

Residency at HOME on the High Street

The residency programme has been established as part of HOME Slough's approach to increasing the range and number of Slough residents engaging with, and being inspired by the arts. It is an opportunity for artists to reflect and respond to the town centre, the residents of Slough and life in the town.

The programme offers residents the chance to meet and work with artists over an agreed period in centre of the town, empowering them by involving them in the creative process. For artists it provides a space to test artistic ideas and practice in collaboration with the highly diverse community of Slough in a prominent visible location in the centre of the town.

This programme supports our ambition to increase the arts offer in Slough, build links with organisations based outside of Slough and contribute to making the High Street a cultural destination for residents.

And did we mention fun? Fun, we'd like to encourage a spirit of fun with our residencies.

What outcomes can we hope to achieve with our residencies?

The visiting artist/company achieves artistic outcomes (set by them) that support their ambitions, and creatively excite the artists working on the project.

Residents, including those who have not engaged with the work of HOME Slough before, and who are not regular arts attenders, are reached through the residency.

HOME on the High Street has provided creative activities for local residents, that would not have been possible without the residency.

That artistic content of the residency has a resonance for the community, that it is relevant and meaningful, and as a result will make a lasting impression on those involved.

What is HOME on the High Street?

HOME on the High Street is a quite simply a shop on the High Street in Slough, we have been given access to create a cultural space for two years. It has two floors, and used to be owned by Top Shop.

The space provides local artists opportunities to present and develop their work (exhibitions, workshops, meetings), we are also programming family activities and new creative experiences for those who wouldn't normally go to an arts centre.

We are very interested in activities that explore the nature of High Streets, Town Centres, Shopping and have meaning for the highly multi-cultural community we are based in.

HOME Slough is one of 21 Creative People & Places (CPP) projects funded by Arts Council England, it is a national initiative that aims to increase the number of people choosing, creating and taking part in brilliant art experiences in the places where they live, particularly where evidence shows that people are less involved in arts and cultural activities than elsewhere in England.

CPP has been designed as an action research programme experimenting with radically different approaches to inspire and excite people about the arts. It will take risks, reflect on what works and what doesn't and use that experience to shape how the programme develops.

What is expected in the delivery of a residency?

We expect the shape and content of the residency to be informed by our local community. We can arrange to bring together local residents to help with this, we can also share ideas/thoughts that were gathered at a recent meeting with 15 of our Creative Connectors who form part of our Community Network.

The residency is an opportunity for the visiting artist/company to explore new ideas. During this process we request that there are at least 5 opportunities for the community to engage with the artist/company. This could take various forms including offering workshops, open rehearsals, a performance or involving the community in the making of a work.

We would require the artist/company to produce one piece of writing that can be shared online with the community and our wider stakeholders during the residency.

At the end of the residency we would like a piece of work that can be shared by HOME Slough either virtually, in situ at the shop or accessible in some other format. The scale of this work is to be discussed with HOME Slough, our aim is that we are able to share an outcome of the residency beyond the period in which it took place, but it should not distract from the artist's residency aims or be too burdensome.

We would like the residency to commence by end of October 2019 and the length of residency can be discussed with HOME Slough. Please note that the shop can get very cold over the Winter months, we have heaters but not a full heating system.

Artists will need to participate in the evaluation framework we have established for the programme.

What can be expected from HOME Slough?

The HOME Slough team will support the artist/visiting companies to ensure that they have access to at least one space within HOME on the High Street for the times that they need it, that they feel engaged with our community and have some Communications support in order that they can reach community members.

We will help the artist to achieve the most they can from their residency and publicise the residency with key stakeholders.

The fee for the residency is £10k inc VAT, this should be used to cover all travel, materials and fees. This will be paid in 2 payments, 50% upfront and 50% upon completion of the residency.

How To Apply

Please outline:

- What interests you about the residency at HOME on the High Street?
- What you would like to achieve with the residency?
- Your proposed approach and what you will offer local residents during their time in Slough?
- Your proposed dates/months for the residency.
- A draft budget.
- Please provide an outline of your track record, or CV and an example of your work or a link to your work.

Please note that this residency is aimed at those artists who have experience of working within communities and are passionate about reaching non-traditional arts audiences. One of Slough's strengths is its multicultural community, we are keen to hear from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic artists who would be interested in working within this context.

HOME Slough Mission

- Increase the range and number of Slough residents engaging with, and being inspired by, the arts
- Increase the high quality arts offer in Slough
- Empower residents to make arts events happen
- Support a more active, networked & sustainable community of artists

- Forge relationships between local and national organisations, producers, promoters, audiences.
- Enable businesses and service providers to see the benefit of arts investment

For more on HOME Slough please see our website and contact Milan Govedarica milan@homeslough.org.uk with any questions.

Deadline for applications is Monday 2 September.

Shorlisting panel is on Wednesday 4 September.

Interviews with selection panel: Thursday 12 September