

Art in the Landscape

Connecting People to Nature

Artists' Residencies – Autumn 2024
Part of the Nature Calling project

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Nature Calling
Project



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Nature Calling – Artists’ Residencies: Invitation to apply



Pravaas by Akademi at Inside Out Dorset 2023. Credit: Jayne Jackson

Apply now for free to attend artists’ professional development residencies this Autumn, as part of the national project Nature Calling. Training, food, accommodation and access requirements provided (travel expenses not included).

Designed for UK artists and companies from any artistic discipline working in the public realm or outdoor arts who are interested in:

- Developing their practice to work within or inspired by protected landscapes (such as National Landscapes, National Parks, National Trails)
- Engaging diverse audiences in their artistic work.

Activate Performing Arts, in partnership with the National Landscape Association, is looking for artists to join two residencies this Autumn. Each three-day long residency will have with the same content, with different participants, run on different dates in the North and South of England.



Nature Calling is a ground-breaking national project, that will commission an exceptional, diverse range of artists to explore and celebrate nature and our National Landscapes (formerly known as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty). Specifically designed to listen to communities and ensure our landscapes are a place for everyone.

A partnership between the National Landscape Association, Activate Performing Arts and Poetry School with six regional National Landscapes to commission artists, the project will engage new audiences across England – and inspire the whole National Landscapes family. For more background on Nature Calling please see below.

For information on how to apply see below. When applying, please select which is your preferred location. You are invited to apply for one residency only, but you can let us know in the form if you are flexible. Each residency will have space for fifteen individuals. Due to the small numbers we can only select one participant from Company applications.

- **Newbury Residency:** [101 Outdoor Arts](#) Newbury, Monday 4th November –Thursday 7th November 2024
- **Salford Residency:** Walk The Plank, [Cobden Works](#) Salford, Monday 18th – Thursday 21st November 2024

Artistic focus:

- To understand the key considerations in creating artistic projects in protected landscapes.
- To learn and share practice focussed on diversifying engagement in protected landscape and connect new audiences to nature through the arts.
- To find out about the people who steward the landscape and can broker relationships.

Contributors include:

- Bill Gee, one of the founders of Outdoor Arts UK, Co-Artistic Director of Inside Out Dorset at Activate and Co-Executive Producer of Nature Calling
- Kate Wood, Artistic & Executive Director of Activate/Inside Out Dorset and Creative Executive Producer of Nature Calling
- Ruth Pitter, Director of Black Women Let Loose Theatre Co, Co-Director of Soul Trail Wellbeing, Grace The Space, and equity, diversity and inclusion specialist trainer.
- Lead officers from National Landscapes who are working on the Nature Calling project
- Some of the commissioned writers and artists for Nature Calling, who will be announced in September.

A huge thanks to the Corn Exchange Newbury and Walk the Plank for supporting and hosting these residencies.

Thanks to funding from Arts Council England and DEFRA (department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), these labs are free to attend, with food and accommodation provided (travel expenses not included).



To be eligible you must be based in the UK, able to show a commitment to engaging diverse audiences and have an existing practice in the public realm or some understanding of working outdoors. We are particularly interested in having a greater representation of artists from the global majority, from black and Asian heritage.

How to apply

Deadline for applications: 12:00 midday on Monday 16th September 2024

Please fill in the [online application form](#).

Please complete an anonymous [Equality of opportunity Form](#). This form will be held securely and the data will be treated anonymously. It will not be used as part of the selection process.

If you require the questions or this pack in another format such as BSL, Large Print or Audiofile, we will happily arrange this for you or if you need further information, please contact info@activateperformingarts.org.uk or call 01305 260954.

You can submit your application in an alternative format such as video or audio. We recommend using [WeTransfer](#) to send large files and send your files to: info@activateperformingarts.org.uk

If you have any access requirements or need any help with your application, please contact us and we will be happy to help.

Outcome: We aim to let applicants know if they've been selected for a place by Monday 23rd September 2024.

Activate is committed to best practice in the handling of personal and sensitive data. You can read more about our policies on our [website](#).

Equality and diversity

- We wholeheartedly support equal opportunities in all areas of our work. We strive to be a bold organisation that listens to the communities we work with. We encourage feedback on our services and how we can improve. We are committed to removing barriers.
- We oppose all forms of unlawful discrimination in relation to the protected characteristics. We are committed to having a staff and board that reflects and represents all sections of the community we serve and eliminating discrimination that is unlawful; under the Equalities Act 2010.
- The shortlisting panel will be representative of a diverse range of individuals.



Background

These Artists' Residencies are part of Nature Calling.

Nature Calling is a ground-breaking national project, that will commission an exceptional, diverse range of artists to explore and celebrate nature and our National Landscapes (formerly known as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty). Specifically designed to listen to communities and ensure our landscapes are a place for everyone, Nature Calling is inviting writers and artists to respond to this brief, for a programme that culminates in a season between May and October 2025.

This is a nationally significant project, bringing the special qualities of our National Landscapes to the fore, and creating opportunities for artists and communities to respond to Nature Calling.

A partnership between the National Landscape Association, Activate Performing Arts and Poetry School with six regional National Landscapes to commission artists, the project will engage new audiences across England – and inspire the whole National Landscapes family.

Thanks to national funding from Arts Council England and Defra (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), as well as funders from each English National Landscape – specifically for these commissions, thanks go to the following National Landscapes in the Chilterns, Dorset, Forest of Bowland, Lincolnshire Wolds, Mendip Hills and Surrey Hills.

Residency partners:



Nature Calling lead partners and funders:



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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



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UK Government



Short version of copy for listings

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For more information and to apply to go: <https://activateperformingarts.org.uk/jobs/art-in-the-landscape-artists-residencies-invitation-to-apply/>

Deadline: 12:00 midday on Monday 16th September 2024

A partnership between the National Landscape Association, Activate Performing Arts and Poetry School, thanks to national funding from Arts Council England and Defra.

