

Accelerator 2019 Open Call Guidelines



Information about Accelerator

Accelerator is an Imagine project offering research and development funding, mentoring, producing support and performance opportunities for artists to create new theatre and/or dance works in progress for young audiences. We will provide ongoing support for the work in progress with the aim of helping to find funding to bring it to a full production.

You can read about our recent and current Accelerator artists here - <https://www.imaginate.org.uk/artists/projects/accelerator>

How to apply

We would like you to tell us about your idea, ensuring that the panel understand why this would be an excellent piece of work for young audiences and what development it might need. Accelerator is production/performance-focussed so really paint a picture of what your intention for the production is and why it is important for your chosen audience. You can include images and video links of your own work and/or things that inspire you for this idea.

If it helps to think of questions to structure your application, here are some of the things we are interested in, if helpful:

- what is your idea and why does it interest you?
- what makes this idea relevant to young audiences?
- are there questions you have that you want to explore?
- what is your experience in making performance work and leading a creative process?
- is this work, or you as an artist, underrepresented in the sector?

You can apply in writing, or by film, making sure everything is in one document with no cv's or other additional attachments. If you are applying by film, upload it to Vimeo or YouTube with a password and send us the link in a document with anything else you want to say.

You should send your application to applications@imagine.org.uk with **Accelerator 2019** as the subject title.

Deadline **Monday 17 June**

Information on the selection process

Imagine panels involve representatives of Imagine, industry colleagues and freelance artists. For Accelerator this will be:

Eoin McKenzie	Freelance theatre maker/Launchpad 2018 artist
Noel Jordan	Festival Director, Imagine
Fiona Ferguson	Creative Development Director, Imagine

The panel will meet on Thursday 20 June; all applicants will hear if they have been selected by **Friday 5 July**.

FAQs

- **What kind of artists are we looking for?**

We are looking for artists living in Scotland who have experience in leading the development of new work. You don't need to have made work for young audiences before as long as you are excited about the artistic potential of creating theatre and dance for young audiences.

If you haven't made and toured work before then Launchpad might be a better fit - <https://www.imagine.org.uk/artists/projects/launchpad>.

We are keen to see a more diverse range of artists making work for young audiences with theatre and dance that is excellent and relevant to our audiences. Applications can come from individuals, collectives or companies.

- **How will the panel assess applications?**

The panel will talk through each application thinking about these key criteria:

The quality of the idea

The need for this work to be made

The relevance for young audiences

The potential impact of this opportunity for the artist

All applicants will be offered feedback from the panel.

- **Is there a word count/time limit?**

While there isn't a word count limit for written applications we would ask you to consider the panel and think about concise answers. Think about the key things that you want the panel to know and how to make that clear.

For filmed applications, keep the film to 10 minutes maximum. It's even more important to think about how to get your key information over in a clear manner as the panel will not have written information to refer back to.

- **What is the budget available?**

We would like artists to focus on their idea so have not set an upper limit for the budget. If you are selected by the panel, we will work with you to create a budget and timeline based on your ambition for the idea.

- **Can I apply if I have no existing connection with Imagine or the young audiences sector?**

Yes, we would encourage applications from any artists based in Scotland who are interested in making theatre and dance for young audiences.

This opportunity is only open to artists based in Scotland; additional budgets are available if there are any access requirements for the application process or the project itself. Please get in touch with us if you would like to discuss this prior to application.

We aim to ensure the application and selection process is straightforward and fair. If you have any questions about the process, or the project in general, please email Fiona Ferguson (Creative Development Director, Imagine) at fiona@imagine.org.uk