

## The Work Room Artist Research Bursaries- Information and Application Guidelines

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### Overview

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With the gradual easing of COVID-19 restrictions, we have recently welcomed artists back into The Work Room (TWR) studio. We are opening a call for our next round of [Core Studio Residencies](#) from August 2021 - March 2022. Alongside this, we are supporting an additional programme of **Artist Research Bursaries**, recognising that the pandemic continues to create barriers to returning to studio practice for some, as well as heightening existing barriers for others.

### About

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The Artist Research programme is flexible, financial support to enable members to deepen their practice at this uncertain time. The bursaries are about time to think and respond – they do not include studio space. Proposed research might include time towards researching practice, exploring new approaches or developing ideas; time to reflect on past work & how to move forward; time to explore collaborations.

### The Support

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Through this programme we anticipate supporting 10 artist led research periods taking place between August 2021 to March 2022 through awarding 10 research bursaries of £1500. The bursary should be used primarily to support artists' own time but can also include collaborations with other artists or for materials.

No set outcomes or work are expected to be produced through these bursaries but all supported artists will be required to fill in a short evaluation at the end of their research time and TWR will work with supported artists to share their research with our wider membership and amplify their work across our online platforms.

### Who it's for:

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The Artist Research Bursaries have been developed to support artists who currently face particular challenges coming out of lockdown or in accessing the studio residency programme at this time. Barriers may be related to illness, disability, caring responsibilities, geographic location or other circumstances.

As part of our commitment to addressing systemic inequalities in dance, and to ensure an expansive range of dance artists and practices are visible and supported, at least 5 of the research bursaries will be awarded to people who self-identify as sharing characteristics with one or more of the following groups, who are currently underrepresented in our membership: Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people; D/deaf, disabled or neurodivergent people; people with parental & caring responsibilities and people who are working or benefits class.

This additional round of Artist Research Bursaries is made possible with support from Jerwood Arts, and as such, TWR commits to ensuring Early Career artists, which Jerwood defines as ‘within the first 10 years of establishing their practice’, are also represented in this programme.

### How to apply:

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Your application should include:

1. **A short description of the research you want to do;** *this should include an outline of your ideas and enquiries, how you intend to approach this research and where this research sits in relation to your wider practice.*
2. **A statement about how working in this way will be important to you at this time;** *please identify here how a non-studio based research process will support you in your practice and any barriers you face in returning to the studio.*
3. **How you will spend the £1500 bursary;** *this could be outlined in writing, or as a simple budget.*
4. **A timeline of how you will approach this;** *including roughly when you intend to start and finish your research (we are aware this may change).*

Proposed research activity should take place at some point between August 2021 and March 2022. Please be realistic about the scope of the project and the available budget.

### Application guidelines

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Applications can be made via written, video or audio submission:

- Written applications should be submitted using no more than 2 pages of A4.
- Video or audio applications should cover the points above and be no longer than 5mins long. Please include a link to your video or audio submission and any relevant passwords in your covering email.

Applications will be assessed on quality of ideas presented, not spelling, grammar or presentation so please don't worry about the quality of the recording or the camera skills.

You do not need to submit a CV or any supporting materials, but please ensure your artist profile on TWR website is up-to-date as this will be referred to as part of the decision-making process. If you need any support in this, please contact Sara Johnstone ([Sara@theworkroom.org.uk](mailto:Sara@theworkroom.org.uk))

**All applications should be returned by email to [hello@theworkroom.org.uk](mailto:hello@theworkroom.org.uk) on or by Monday 14th June 2021.**

## How decisions will be made:

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All applications will be considered by a panel of Work Room members. The panel will include members who identify with the underrepresented groups prioritised for these awards.

Decisions will be informed by:

- The quality and potential of ideas and enquiries presented
- How the bursary will enable the development of artistic practice
- How the bursary supports artists who face particular challenges in returning to studio practice.

Applications will also be reviewed to ensure project timelines are feasible in scope and scale and all artists and collaborators are paid fairly and to union standards.

The selection process will be monitored by a member of The Work Room team to ensure that recipients include early career artists and a minimum of 5 of the bursaries are awarded to those who self-identify with the under-represented groups.

**You will hear back about the decisions by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

## Eligibility

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Applicants for an Artist Research Bursary should:

- Be a member of The Work Room (find about membership [here](#))
- Not be applying for a residency in the 2021/2022 Core Studio Residency Programme (more information about the Core Studio Residencies and how to apply [here](#))

Between the Research Bursaries and Core Studio Residency Programme, TWR aims to support as many members as possible at this incredibly challenging time and so we especially encourage those who have not previously been supported by an Artist Research Bursary to apply in this round.

We invite members to consider their own circumstances and where they are in their practice and apply for the programme which they feel best supports them at this moment in time.

## Disclosure & Confidentiality

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If you wish to identify as belonging to one of the underrepresented groups and be considered for one of these bursaries, please let us know this in your covering email. This information will be held in confidence by The Work Room team and will not be shared with the selection panel unless you choose to disclose it in your application. Please also use the cover email to tell us about any access requirements you may have to support you to undertake this research.

In applying for one of these bursaries, there is no expectation that your research or enquiry would relate to or explore your identity or experiences in any way.

## Timeline

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The timeline for applying to and undertaking an Artist Research Bursary will be as follows:

- Deadline for submitting applications- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June
- Applicants to be notified by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July
- Successful applicants- initial meetings with TWR between 19-30<sup>th</sup> July
- Proposed research activity to commence no earlier than August 2021
- All research activity and evaluation to be completed by end of March 2022