



Open Call

Support for commissioning and touring for new outdoor work in 2019

Without Walls invites artists and companies to request support for the creation and touring of new outdoor work for presentation in 2019.

Background

Founded in 2007, Without Walls is a consortium of UK arts festivals that work together to deliver an annual programme of new outdoor arts by British artists.

In June 2017 Arts Council England recognised Without Walls' 10-year track record of success by awarding the organisation NPO funding from 2018 to 2022. This enables Without Walls to plan projects on a longer-term basis, and to develop partnerships with a range of organisations to support the development of ambitious outdoor arts projects.

Open Call 2019

Without Walls supports the creation and touring of a range of exciting and ambitious outdoor projects of different genres, styles and forms by UK artists. Our main agenda is to support new work of the highest quality.

Artists are invited to submit proposals for the next round of Without Walls commissions, for new outdoor arts projects in any form which will premiere and tour in 2019.

Without Walls also supports a rolling programme of R&D activity named 'Blueprint', which has its own separate application process. From 2019 onwards we plan to run two call-outs a year for Blueprint, with the next application deadline scheduled to take place in January 2019. Full information on how to apply for the next round of Blueprint support will be published later in 2018.

In 2018 Without Walls awarded Blueprint support to 21 projects, and it is therefore likely that some of those projects may be selected for commissioning in 2019. Artists applying for commissioning support for projects that have been developed through Blueprint still need to apply through this same open call process, and all the applications that we receive will still be given the same level of consideration.

Achievements

Without Walls has been breaking new ground in the development and creation of outdoor arts in the UK, working in partnership to deliver opportunities for British artists to create new work of the highest quality, and making that programme available to the widest possible audience.

Since its formation in 2007, Without Walls has developed and toured 120 new shows by UK companies and supported the Research and Development of over 50 projects. Since 2012 Without Walls commissions received 256 bookings outside of Without Walls and ATN Festivals in their first year of touring, including international tours to 22 countries.

You can see some information about the shows that we have supported on our website;

<http://www.withoutwalls.uk.com/programme-archive/>

How to submit your proposal

Please ensure you read the relevant eligibility and guidance criteria.

The deadline for receipt of proposals is **17.00h on Tuesday 4th September**
Shortlisted projects for touring in 2019 will be notified by mid-December.

Background

About Without Walls // www.withoutwalls.uk.com

Founded in 2007, Without Walls is a consortium of UK arts organisations that work together to deliver an annual programme of new outdoor arts works by British artists.

The current consortium members are:

- **101 Creation Space** – www.101outdoorarts.com
Year-round creation support for outdoor artists
- **Brighton Festival** – <http://brightonfestival.org>
4th – 26th May 2019
- **Norfolk & Norwich Festival** – www.nnfestival.org.uk
10th – 26th May 2019 (*particularly the 11th – 12th May and 18th – 19th May*)
- **Salisbury International Arts Festival** – www.salisburyfestival.co.uk
24th May – 9th June (*particularly the 26th – 27th May*)
- **Greenwich + Docklands International Festival** – www.festival.org
TBC 20th June – 6th July 2019 (*particularly the Greenwich Fair Weekend: 21st – 23rd June, and Dancing City: 29th June*)
- **Winchester Hat Fair** – www.hatfair.co.uk
5th – 7th July 2019
- **Stockton International Riverside Festival** – www.sirf.co.uk
TBC 1st – 4th August 2019
- **Just So Festival** – www.justsofestival.org.uk
16th – 18th August 2019
- **Out There Festival** – www.seachangearts.org.uk
14th – 15th September 2019

In addition to the commissioning festivals we also have an Associate Touring Network (ATN)
The ATN extends the reach of Without Walls by presenting shows developed by the consortium in the year/s after their creation, and by delivering strategic Audience Development initiatives that help to reach new and diverse audiences across England. Current ATN members are:

- **Appetite, Stoke On Trent** – www.appetitestoke.co.uk
- **Derby Festé** – www.derbyfeste.com
- **Freedom Festival, Hull** – www.freedomfestival.co.uk
- **SO Festival, East Lincolnshire** – www.sofestival.org
- **Bell Square, Hounslow** – www.watermans.org.uk
- **Lancashire Encounter, Preston** – www.prestonguildcity.co.uk/visit
- **Leicester City Festival, Leicester Diwali Festival** – www.visitleicester.info
- **Right Up Our Street, Doncaster** – www.rightupourstreet.org.uk
- **Vivacity, Peterborough** – www.vivacity-peterborough.com

Partnerships

Without Walls is in discussion with a number of festivals, organisations and producers who share our mission to support the creation and touring of ambitious new outdoor work. We welcome proposals from artists who already have other commissioning partnerships in place.

Purpose of this Open Call

Without Walls issues Open Calls to artists in order to ensure that all artists have the opportunity to present their ideas to the consortium in an equal and democratic way. We have found that this is a great way of finding out about new artists and projects – though the large response that we usually have to these Open Calls means that there are always far more projects than we are able to support. We very much value the work and time that artists put into these Open Calls and thank you in advance for your interest.

We try to keep the proposal forms as succinct as possible, hoping that they strike a balance between giving us the important information we need, without taking too much time for the artists to complete. All projects are read by all of the festival partners and we work together to select a programme that can work for all of the festivals. This always involves lengthy negotiation between the festivals as we have to manage multiple priorities and reach consensus within a limited budget.

Without Walls Artistic Policy is to

- support, develop and present work from a new and emerging generation of outdoor artists;
- work with established companies and artists who are keen to experiment and develop new approaches to their work;
- help stimulate new, surprising and engaging outdoor arts collaborations between artists from different disciplines;
- prioritise the development and presentation of work made by artists from protected characteristic groups;
- draw on the consortium's considerable experience and awareness of international outdoor arts to help provide new stimulus and opportunities for collaboration between UK and international artists.

The work must be suitable for touring and the artists must be able to demonstrate that the work would be available for presentation in 2019 and 2020 at a minimum.

Eligibility and guidance

- We are looking for work from all disciplines and genres, that is innovative and ambitious and challenges the idea of what outdoor arts can be.
- The work **must be suitable for outdoor touring** and artists should be committed to exploring touring opportunities for the works in addition to the Without Walls festivals.
- Proposals for work could be adaptable in scale, suitable for daytime and / or evening presentation and may also include promenade or processional based elements.
- Without Walls exists to support the development of new and ambitious work by **UK artists**; we can support projects that are developed in association with International Artists, but ***the lead partner on the project must be based in the UK.***
- Most projects supported by Without Walls are shows that we have commissioned. However in some cases we will support the touring of a project that has already raised its creation costs, provided that the show has not already toured in the UK, and provided it clearly meets our priorities.
- **For commissions and touring projects in 2019: Please note** the work should be **available from May – September 2019**, and be available to tour to Without Walls festivals where interest lies. It is expected that shows commissioned for 2019 will also be available to tour from April – October 2020, allowing them to tour to ATN festivals, if required.

Important information regarding Match Funding and Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants

Without Walls is supported through Arts Council England Lottery funding. This means that Without Walls commissioning funds cannot count towards the minimum 10% match funding threshold required by ACE Lottery Project Grants.

If you are considering applying for ACE Lottery Project Grants then we recommend that you consult the ACE Enquiries team, or your existing Relationship Manager, for advice on eligibility.

Commissioning funds

In addition to the money provided by Without Walls, the individual partner festivals also contribute funds to selected projects. It is extremely unusual for Without Walls to commission 100% of any project. Our commission funds have normally been between 20% - 60% of any project. For larger projects, Without Walls is normally one of several commissioning partners.

Most projects supported by Without Walls are shows that we have commissioned. However in some cases we will support the touring of a project that has already raised its creation costs from other sources, provided that the show has not already toured in the UK, and provided it clearly meets our priorities.

Considerations when allocating our budget

We will look to create a balanced programme of genres, styles and scales of work.

We will consider the potential audience reach of our projects when assessing the level of our commissioning contribution. It is unusual for us to support the development of a show that is expensive to create and to present, that does not also reach a large audience. If your show is designed for very small audiences, please be clear about how many times a day the show can be presented and therefore how wide an audience it can reach.

Anticipated Timeline

Deadline for submission of proposals: 17.00 4th September 2018

Projects for presentation in 2019:

Notification of shortlisted projects: End of October 2018

Final decision: Mid-December 2018

Access support

Without Walls is committed to ensuring that all of our processes and events are as accessible as possible.

If you would like to receive the application materials in an alternative format, or if you would like to request assistance with completing your application, please contact: elena@xtrax.org.uk providing an outline of your access requirements.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 Completing your proposal form

Can I apply for a commission even if I have been unsuccessful in an application for R&D or commissioning support in the past?

Yes, but please explain how the project has evolved since your last proposal.

Can I apply for a commission to redevelop an existing piece?

Without Walls exists to support the development of new work, so it would be unlikely that we would offer commission investment to redevelop an existing piece. You would need to strongly demonstrate that it was substantially different for us to consider this.

Can I apply for a commission to create an installation or durational piece?

Yes, please explain how many people can experience the piece in the course of one day / session.

Can I apply to create and tour a piece that requires the involvement of local / community participants at each festival?

Yes, but please explain your requirements in terms of recruiting and supporting community involvement, including what is required from the festival in recruiting local participants.

Can I apply for support to tour an existing outdoor piece?

We cannot support the touring costs of existing projects that have already previously toured the UK.

Do I have to request commission money from Without Walls or can I just request support to tour to the Without Walls festivals?

Most of the shows we present are commissioned by Without Walls. If you have already raised the money you need to create your project you may not need to request commission money; Without Walls will sometimes support the touring of new projects that we have not commissioned through the network provided they are new and have not toured the UK previously.

2 Finance and Budget

How much money can I request from Without Walls as a commission?

If you request commissioning money from Without Walls please note that we do not normally support the full creation costs, so please indicate how much your total budget will be, and how much of this amount you would like Without Walls to contribute, as well as indicating match funding sources if known. Our previous commission funds have ranged from £3,000 - £50,000 in any one project, depending on the scale and complexity of the piece.

What do I need to include in my creation budget?

Please include all costs related to the rehearsal, development, build, design and creation of your piece, including all artists/creative fees, materials and costs related to rehearsing your project. If you are VAT registered please do not include VAT that you can reclaim.

Several of the Without Walls commissioning partners are able to provide creation space support to some of the projects that Without Walls commissions. If this is something that you would like to be considered for then please use the relevant questions on the application form to indicate how many weeks access to space you would like to request. Partners that have creation space facilities include; [101 Creation Space](#), [Out There Festival](#) and [Just So Festival](#) (please click on the embedded links to visit each website and find out more information about the facilities available).

Please do not include performance costs, as these should be shown separately.

Payments to Artists

You need to show the fees and wages of artists involved in your project. Please show how overall fees have been calculated and the rates at which people are paid.

We are committed to making sure that artists are paid appropriately for their work. The amount is likely to depend on a number of things, including the experience and skills of the artist, the type of work and the length of the contract.

There are recognised codes of practice set by relevant lead organisations. If you need any help or advice on this, Arts Council England produces an information sheet, 'Fair Pay'- it can be [downloaded here](#).

Do I include marketing and PR as part of the creation costs?

Without Walls will normally ask you to supply photographs and copy for use in the promotion of your work if it is supported by Without Walls. We will not normally ask you for additional marketing material so we would not expect to support additional Marketing and PR costs.

What other sources of income should I include?

Most artists will seek other funding for their projects, including earned income from touring and other activities, commissions, Local Authority funding, private income, income from grant making trusts, crowd funding or other Public Funding. Please clearly describe the funding and whether this is expected or confirmed. It is not an absolute requirement from Without Walls to have additional funding, but it is prudent for artists and companies to look at a range of potential sources of financing their work, and not to rely on investment from Without Walls. Without Walls does not normally support 100% of the creation costs of a project.

Do I need to include funding from commissioners and co-commissioners and other partners outside of the Without Walls Consortium?

Yes, if you have them. Please explain which other festivals have committed support and check when they are presenting the piece; please confirm the dates so we can see whether this would exclude any of the Without Walls festivals.

Do I need to include in-kind support?

This is dependent on how you choose to construct or present your creation budget, but it is helpful if you can demonstrate external partnership support.

Can I include projected income from provisional dates for the proposed project as part of the creation costs?

No, we advise you to keep projected touring income separate from your creation costs, as this could lead to cash flow difficulties and cannot be seen as guaranteed income for your creation budget.

I am waiting on the outcome of a grant/funding application; do I include this in the creation budget?

If this will form part of your creation budget please include it, and give the date of when the outcome of the application will be known.

What should I include in my performance fee?

Please include all costs required to enable you to set up and present your show at a festival, including all artist / creative team fees and company costs / overheads if required.

Please do not include travel, accommodation, per diems / food as this will be negotiated separately in addition to the budget. More detail about your touring requirements will be requested if your project is shortlisted.

Do I need to include technical costs in my performance fee?

Please only include technical costs for items / services that you have to bring with your show and that could not be provided by the festival locally. The festivals will expect to provide technical equipment for you on site, including items such as sound, power, and crew support for the get-in as well as overnight security and transportation costs (where necessary). Please specify what is, and is not included, in your fee and what the festival will be required to supply.

I have received some development money from Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants to research my piece; can I still apply for commission funds to create my piece?

Yes, provided that the development phase supported by the Lottery Project Grant is clearly separate from the creation costs.

3 Touring

Do I need to go to all the Without Walls festivals?

It is very rare that you will be asked to tour to all the Without Walls festivals. Most artists tour to between 3-6 of the Without Walls festivals in Year One. *Please indicate if you know you are not available for some of the Without Walls festival dates.*

Can I choose which Without Walls festivals I go to?

No, the festivals select the shows that they think will best meet the needs of their programme, and the festivals are not able to present all the projects.

If I receive a commission from Without Walls can I still tour to other festivals that are not part of the network?

Yes, we encourage you to secure additional bookings - although please be aware that some festivals may request that you do not perform in the same city or town within a set time period of your performance. If you are unsure of this please check.

Do I need to tell you about any provisional bookings for the project? If I am successful, will I need to cancel provisional bookings?

Yes, please indicate any firm or provisional bookings. If you are commissioned by Without Walls we will ask you to prioritise Without Walls festival bookings.

Can I apply for commission money in 2019 and tour the piece in 2020?

We have launched a Without Walls Blueprint fund to develop work in 2019, ready for touring in 2020, 2021 or 2022. Please visit the Without Walls website for more information on the Blueprint fund.

4 What happens next?

What happens after I submit my proposal?

All the proposals will be circulated to all the members of Without Walls and discussed at a series of programming meetings. We hope to let you know whether your proposal has been shortlisted by the end of October, and then whether it has been supported by mid-December.

How can I find out more about Without Walls?

You can look at our website www.withoutwalls.uk.com

Contact

For further information please contact the Without Walls management team, based at the XTRAX office:

+44 (0)161 227 8383 | info@withoutwalls.uk.com | www.withoutwalls.uk.com



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