

Creative Spaces 2024

Application pack

We are looking for three new people to join our team.

Based at The Stove Network in Dumfries, Creative Spaces works with young creatives from across the region providing a stepping stone into the arts and the world of being a creative freelancer.

Every year, **Creative Spaces** recruits three 'Associate Artists' to complete a 10-month creative development programme where you will learn to grow your creative interests, work with the Creative Spaces Team on various projects & events, and with guidance, will learn to develop your own personal project.

The Personal Project aspect of Creative Spaces is an opportunity to develop an idea or a piece of work relevant to your creative practice in order to develop your work and experience. Previous examples of Personal Projects include: theatre pieces, jewellery ranges, documentaries, zine publications & illustrative series.

Creative Spaces aims to build up and support Dumfries & Galloway's creative scene. We do this through putting on events, hosting workshops, offering mentorships, and providing learning opportunities and networking connections to help people build their skills as creatives.

These opportunities aren't just for people already working in the creative sector and you don't have to be an 'established artist', have a degree or previous experience to apply. The Creative Spaces programme is designed to offer you the chance to explore the creative industries and try and find your place. The only criteria is, you must be aged between 16-30 and have some form of creative practice, project or idea you would like to develop.

These **three** positions are offered on a part-time basis **2 days per week** (14 hours) for a fixed period of **10 months**. Each successful candidate will receive a monthly payment of **£672**. Successful applicants will begin their contract on the week beginning **29th July, 2024**.

So, What's the Stove?

The Stove is an arts and engagement charity based in the heart of Dumfries. Using creativity as a tool to connect people, The Stove encourages the local and regional communities to "grow your own culture", by supporting and delivering creative projects in the town and throughout Dumfries & Galloway.

With an arts venue on Dumfries High Street, which includes a community cafe and event space hosting a diverse programme of events, including creative writing workshops, variety nights, bread making clubs and film screenings. Our goal is to explore innovative possibilities and make substantial, positive changes toward a more equal future for everyone.

The town centre venue also acts as a regional hub, allowing The Stove to work with partners across the wider region. We collaborate closely with other arts organisations, the local authority, enterprise agencies, education, health, community groups, local businesses, and charities to grow meaningful change in places and communities across the region.

At the core of our mission is an understanding that art and creativity are not something solely for an 'arts audience' but rather as a tool for positive impact on all of society. Our vision is to make Dumfries & Galloway a place where communities thrive through collaboration, enterprise and risk-taking.

We aim to support everyone in being creatively involved in the celebration and creation of culture.

Who we're looking for?

Desired Experience:

- Good written and verbal communication skills
- IT and media skills (e.g. using emails, word etc)
- Interest and/or experience in the creative industries and community work
- Interest and/or experience in working with other people
- Ability to self-manage your own workflow

Person Specification:

- Adaptable
- Engaging
- Creative

Commitments:

Time commitments will include a combination of regular hours (to be determined by team availability) and some flexible working across projects (evenings, weekend work).

You'll be required to attend weekly meetings and take part in project development and delivery of work across our programme:

- 1x Fixed day per week based in The Stove (either on Tuesday or Thursday)
- 1x Flexible day per week (either working from home or in The Stove)
- Weekly Creative Spaces meetings with Creative Spaces Producer
- Weekly Projects meeting (Full Stove Team)

We will support you to take a self-directed approach to managing your time alongside your other work/life commitments and identifying the opportunities that you wish to develop further.

What's in it for you?:

- This is a paid development opportunity. Associates will receive a monthly payment of £672 - Fees are based on a commitment of approximately 80 days over the 10 months (8 days per calendar month at a day rate of £84/d).
- You'll receive training from professionals working in the arts, community engagement and education to name a few
- You'll gain practical experience while working as part of a team on large-scale events
- You'll learn transferrable skills including teamwork, leadership, planning, budgeting, marketing and so much more
- A launchpad for your future career in the Creative or Cultural sector
- You'll have a dedicated space within The Stove building to work from
- You'll co-develop engagement and development activities for, and with, other young creatives in Dumfries and Galloway
- Be given the opportunity, with guidance, to develop and deliver an individual project

Key Dates:

Application deadline - Monday 1st July 2024

Open days - Thursday 6th & Friday 7th June 2024 (*Open days are the chance to chat through the application pack with a member of the team and to find out more about Creative Spaces. To book a slot on either day please email mia@thestove.org)

Shortlisting - We will contact you on Wednesday 3rd July 2024

interviews, in person at The Stove - Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th July 2024

Selection Announcements - Week beginning 15th July 2024

Start Date - Monday 29th July 2024

Finish date - Thursday 29th May 2025

How to apply:

Deadline for Applications: Monday 1st July at 12 noon

Feel free to be creative with your application. We'll accept any of the following formats, but please remember to let us know:

- **Why you think joining the Creative Spaces programme will benefit you?**
- **Why you think now is the right time to apply to this programme?**
- **What you hope to achieve?**
- **Please include brief details surrounding a project you would like to pursue as part of Creative Spaces (this could be a series of workshops, an event or any other creative output).** Please note that this idea is just so we can understand the kind of areas you may be interested in and any projects you wish to pursue. This is not a final idea that you have to take forward.

Application Formats:

We will accept any of the following -

- Covering Letter (no more than 500 words)
- Video (no more than 3mins)
- Image pack or portfolio (10MB or less)
- Voice note

Just make sure that you include **a CV or text sheet** with your name, contact details and **a few examples of recent work** (this could be images, videos or write-ups).

Please submit your application by email to info@thestove.org (max file size of 10MB) with the heading **Creative Spaces – Associate**

It's important that our people reflect and represent the diversity of the communities and audiences we serve. We welcome and value difference, so when we say we're for everyone, we want everyone to be welcome in our teams too. Wherever you're from, and whatever your background, we want to hear from you.