

Launchpad 2019 Open Call Guidelines



We are currently looking for applications for Launchpad 2019.

Information about Launchpad

Launchpad is a project offering mentoring, producing support and performance opportunities for early career artists to develop new theatre and/or dance ideas for young audiences.

By 2020 Launchpad will have supported four artists to develop a new production idea, present it as a scratch/early idea and apply for funding to develop it further where appropriate.

You can read about the first two Launchpad artists here including information about the 2018 artists Rosa Duncan and Eoin McKenzie -

<https://www.imagine.org.uk/artists/projects/launchpad>

Selected artists will receive:

- A budget of £1,000 to develop a new scratch performance
- Space and tech support to present your scratch at an Imagine event
- A professional set of production shots from the sharing
- Go and See funding to see and be inspired by relevant work including an international festival visit
- Ongoing mentoring, advice, producing support, financial, marketing and production expertise from Imagine
- Support to apply for funding to further develop the idea. If the Launchpad artists feels this is the right next step, Imagine will help with the submission of a funding application.

How to apply

If you are interested in applying please send us responses to the following suggested questions:

- what is your background as an artist and what inspires you?
- what is your idea for a scratch performance?
- why is this idea relevant for young audiences?
- who else might be involved in your idea?
- why is this opportunity of interest to you?

You can send this to us as a Word or PDF document.

You are welcome to include images and website links, just include them within one document. Please don't send us CVs, budgets or any other additional attachments.

You should send this to applications@imagine.org.uk with **Launchpad 2019** as the subject line by **Monday 17 June**.

Information on the selection process

The Launchpad panel will take place on Wednesday 19 June and will be made up of representatives of Imagine, industry colleagues and freelance artists. All applicants will hear if they have been selected by **Tuesday 2 July**.

The selection panel is:

Skye Loneragan	Playwright/Accelerator (new writing) artist
Noel Jordan	Festival Director, Imagine
Fiona Ferguson	Creative Development Director, Imagine

After the panel, we will email all applicants with the offer of feedback for those who were not selected. We aim to make the application and selection process straightforward, transparent and fair.

FAQs

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

We are looking for artists based in Scotland who are at an early stage in their career and are excited about the artistic potential of creating theatre and/or dance for children. We are interested in artists who want to lead a creative idea which could include theatre makers, choreographers, writers, visual artists and musicians. If you have the desire to create theatre and dance for young audiences then we would like to hear from you.

Applications can come from individuals, collectives or companies including students or recent graduates. 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. Additional budgets are available if you have any access requirements for the application process or the project itself.

- **What do we mean by early-stage artists?**

We are keen to keep this as open and self-defined as possible but could include students and recent graduates who consider themselves to be theatre/dance makers, those who have been involved in productions as part of a team but who have never led their own idea, and artists who have made a recent career shift into making work from other artforms.

- **What do we mean by a scratch?**

We are looking for very early ideas that have not yet been developed; ideas that you want to play around with and test out in front of an audience of peers. Launchpad will support you to take that idea from your head to an early scratch presentation of around 10 - 15 minutes of initial material.

- **What information should you include in your application?**

If you are writing your application, you are welcome to paste images and website/online film links within your document to give us examples of what you're aiming for or what inspires you. The key thing is to really paint a picture of your idea and who you are as an artist.

At this stage there is no need to include a budget as we will work with the selected artists to create one. If you're unsure about that, do get in touch with us.

- **How will the panel assess the 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 potential impact of this opportunity for the artist

- **Can I apply by video?**

Yes, you can film your responses to our suggested application questions and upload them to Vimeo or YouTube (password protected). It does not matter at all about the quality of the filming (phone footage is fine); we are only interested in what you have to say.

- **When is the Scratch event?**

Our next Scratch That! event will be in Autumn at the Traverse Theatre at which the two Launchpad artists have a slot if the dates are suitable. If not, we will work with you to find an alternative option to share. In either case, you will receive peer and industry feedback and a set of production shots.

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

There is no word limit for your answers but ideally aim for a maximum of 4 pages for documents and around 5 minutes for videos. Think about the panel and how you can make sure they get the main facts/opinions/ideas you want them to understand. Clarity is key.

- **How many Launchpad artists will be selected?**

We have funding to support two artists for 2019.

If you are unsure about your eligibility and/or would like to discuss any access needs, please do contact Fiona Ferguson (Creative Development Director, Imagine) at fiona@imagine.org.uk

You can keep up to date with news about Launchpad here -

<https://www.imagine.org.uk/artists/projects/launchpad>

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