

## **CALL OUT - CREATIVE EUROPE SCHOOL OF PARTICIPATION – COVENTRY, UK 2021**

Led by one of the UK's leading outdoor arts companies [Walk the Plank](#), we are offering the opportunity to artists and community leaders to join the Coventry Creative Europe *School of Participation* this summer 2021.



### **About the Programme/Project**

Each of the five Creative Europe Schools of Participation see up to 30 practitioners from across Europe coming together for a week to learn and share skills in the practice of creating outdoor celebrations with local communities.

The Coventry School will be the third in a series of five: -

- Plovdiv (Bulgaria) – 2019
- Kaunas (Lithuania) – 2020
- Novi Sad (Serbia) – April 2021
- Coventry (UK) – July 2021
- Graz (Austria) – August 2021

**COVENTRY CITY OF CULTURE TRUST**  
C/O THE HERBERT ART GALLERY & MUSEUM, JORDAN WELL, COVENTRY, CV1 5QP  
[WWW.COVENTRY2021.CO.UK](http://WWW.COVENTRY2021.CO.UK)

REGISTERED ADDRESS: THE HERBERT ART GALLERY & MUSEUM,  
JORDAN WELL, COVENTRY, CV1 5QP, COMPANY NUMBER: 09808960  
CHARITY NUMBER 1165639, LIMITED BY GUARANTEE  
REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Together with contributions from four associate partners from Limerick (Ireland), Yerevan (Armenia), Tartu (Estonia) and Veszprem (Hungary), the aim of the 3-year project is to grow a culture of sustainable outdoor arts activity cities across Europe, in turn building career opportunities and networking for creative talent and developing new audiences for the arts in the communities where the schools take place.

[Coventry UK City of Culture](#), 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 is proud to present a cultural programme that reflects Coventry, its people and its ambitions for the future. We are a diverse, modern city which is re-imagining the role culture can play in bringing people together. Coventry is a city of welcome, a city of activists and pioneers, a city of peace and reconciliation, a city of innovation and invention, a City of Culture.

Coventry City of Culture Trust is committed to:

- Welcoming 2.5m additional visitors to Coventry 2021
- 80% of the city's residents experiencing at least three events in 2021
- Increasing audience attendance from under-represented communities by 20%
- Activating more than 16,000 volunteers and participants
- Making long-lasting, tangible social change in Coventry
- Transforming who holds the power to create and curate in the city
- Starting a wave of cultural investment across the region

The programme for the year will feature large scale mass participation spectacle and intimate moments of wonder. music, dance, theatre and poetry as well as many more celebratory cultural and heritage experiences in every ward of the city. The programme will touch on the city's rich history, heritage and diverse communities whilst taking a bold, future-facing approach, exploring narratives about the most pressing issues for our citizens, country and planet in the years to come.

### **The Coventry School in the UK (18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021)**

The Coventry School of Participation will focus on making, music, storytelling and movement, on land and on water, co-creating a processional performance, culminating in a canal side celebration on July 24 in Coventry's canal basin.

It is designed to build the capacity of creative practitioners interested in working with artists and communities in public space to make site-responsive celebrations to mark locations and occasions.

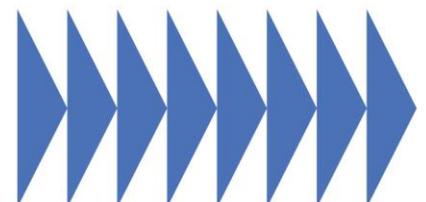
Based in Imagineer's Daimler Powerhouse building, the training programme of inspiration and 'learning by doing', with artists from across Europe will involve:

- Hands-on making, movement and skills workshops facilitated by Walk the Plank and local arts experts
- Classroom learning, practical inspiration, guest speakers
- A session on the Small Bells Ring boat with Heather Morison (Morison Studio) <https://coventry2021.co.uk/coming-soon/small-bells-ring>
- and a chance to put ideas and techniques into practice with a scratch processional performance, made in 3 days.

The School involves an intensive week of working - daytime and night-time culminating in a final celebration on and around Coventry's canal basin on the afternoon of 24<sup>th</sup> July.



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Practitioners will also interact with community groups at moments during the week and these groups will join the practitioners in the afternoon family celebration at the Canal Basin on 24<sup>th</sup> July.

Trainers will include artists/designers/makers, and a choreographer/movement specialist, and participants will be a mix of professional and non-professional creative practitioners, drawn from Coventry and the EU School of Participation partner cities.

### **The Venue**

The school of participation will take place at the fabulous newly refurbished Daimler Powerhouse building. After a year- long programme of capital re-development, Imagineer Productions received the keys to this beautiful new building on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021: <https://www.facebook.com/MidlandsBBC/videos/856602808254785>. All the resident companies: Imagineer, Highly Sprung Performance Company, Talking Birds, Media Mania and Open Theatre Company are delighted and excited to be opening this major new cultural resource and welcoming the Creative Europe outdoor arts school in July.

### **The Brief**

We are seeking 2 professional or non-professional creative practitioners, especially those with an interest in outdoor arts and those with a passion for co-creating with communities.

You may be:

- trained in creative arts and continued it as a hobby
- a local leader with a community group
- a professional creative producer, practitioner or facilitator
- an artist/maker, dancer/choreographer, actor/director, writer/storyteller, singer/musician,
- involved in organising processions, carnivals or outdoor performances.

Covid-allowing, professional and non-professional practitioners will travel to the UK from Bulgaria, Lithuania, Serbia, Austria, Ireland, Armenia and Hungary to join UK practitioners making a total of approximately 30 in the school.

We are committed to inclusion, diversity and equality in governance and in all our activities, recognising that diversity improves performance and fuels creativity and innovation. We have an inclusive culture where all aspects of diversity are key to our success.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Applicants must be 18 years or over.

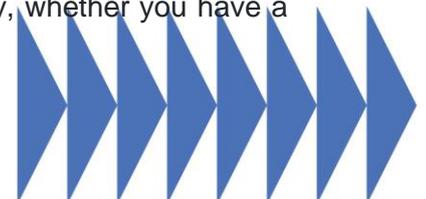
### **How to apply**

Send your application to email XXXXXXXX presenting the following details: -

- Please include your email, address and phone number
- Attach your CV as a PDF if you have one
- Include links to your website and/or social media platforms if you have them
- You can either write between 100-300 words about your experience and activities OR
- Upload a 2-minute audio or video clip of you speaking to:  
Tell us a bit about yourself - your creative activities to date, whether you have experience or a particular reason for working in the community, whether you have a



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particular preference for applying to the Coventry School or the Graz School and why, whether you have skill or a preference for any part of the programme or artform.

## Timeline

- Notification date: 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Currently most European visitors to the UK need to self-isolate for ten days prior to attending the school. We will notify you of any change to this policy as it is announced by the British Government.
- Start date for Coventry School of Participation: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021
- End date for Coventry School of Participation: Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## What people have said about this training:

*“I learnt to respect everyone's opinions as a part of co-creation and also, confidence.”*

*“I have gained many new local contacts that are going to be very important when it comes to general collective actions, as well as for the development of new projects in the community.”*

*“The information and knowledge delivered ...is clearly the result of decades of experience and thoughtful evolution. It was invaluable and would encourage as much exposure to that kind of expertise and work ethic as possible.”*

*“What impressed me was how the design and planning processes were very democratic. Everyone had a say, all ideas were welcome, and the overall outcome was a result of exchange and co-operation.”*

The School of Participation is supported by the [Creative Europe Programme of the European Union](#) and led by [Walk the Plank. Coventry](#) is one of 9 international partner cities including [Plovdiv 2019](#) (Bulgaria); [Novi Sad 2021](#) (Serbia), [Graz](#) (Austria); [Kaunas 2022](#) (Lithuania); and associate partners [Limerick](#) (Ireland); Yerevan (Armenia); [Tartu 2024](#) (Estonia) and Veszprem (Hungary).



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