



Professional Development Labs: Information for Applicants _ _

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What are Professional Development Labs? _

Professional Development Labs are an opportunity for artists to get together in creative ways without the pressure of working on ideas for a particular product or performance. We know that artists find it hard to make time to get together, share ideas, practice and process. Professional Development Labs offer you the opportunity to design your own 'testing room', in a format that enables exchange and provides a space where something can emerge out of nothing.

We want to hear from creatives with various artistic backgrounds who want to conceive, apply for and deliver an intensive professional development period based on their needs. We're looking to support proposals for genuinely innovative and ambitious ways to carry out research, share ideas, process and/or skills, in formats that allow artists to get away from their everyday. We want Professional Development Labs to support artists to try something new, and through their collaboration, surprise themselves.

Projects can look to address the needs of a group of artists already associated in some way or can be developed and led by one artist looking to connect with other artists for the first time, or a combination of the two.

We particularly welcome submissions from artists who come from underrepresented groups (specifically artists from culturally diverse backgrounds or artists with additional needs). In your submission, we will be looking for examples of how you think your Lab will enable you, and those you choose to work with, to find something new.

We imagine that most Labs will last between a few days and a week with up to four artists (but this is flexible) and focus around one core theme or question.

What kind of artists can apply? _

Professional Development Labs are open to all artists who are interested in making performance - writers, directors, choreographers, designers, movers,

makers, digital do-ers or all-round creative experimenters. We welcome applications from artists who are at any stage in their careers - from the emerging to the more established.

All participating artists/producers must:

- _ be aged 18 and over;
- _ not be currently engaged in full-time education;
- _ not carry out projects in connection to PhD research; and
- _ based in Wales or able to demonstrate a strong commitment to the development of work in Wales.

Where can the Labs take place? _

Anywhere in Wales. While labs can take place in an arts centre or theatre venue we'd encourage you to think about a location that would inspire, help and encourage new ways of working: indoors, outdoors, up a mountain, in a boat or a caban. The choice is yours.

And when will they take place? _

We envisage that most Labs will take place between May and October 2019, but we are happy to consider other times. Please do get in touch if you have questions about this.

What's on offer? _

Budget

All lead artists and their collaborators will receive a fee of £500 per week (part weeks paid on a pro rata basis of £100/day) for their time on the residency, as well as there being budget to support the cost of travel, accommodation, materials etc., depending on the needs of each Lab. You do not need to complete a budget as part of our submission. We will work with you to allocate money to you project based on its needs.

Support & Advice

You will receive artistic and producing support from the Creative Development team and have access to the expertise of the whole company including Production, Collaboration and Communications.

What's the application process? _

- _ You can submit an idea by downloading the submissions form and sending it to submissions@nationaltheatrewales.org
- _ We'll reply to your email to let you know once it has been received safely.
- _ After the deadline has passed, we'll send it to a supportive and friendly panel of industry professionals (made up of NTW staff and invited independent artists, or arts managers from Wales or further afield). We may give you a call if there are any questions we need to clarify before sharing it.
- _ If we feel your Lab has real potential, we'll arrange for you to meet with representatives of the panel so you can tell us more about it, in whatever way you think best illustrates what you'd like to do, and how. If you are planning to work with a community we would expect them to be featured at this point in some way.
- _ If your Lab is selected, you'll work with staff at NTW (Creative Development, Production and an Emerging Producer) as well as any collaborative partners/artists to design and carry out your Lab. Labs may develop at this point in any number of different ways.
- _ At the end of the Lab you will be asked to share something of what you did for the rest of the artistic community for example, via NTW's Community.
- _ We'll help you think about what could happen next and how. We'll also make introductions to other professionals or artists who we think may be interested in your work in the future. But we don't want that to be the end of our work together so we will find ways to keep in contact too.

We strongly recommend that you talk to us about your idea before submitting it.

When's the deadline? _

The deadline for applications is noon **Friday, 19 April 2019**.

We will be arranging meetings with selected artists for the week commencing **29 April 2019**.

NTW's Professional Development Labs programme is supported by:



www.esmeefairbairnfoundation.org.uk

Thank you _

Get in touch _

If you want to discuss ideas or ask us a question, get in touch!

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