

## **Opportunity: Kielder Art & Architecture Digital Residency**

### ***Project***

Kielder Art & Architecture invites applications from artists who wish to be considered for an artist's residency with digital content as its primary media at Kielder Water & Forest Park, Northumberland.

The application process will result in an artist being selected to undertake the residency as a key part of our future programme to be delivered between February 2021 and May 2022. The project will explore how digital media can enhance visitor engagement, appreciation and access to Kielder's unique environment in its widest sense.

With creative content of at their discretion, the selected artist will work closely throughout their residency with the Kielder Art & Architecture Curator and Kielder Water & Forest Park Development Trust members on the residency's artistic direction and eventual outcomes, one of which might result in a legacy for visitor engagement beyond the residency period (see below for further information on the Trust's membership).

We wish to provide opportunities to all artists and are particularly interested in receiving proposals from artists who come from less well represented backgrounds. The overall aim of the project is to develop outcomes that offer our audiences fresh perspectives on the richness of Kielder, and we believe that encouraging new voices and supporting artistic diversity is an important element in achieving this aim.

### ***Artist's fee***

A fee of between £3K and £5K including materials and travel will be available, subject to the ambition of the selected proposal and the availability of Arts Council funding.

KWFPDT will also set aside a discretionary budget to address any specific access requirements and to enable it's outcomes to be as inclusive as possible.

### ***Deadline***

**The deadline for expressions of interest is 6.00pm 5th October 2020**

### ***Context and background to Kielder Art & Architecture***

Kielder Water & Forest Park Development Trust (KWFPDT) has a 25-year history of developing and delivering high quality creative projects across the Park through its commissioning programme Kielder Art & Architecture (KA&A) and have worked on a wide range of projects with world-renowned, mid-career and emerging practitioners. Although during the past 15 years we have moved towards a model of integrated commissioning linked to specific recreational infrastructure projects, such as cycling, mountain biking, engagement with Kielder Water & Forest Park's (KWFP) rich wildlife and community needs, we always strive to protect creative excellence as a key element in each commission and recognise the value that this approach brings to our audiences.

One of the objectives of our long-term investment plan - The Kielder Big Picture - is to place digital technology and experiences at the heart of the Kielder offer. We are particularly interested in the value that digitally-based projects can encourage potential audiences to engage with rural parts of the country where geographical remoteness and cultural expectations related to such areas can represent significant barriers to visitor engagement. As part of that ambition a key commission that we have been developing over the past few years is the transmedia educational outreach project The Kielder Brag - see link below for more details.

Outside of the Art & Architecture programme, we are also investing in digital innovation. Working with Digital Catapult North East and Tees Valley, we have commissioned two companies to develop prototypes for immersive digital experiences. See <http://www.visitkielder.com/news/2020/06/kielder-water-forest-park-goes-digital> for more information.

We wish to encourage all those reading this to apply. If you are concerned that you have limited experience of this kind of work, or are an artist at the start of their career, this should not deter you from applying as we have support structures in place to work with newcomers and are used to supporting less experienced practitioners as they work to realise their creative ambitions. We are also particularly interested in practitioners who are interested in bringing different cultural perspectives and vision to Kielder.

### **Structure**

The selected artist will work both remotely and also spend time at KWFP, where dedicated accommodation and studio space are available.

How the chosen artist decides to allocate their time and the overall period during which the residency takes place, will be agreed through discussion with the Trust. We would encourage applicants to propose a residency timetable as part of their application that allows time for their ideas to develop by maximizing the overall period available.

The residency period must be completed and residency outcomes presented or in place by early May 2022.

### **Timeline**

6pm 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2020	Deadline for applications
October 2020	Selection and notification of appointed artist: interviews of shortlisted candidates will take place via remote link in mid-October
Late October 2020	Artist selected and residency timescale provisionally agreed (subject to funding)
Feb 2021-May 2022	Beginning and end dates within which the residency is currently expected to take place.

### **Eligibility**

For this project we cannot accept applications currently in formal education.

### **Selection**

We encourage applications from people with backgrounds that are currently under-represented or under-supported within the arts sector.

An internal selection panel will be responsible for shortlisting a maximum of 3 applications, which will be then invited to interview in mid-October.

### **Application process and requirements**

Please read the following carefully. The key points below have been carefully considered to enable applicants to understand the particular information that the selection panel needs to hear from them.

## **Applicants should provide:**

A proposal of no more than 750 words in writing **or** 4 minutes recording covering the text-based sections outlined below (audio or video will both be accepted).

Your proposal should describe what you plan to do and what your ambitions for the project are. It will benefit your application if you consider of the following as part of your proposal:

- Who you expect the audience for your work will be? Describe what they might experience and how would they experience it.
- What medium are you proposing to use?
- Is your proposal an extension of an existing work or a stand-alone piece of work?
- How you would deliver you proposed work - how much time would you require, in total how much of that time you would need to spend at Kielder and how much at a distance, what materials do you think that you would require.

Note that we are not seeking final ideas at this stage and we expect to support and assist the successful applicant in the development of their project through ongoing engagement facilitated by the Kielder curator, including discussions with and presentations to stakeholders at appropriate points during project delivery.

Please include an indicative timeline for your residency. We are happy to discuss alternative time structures to suit the selected artist's needs. This might be a concentrated time period or stretched out over a longer one but it would be helpful if you could suggest dates in your timeline to give us a general idea.

Indicate what sort of materials budget might be required to deliver your project.

- Information about your work (max 400 words)

Tell us about your work, what interests you, and why you have applied for this project.

- Evidence of previous work limited to 5 images

Preferably sent collectively as a Powerpoint or otherwise as **individual** JPEGs or individual PDFs, no more than 1Mb per file.

**N.B. Do not send a collection of images in a single PDF**

- Links to online work – **2 links max**

N.B. Think about the work that you provide links to. A showreel is much more likely to be viewed and appreciated than lengthy individual pieces. If you have a website that contains this information, please include the link.

**Deadline for expressions of interest      6.00pm 5th October 2020**

**Please email your application, including your completed Diversity Monitoring Form, to:**

**peter.w.sharpe@btinternet.com** using the subject line 'Kielder Digital Residency'

If you would like to discuss access and flexibility, please get in touch by using the same contact address.

**Useful links:**

[www.kielderartandarchitecture.com](http://www.kielderartandarchitecture.com)

[www.visitkielder.com](http://www.visitkielder.com)

[www.kielderbrag.com](http://www.kielderbrag.com)



Kielder Water & Forest Park Development Trust members are:

**NORTHUMBRIAN WATER, FORESTRY ENGLAND, CALVERT KIELDER, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL, NORTHUMBERLAND WILDLIFE TRUST, NORTHUMBERLAND NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY and KIELDER OBSERVATORY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.**



Supported using public funding by

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