

AIM Collective: Dance North Residency Call Out

Deadline: Sunday 7 November 2021 (Deadline extended)

Dance North Scotland have a paid opportunity to support 2 x collaborating artists with dance and/or movement as their primary focus. Responding to the challenges brought about by COVID-19, the residency should adopt participatory approaches to engage communities in Moray. The residency days should be taken between November 2021 – September 2022 as part of the Arts in Moray Collective.

The Basics

- Fee: 95 days for a fixed fee of £13,432.05 for each artist.
- Up to £3,500 is available to fund associated activity, travel and project costs, and will be agreed at the beginning of the residency. Additional budgets are available for access costs and to cover honorariums for community members to participate. Limited further funding for collaboration/production may be available for all AIM artists, by request.
- Start Date: Flexible but all days must be taken before the end of September 2022
- Due to funding restrictions, this opportunity is to support Scottish based artists.
- Accommodation is not included – if you are not local to Moray we will endeavour to support you to find accommodation.
- Eligible artists must have an existing relationship with Moray, or an interest in developing one.

Residency focus

In your role as Artists in Residence, the lead organisation supporting you will be Dance North Scotland, but you will also be working alongside other artists and partners that are part of the Arts In Moray Collective.

As a collective we're committed to non-hierarchical practices and working alongside artists, communities and other organisations in dynamic ways that are grounded in fairness, transparency, agency, equity, and collaboration.

This is a responsive and fluid programme – steered by the artists in residence, in relation to the communities they choose to engage with, supported by the overall AIM Project lead and the AIM partners.

The Culture Collective programme is a pilot and the AIM Collective are focusing their research and practice as part of this on non-hierarchical practices. As an organisation and collective we are keen to support new ways of working and we are interested in sustainable relationships focused on building collaborations now and for the future.

We are keen to create safe spaces for difficult conversations around equality, diversity and inclusion and explore how we can address this in a meaningful way, while also taking into consideration the identity of Moray as a community.

Example:

We are aware that (according to the 2011 Census) 98.9% of Moray's population were 'white', compared to the Scotland proportion of 96%. What does that mean for the comfort and safety of people of colour in Moray? With the pandemic highlighting the importance of being able to easily access green spaces for mental wellbeing, now is an important time to consider diversity in the context of rural areas – who feels welcome in these spaces? who has access? what are the barriers?

The above is intended as an example only. While we welcome proposals that reflect issues facing people with protected characteristics and are keen to consider Moray's identity within the proposal, we do not wish to limit artists to making work that draws solely on those issues.

Outcomes

- To establish meaningful relationships with the local community
- To use creativity as a tool for exploration, experimentation, engagement and understanding
- To identify sustainable ways to work with and for local communities in the future
- To contribute to a regional dialogue with other artists and organisations to build capacity
- To tackle some of the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic
- A tangible output, established as part of the SMART goal setting process, referenced below. (Please note, while we welcome the making of new work, this does not have to be the tangible output.)

Wider Project Requirements

Artists are required to:

- engage with the AIM Lead and their primary contact on a regular basis, including involvement in monthly check-in meetings, SMART goal setting, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.
- engage with the national Culture Collective programme, if and when appropriate.
- contribute to Culture Café events during the period of project delivery.
- engage with a final overnight residential gathering ahead of project completion, which will be attended by all partners and individuals involved.
- fulfil administrative tasks as required, including the submission of monthly invoices and timesheet.

Please contact us at info@dancenorth.scot or call 01309 691661 if you have any questions about the role or application process, require clarification on any issues, or require this material in a different format. We're keen to promote an accessible, equitable and respectful working culture for all our freelancers and collaborators.

How to Apply

Please submit one to two sides of A4 as an expression of interest, or a video or audio of no longer than five minutes detailing the following:

- Tell us about you and your artistic practice.
- What would you like to explore or do during this residency?
- What excites you about the project and what is your relationship with Moray? (you may never had one before, but we would like to hear your interest).
- How could this project support you and your artistic practice?
- Tell us anything else what you want us to know about you.

Please send your expression of interest to info@dancenorth.scot by Sunday 7 November 2021 (deadline has been extended). You are also welcome to send in your biography or CV. Your application will be reviewed by a small panel that includes Dance North Artistic Director Karl Jay-Lewin, an independent artist, and AIM project lead.

Shortlisted artists will be invited to a short conversation with the panel and asked to send in a more detailed proposal (emailed when shortlisted). This is not an interview. It will simply be an opportunity to answer any questions about the residency proposal and better understand how the artists' work will fit in with the wider AIM Collective, as well as answer any questions the artist may have. We will be offering honorariums to all artists invited to these conversations.

Arts in Moray and Dance North are committed to diversity and inclusion. As such we encourage applications from underrepresented backgrounds in the Scottish dance community, including but not limited to *BIPOC+ artists, disabled artists, older artists, trans artists, and all those who feel their voices are not commonly heard.

*For the context of this call out we use the phrase BIPOC+ to refer to artists from the African diaspora, Latinx, the East Asian diaspora, the South East Asian Diaspora, from the South Asian Diaspora, West Asian (includes Middle East) Diaspora, bi-racial/ mixed heritage, or who also self-identify as a Person of Colour or Black.

We would appreciate if you could complete the online equality and diversity monitoring form by clicking [here](#). This is not a necessary requirement of the application and are free to complete all, some or none of the form.

Pre-application, drop-in conversations:

If you are interested in understanding more about the residency and the project prior to committing to a full application, or maybe you are not sure whether to apply or not, we will be holding informal info sessions on zoom on the following days, where you can ask questions and hear more about this opportunity from Dance North and AIM Project Lead – email info@dancenorth.scot or call 01309 691661 to book a place on your preferred time slot and receive the zoom link.

- Saturday 16th October 14.00-15.00
- Tuesday 19th October 10.00-11.00
- Wednesday 27th October 17.30-18.30

We are also open to individual conversations if you are unable to attend any drop-in sessions. Please e-mail info@dancenorth.scot to arrange.

About Arts in Moray

Moray-based arts organisations, working together as part of the [Culture Café](#) network, have come together under the banner Arts in Moray (AIM) to run a series of artist residencies, funded by Creative Scotland's [Culture Collective programme](#), part of the emergency COVID-19 funds for art and creativity.

Arts in Moray Collective comprises of four organisations local to Moray, Scotland: [Dance North Scotland](#), [Moray Arts Development Engagement](#) (M:ADE), [Moray Way Association](#) (MWA) and [Wildbird](#). Drawing upon associations of the word 'collective', and exploring the *Rhizome way of thinking*, this Culture Collective project will employ an approach to engaging a network of creative practitioners and communities within Moray in a working dynamic grounded in fairness, transparency, agency, equity and collaboration.

You can find out more [here](#).

About Dance North Scotland

Dance North is based in Moray and our mission is to promote and produce bold and imaginative events that offer people from across the globe to just down the road new opportunities to experience dance, to support the cultural sector within Moray to flourish and to bring people and communities together.

The organisation aims are to:

- Enhance public engagement with contemporary dance in Moray
- Programme, promote, and support the development of contemporary dance in Scotland
- Ensure the long-term resilience and sustainability of our work.

Dance North work with local communities through participatory and performance programmes, particularly younger and older people, as well as facilitating the engagement of the Culture Café – a meeting and networking space for people working in the arts in the Moray area.

You can find out more [here](#).

Document updated 27 October 2021.

