

## Imagine at Lyth Arts Centre

Lyth Arts Centre and Imagine are collaborating in 2020 to support an artist to explore a new theatre and/or dance performance idea for young audiences and undertake a period of practical research towards a new piece of work.

**Imagine** is the national organisation in Scotland, which promotes, develops and celebrates theatre and dance for children and young people. Imagine wants more children in Scotland to experience work that is deeply engaging, innovative and inspiring. We support artists with a year-round programme of creative development, including events, training, residencies, mentoring and special projects. We also produce the Edinburgh International Children's Festival which showcases the best of children's theatre and dance from around the world and is recognized as one of the best places for international programmers to see work of the very highest standard.

**Lyth Arts Centre (LAC)** is the UK's most northerly mainland arts centre, located in the heart of Caithness. Every year, we present a programme of visual arts and live performances by visiting artists from Scotland, the UK and the world. This includes theatre, dance, family events, jazz, folk, classical and world music, comedy, circus, and much more. LAC also presents performances in around 12 village halls and community centres across Caithness and North Sutherland. LAC is housed in a beautiful old building surrounded by trees and aged stone walls. From the outside it retains the character of a Victorian village school but the interior has been imaginatively converted to a dynamic multi-purpose arts centre. This includes a fully-equipped 60-seat black-box studio theatre which converts into an exhibition space, backstage facilities, a public café/bar and purpose-built accommodation for visiting performers and artists. The whole premises is disability accessible.

The Imagine At Lyth Arts Centre opportunity includes:

- A week in residence at LAC from **Monday 22nd June - Sunday 28th June 2020**
- A bursary of £2000 to cover fees, materials and per diems for the residency period
- Return travel to LAC from anywhere in Scotland
- Accommodation
- Support and advice from Imagine and Lyth Arts Centre staff
- Access to Go & See funding for the Edinburgh International Children's Festival 2020 (20 to 31 May 2020) including seeing productions and taking part in the professional development programme for delegates

Residency artists would have access to the theatre space at LAC and also Lyth Hall which is a 10 min walk up the road. Other spaces that could be used include the foyer space at LAC and several halls within short driving distance. LAC also has gardens and is within easy driving distance to many outstanding outdoor spaces including beaches and the Flow Country. The LAC accommodation has 7 bedrooms (four twins and 3 singles) so can sleep up to 11 people if sharing. Three single bedrooms downstairs are fully accessible with accessible bathrooms. Pets (especially dogs) and children are always welcome in the LAC Artists House!

<b>Residency Selection criteria:</b>
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This is an opportunity for an artist interested in exploring a new performance idea for young audiences. It is open to those who have experience of working with this audience as well as those for whom this would be a new departure in their practice.

**Applications will be assessed on:**

- The clarity of the proposal or idea presented
- The potential impact of the residency in the development of the work
- The relevance of the idea for young audiences and how it addresses underrepresented voices
- The potential for this residency at this point in your artistic development.

**Selection Process:**

All applications will be considered by a panel involving a freelance artist and staff from Imagine and Lyth Arts Centre.

<b>Application Details:</b>
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In your application please provide information in response to the questions outlined below. Written applications should be submitted using no more than 2 pages of A4. Alternatively, you can apply by video, answering all the questions. The video should be no longer than 10mins long and uploaded to Vimeo or another platform. If you would like this information in a different format or require support in preparing an application, please contact us directly.

**Please outline to us:**

- 1. *Your name***
- 2. *Your contact details***
- 3. *The production idea that you wish to develop through this residency***
- 4. *Information about who else will be involved in the residency week***
- 5. *Why you are interested in making performance for young audiences***
- 6. *What you hope to achieve or discover by the end of your time in residence***
- 7. *How this proposal address underrepresented voices and/or themes for young audiences***
- 8. *How working on this idea or project at this time will contribute to your wider practice and future plans***
- 9. *Any access requirements you may have to support you to undertake the residency; this may include interpretation, PA support, specific transport requirements and/ or childcare.***

Completed applications should be returned by email to [applications@imagine.org.uk](mailto:applications@imagine.org.uk) (with the subject title **Imagine at LAC**) by **Wednesday 12 February at 5pm**. The panel will meet on Monday 17 February and all applicants will be notified of the decisions by Monday 24 February. All applicants will be offered feedback.