Expressions of Interest: Pale Blue Dot artwork(s)

Every year the Edinburgh Science Festival challenges and inspires people through innovative discussions, hands-on workshops, interactive exhibitions and more. Our work is a celebration, an inspiration and a playground for everyone to explore the world around them. With 30 years under our belt, we are expert science communicators and leaders in our field.

Edinburgh Science Festival returns 4–19 April 2020. In a year that sees the 50th anniversary of Earth Day – generally regarded as the birthdate of the modern environmental movement – the 2020 Festival takes the theme of ‘Elementary’, using the ancient classifications of Earth, Air, Fire and Water, as a way to explore the roles that creative thinking, science, technology, engineering and related disciplines have to play in addressing some of the biggest global challenges. There is no Planet B, and accepting science’s crucial role in securing our future really is Elementary. As some of the ancients did we add a fifth element with a special focus on the digital world (our Aether) and on how we can merge creative technology with live events to create new experiences for our audiences. Plus, of course, there’s the usual wonderful mix of science of all sorts, and for all ages, in a packed two-week programme across Edinburgh and beyond.

What are we looking for?

Calling all artists and creatives! We have an exciting opportunity to get involved with a new exhibition for the Edinburgh Science Festival. Through interactive and innovative design, the exhibition Pale Blue Dot will explore and celebrate our seas and oceans, the science of water and current challenges and solutions. Submit your proposal now.

The piece(s) can be new or existing work(s), will be suitable for family audiences and will form part of our Festival exhibition programme for family and adult audiences. We are looking for proposals for projects inspired by the theme that dynamically engage audiences on marine topics such as:

- Mapping and exploring the oceans
- Biodiversity
- Challenges and opportunities: resources from the ocean
- Challenges such as ocean plastics, rising sea levels etc.
- Scottish marine myths and legends

Edinburgh Science Festival has a fund of up to £20,000 to be allocated to a number of successful projects.
GENERAL ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION
Proposals are welcomed from creatives, technologists, artists, designers and anyone working creatively.

Your proposal should demonstrate a clear interest and commitment to delivering a project which explores the theme of seas and oceans and meets Edinburgh Science Festival’s requirements.

Collaborative projects from groups and collectives are welcome including interdisciplinary teams. We welcome applications from all sections of the community.

GENERAL APPLICATION AND DEADLINE INFORMATION
Successful projects will be selected through a two-stage process: initial expressions of interest and secondary proposals from shortlisted applicants.

Submission deadline:
5pm Friday 30 August 2019

Panel meets:
w/c 2 September 2019

Secondary proposals required by:
27 Sept 2019

Successful projects announced by:
04 October 2019

All successful project(s)/work(s) must be completed no later than 16 March 2020, ready for inspection and installation as part of the exhibition, which will launch by 4 April 2020. These dates may be subject to change dependent on the installation required for the project/work.

HOW TO APPLY
Applicants must submit the requested materials as listed below by 5pm Friday 30 August 2019 via email only to jennifer.casebow@scifest.co.uk. To strengthen the review of your application, applicants should submit appropriate supporting material. Good documentation may give the selection panel a clearer indication of what is being proposed and/or the quality of the work of the practitioners involved.

YOUR APPLICATION
Your completed application will consist of:
1. An expression of interest [no more than two sides of A4]
2. An expected total cost budget
3. CV for each key project team member
4. Supporting documentation (visual, audio etc)

GUIDANCE NOTES
NB: All documents should be provided in PDF.

Budget - Please provide an expected total cost for your project. If your project/application has additional funding please state sources in your budget and whether they are proposed or confirmed. Costs should include all related costs, artists’ fees, technical support, materials and exhibition of the project/work for the duration of the Edinburgh Science Festival from 4 – 19 April 2020 and subsequent associated European tour (pending confirmation).

Supporting Documentation – Select high-quality supporting documentation that clearly illustrates the merit of your previous work and/or the work of the proposed project/application. URLs are the preferred method of submitting visual documentation for your expression of interest.

REVIEW PROCESS:
Proposals will be reviewed and selected by a panel, facilitated by Edinburgh Science Festival, using the following criteria:

- The quality, creativity and originality of the proposed project.
- The clarity of interaction between the proposed project and the theme.
- The likelihood that your proposed idea can be delivered within your budget.
- Evidence of the ability and commitment of those involved to deliver the project on time.

IF SUCCESSFUL
Awardees must complete a funding agreement in order to receive payment of the award. Awards are issued in two payments, 75% on completion of agreement and 25% on installation/delivery.

NB: The practitioner(s) will own the copyright of the finished work. Edinburgh Science Festival reserves the right to obtain permission or a license from the copyright holder to screen/exhibit/host the work beyond the initial exhibition in Edinburgh and subsequent associated European tour [pending confirmation].

Applicants are required to submit electronically via email only to Jennifer Casebow jennifer.casebow@scifest.co.uk no later than 5pm Friday on 30 August 2019.

If you have any questions, call Edinburgh Science at 0131 553 0320 or email Jennifer Casebow jennifer.casebow@scifest.co.uk.

Late submissions will not be reviewed.

The PLACE Programme is funded by the Scottish Government - through Creative Scotland - the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Festivals