

Holding Space 2022 Guidelines

Information about Holding Space

Holding Space is a mentoring programme for artists and freelancers working in the young audiences sector in Scotland. We are open for applications for up to six people who would like to work with a mentor to explore a specific area(s) of artistic practice.

We have a separate budget to cover access costs including BSL, captioning and child care costs.

<https://www.imagine.org.uk/artists/projects/holding-space/>

What does Holding Space offer:

Each selected mentee will have:

- Up to five sessions with a mentor that can be arranged any time between May and October 2022.
- A fee of £400 (based on £80 per session, each session lasting up to 90 minutes).
- Support from Imagine to choose the right mentor.
- Support from Imagine who will approach, contract and pay the mentor.
- Access budget where needed.

Selection criteria

There is more information in the FAQ section but the panel will use these criteria to select the mentees:

- The rationale and clarity for needing time with a mentor.
- The potential impact on the mentee.
- Interest in performance work for young audiences.
- Selecting a balance of participants based on artistic practice and stage of career.

How to apply

If you are interested in Holding Space, please write or film your answers to the following:

- Are you based in Scotland?
- What is your artistic practice?
- What excites you about performance for young audiences?
- What would you like to focus on in mentoring sessions, and why?
- Would you define yourself as underrepresented in the young audiences sector?

The most important question to answer is **what you would like to focus on with mentoring** and why so the panel know you have a clear idea of what you want out of the sessions.

Additional budgets are available if you have any access requirements for the application process, or if you need to talk to us before you apply, including providing BSL translation and captions for a pre-application meeting.

If you would like to apply in BSL this is welcome, let us know so we can arrange for translation of your application and a meeting with you beforehand if you would like to go through the guidelines and project.

Key Dates

The deadline for applications is **Monday 21 March**.

The Holding Place panel will take place the week of **Monday 21 March**.

All applicants will hear if they have been selected by **Monday 4 April**.

Applying in writing

You can send this to us as a Word or PDF document. You are welcome to include images and website/film links about what you do. Just include them all within one document which should be no longer than 2 pages.

Applying by film

If you are applying by film, it will ideally be uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo. Copy the film link and password into a Word or PDF document. If you would like to include images or website links, copy and paste them into this same document. Your film should be a maximum of 5 minutes.

With written or filmed applications, please don't send us any additional attachments including CVs or scripts. Everything should be within one document.

You should send your application to applications@imagine.org.uk with **Holding Space** as the subject line by **Monday 21 March 2022**.

We will email all applicants who are not selected with the offer of feedback which, if asked for, will be sent to you by email with anonymous written quotes from each panel member.

If you would like support with the application process please email applications@imagine.org.uk

We aim to make the application and selection process straightforward, transparent and fair. If you would like to talk about any aspect of the project or application process before applying you can contact Fiona Ferguson, Creative Development Director on fiona@imagine.org.uk

FAQs

- **Who are we looking for?**

As Holding Space is artistic mentoring, we are looking for freelancers and creative practitioners with an artistic practice within theatre and dance for young audiences, who have a specific area or question they would like to explore with a mentor. This could encompass those who create performances, playwrights or those involved in any aspect of the creative process such as sound designers or costume designers. If you are unsure, please contact us rather than rule yourself out.

You should be based in Scotland and be involved in some way with the theatre and dance for young audiences sector. This project is open to those at all stages of their career, from early career through to highly experienced. If you are looking for mentoring that is less focused on artistic practice, we highly recommend [Step Up, a free mentoring programme run by FST](#).

We are especially keen to hear from artists currently underrepresented in the young audiences sector in Scotland. We have a budget to support access needs and this would be additional to the fee for your time.

- **Who will the mentors be?**

We don't know yet because we are keen to spend time with the selected mentees individually to talk through what they need so we will only approach mentors after that conversation has happened. So far we have mentors in Scotland, England and Australia working with the first group, all of whom are experienced and generous artists, playwrights and leaders within the theatre and dance sector.

The mentoring sessions could be held in person or online which opens up the opportunity to approach international mentors where that is the right fit.

- **How will the selection process work?**

There will be no Imagine staff participating in the decision-making for this panel, we will just be there to offer administrative support. The selection panel will consist of the following two freelance artists:

Sara Shaarawi	Freelance playwright
Jim Manganello	Freelance performance maker

The panel will read the answers to your questions selecting participants using the selection criteria:

- The rationale and clarity for needing time with a mentor.
- The potential impact on the mentee.
- Interest in performance work for young audiences.
- Selecting a balance of participants based on artistic practice and stage of career.

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

The panel will select 6 artists to take part in Holding Space.

If you would like to arrange a phone call, zoom or email conversation before you apply, please get in touch. This could include any questions about eligibility, or about the project in general. We can provide BSL or captions for this meeting, if you need something else please just ask. To get in touch please email Fiona Ferguson (Creative Development Director, Imagine) at fiona@imagine.org.uk