Programme or with strong potential for this to be the case during the scheme. Artists who are specialists in participation, teaching and engagement will have significant skills and experience in these areas. We are seeking resourceful, ambitious people with ideas we can help develop. They will have a clear interest in their audiences and participants and can spend agreed periods working at the Jerwood DanceHouse.

In addition, we would like to work with a Junior Associate; a dancemaker at the early stages of their career. As well as a financial bursary over 2 years, we will provide a bespoke package of support including several one-to-one mentoring sessions with members of the artistic team. This role is targeted at those who have graduated within the last three years and are looking to progress their career as a dancemaker. This package of support would be best suited to somebody with a regional base.

The scheme starts in April 2018 and runs for two years; exact dates will be negotiated with each Associate Artist, tailored to fit with their proposed work plan.

BENEFITS FOR ASSOCIATE ARTISTS

We will support, challenge and advocate for our Associate Artists enabling them to reflect, learn, research, share and develop their skills. We hope that together we will realise some extraordinary ideas!

The Associate Artist scheme will be individually tailored to the needs of each artist; the following list is not exhaustive and some benefits may be less relevant for some applicants:

- Bursary of up to £5000 over 2 years
- Up to four weeks studio space per year
- Use of 200 seat Studio Theatre with technical support for production periods at designated times of year
- Opportunity to present work as part of the DanceEast Artistic Programme if appropriate
- Opportunities to share research and receive feedback
- Use of meeting rooms and hot desk space at DanceEast
- Advice, guidance, support and championing from the DanceEast team
- Opportunity to play an active role within the wider creative programmes of DanceEast
- Visibility and profiling within DanceEast communications including website and social media
- Being part of a dynamic cohort of Associate Artists including opportunities to share practice and network
- Skills development opportunities
- Free tickets for selected performances and events at the Jerwood DanceHouse

WHAT DO WE EXPECT?

- Significant artistic presence at the Jerwood DanceHouse
- Active engagement with our Creative Programme which includes Artist Development, Learning & Participation and Programming activity
- Openness to collaborating with us to devise and test ideas
- Active participation in Communications, especially DanceEast website and social media
- Attendance at Associate Artist events and networking opportunities
- Contribution to Development and fundraising activity; this may include for example, presenting work at, or attending, cultivation events
- Involvement in evaluation and reflection of the Associate Artist scheme and wider programmes

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HOW TO APPLY

1. Please visit our website www.danceeast.co.uk for details of our vision and current activity. If you require this information in any other format, please do get in touch.
2. Complete the short Expression of Interest form which is available to download from the website. This should be up to 750 words and should outline the following information:
 - your artistic concerns and current lines of enquiry
 - your interest in audiences/participants/end users
 - how you would work with DanceEast
 - what you would bring to DanceEast
 - benefits you anticipate from being an Associate Artist
 - how the provided example of your recent work illustrates your practice
3. Send a link to three minutes of your recent work with your Expression of Interest form. Please include the title and the date it was filmed, along with the password if the link is password protected.

If you have a query after reading these guidelines, please email helen.dawson@danceeast.co.uk

The deadline for applications is **Monday 15 January 2018**.

SELECTION PROCESS

Up to twelve short-listed artists will be invited to informal individual meetings at Jerwood DanceHouse to discuss their ideas with the selection panel on **Wednesday 7 February**. Travel costs will be reimbursed. The selection panel will include key members of the DanceEast team in addition to an external panel member.

Following the informal meetings, a small number of short-listed artists will be paid a stipend to work up their proposal for presentation at the Jerwood DanceHouse on **Thursday 1 March 2018**. Both dates are fixed dates and artists should be able to attend both sessions.

Up to four applicants, including one Junior Associate, will be invited to be Associate Artists starting in or after April 2018, each for a two-year period.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are you looking for artists at a particular stage in their development?

We welcome applications from artists at different stages of their career, however we do ask for a minimum of five years professional experience. If you are a recent graduate, or consider yourselves at the early stages of your career, please consider applying for the Junior Associate role. It is important that you state this on your expression of interest form.

Why is the scheme open application?

We want to hear from a wide range of artists interested in working with us and to be open and transparent in our practice. We are keen to recruit a dynamic cohort of artists pursuing distinctive lines of enquiry working in all areas of dance and movement.

Is this scheme the only way for artists to engage with DanceEast?

The Associate Artist scheme is one strand in our programme of support for dance artists and companies. In addition to the Associate Artist scheme, DanceEast regularly engages with a large body of artists through residency time, commissioning support and production weeks. We also offer small grants through our Choreographic Development Award.

The Associate Artist scheme does not preclude other relationships with other artists, companies and organisations. Artists are always able to arrange meetings and phone conversations with the DanceEast team, we are happy to help and love meeting artists, so please do get in touch.

Why is there a three-stage application process?

We want to discuss ideas with artists who feel they have something to offer to our organisation and who can demonstrate how they would benefit from our resources and expertise. We hope to establish a long-lasting, mutually beneficial relationship.

This three-stage approach enables us to identify and work with Artists to develop bespoke plans to meet our mutual needs over the two years and whose own practice aligns with the ambitions of DanceEast.

What might advice and guidance from DanceEast include?

Depending on the needs of artists and staff capacity this could include: support with writing funding and other applications including creating and managing budgets; advice on networking and sharing contacts; tour booking and project planning; developing education and learning policies; feedback and mentoring; and skills development across learning and participation work. This is not an exhaustive list and we anticipate other areas will be identified.

Does the scheme provide administrative support?

The scheme does not provide regular administrative support.