

REFRACT

MAKING WAVES BURSARY

Application Guidance

With Waterside Arts &
Creative Industries Trafford

Application deadline:
16 April 2019



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





Photo Credit: Lee Baxter | Nathaniel Hall, *First Time* commissioned by Waterside Arts & Creative Industries Trafford

Waterside, an award-winning, vibrant arts venue in Sale and Creative Industries Trafford (CIT) are thrilled to launch a new support package for theatre-makers and artists: the Making Waves Bursary with the support of Arts Council England as part of their upcoming Refract Festival.

WHAT IS MAKING WAVES?

Making Waves is a project founded by Waterside Arts and CIT, which aims to provide a helping hand to makers, artists and companies in overcoming the challenges and barriers faced when touring new work or considering the future life of their projects. This could be a financial contribution, support in getting your work seen by programmers or just a sounding board.

This package aims to support work which has already been made or in the process of being so, potentially with touring plans or Edinburgh Fringe dates with a view to subsequently tour.

Please note: this is not our annual commission opportunity; this project is devised as an additional layer of support to meet different needs of artists. Our commission opportunity will still be taking place later this year.

HEADLINES

We will be awarding a number of Making Waves bursaries – we expect to award two of these through the open call process.

The successful recipients will receive:

- £600 support package towards the future life of the show
- Programmed performance as part of Refract:19 (double-billed with another show) with a £500 guarantee vs 70/30 split in our Chambers studio space.
- Inclusion in Refract:19 and Making Waves PR and marketing campaign
- Support from the Theatre Commissions Coordinator – we recognise each project is different and the support provided will be tailored to your needs.
- Rehearsal space subject to availability and requirements

Waterside and CIT pride themselves on how we can support artists; easy access to resources, close working relationships with the small team and a concentrated focus on the artist. We provide a space in which both artists & their projects can breathe, develop and grow.

Whilst our remit is to support work within the North, for this opportunity we are keen to hear from any artists who have ambition to present in work in the North and look forward to developing relationships with these artists in the future.

MORE ABOUT US

Waterside is an award-winning vibrant destination for performance, culture and events, housing two dedicated theatre spaces, galleries, workshops and studios.

The venue welcomes over 100,000 visitors per year and delivers a thriving programme of activity and participatory events.

Creative Industries Trafford is dedicated to supporting visual artists, writers, theatre-makers, animators and designers through talks, workshops, surgeries and mentoring as well as performance, publication and exhibition opportunities.

WHAT IS REFRACT?

2019 sees the third edition of Refract Festival. Created to enhance the cultural offering in Trafford, the festival presents work that is jilted from convention or that challenges audiences to 'see things differently'. This may be the type of work presented, or the way in which audiences engage.

The festival has grown and welcomed music artists such as the Magic Numbers, Ren Harvieu, Tankus the Henge and Minute Taker. Contemporary theatre has been presented by Superfan (Stunman), Tmesis Theatre (Happy Hour), PanGottic (Long Shot) and Max Calaf-Seve (Anyday).

We have worked with partners to commission new works, such as a piece specifically for a library setting; Getting from A to B by Hawk Dance Theatre, outdoor work, Awakening by Chad Taylor and co-produced War with the Newts by Knaive Theatre.

The festival also delivers a strong programme of family work, participation events and outdoor work.

Refract:19 runs from 18-27 July 2019 and is looking to be our biggest yet. Our previous programme can be seen at refract.org.uk

WHO WE'VE WORKED WITH

We have a successful track record of providing vital support for theatre-makers and companies such as Mighty Heart Theatre, Thick Richard, Square Peg Theatre and most recently, Nathaniel Hall and Dibby Theatre with their commission First Time.

We aim to provide the support for artists to develop more sustainable careers and to facilitate an environment in which makers can discover the tools to take their careers to the next level. We are extremely proud to say supported artists have gone on to tour nationally, produce successful Edinburgh Fringe campaigns and develop relationships with venues across the nation including Dep Arts, Harrogate Theatre, York Theatre Royal, The Lowry and HOME, establishing themselves within local, regional and national cultural landscapes.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are looking an artist or company who are ambitious in both the work they create and their future growth.

The work should fit with the programming remit of Refract (see page 3).

For example; this may be a piece that is staged in a different way, subject matter may be subverted or offers a new narrative.

We ask you to consider how your project is innovative, ground-breaking and challenges the way in which theatre is presented.

As with all our call-outs, we do not have prescribed criteria in terms of style, substance, or form other than this has to be new work. However, we are particularly interested in supporting work that may not be regularly seen in the region and is

risk-taking and innovative in its nature.

Your proposed piece must be able to be performed in our Chambers studio space; cannot be a restaging of a published text and can be no longer than 75 minutes in length.

As with festival programming, get-in and get-out times are particularly tight and would be required to be limited no more than 30 minutes as the performance will form part of a double-bill. Please note, this does not include your tech.

You must available a performance (or preview) on either **Wed 24th July or Thu 25th July** for an evening slot.

HOW TO APPLY

We want to make the application process straightforward, but there are a few things we need to help us understand your project and why this package would be beneficial to you:

Production information:

- **An outline of your production**
(300 words)
- **Your ambitions and future plans and why this support package is right for you/your project**
(300 words)
- **How does your production fit the ethos of Refract Festival – please see page 3 for details**
(200 words)
- **The specific areas of support we can provide through guidance and advice and why this is important to your project**
(150 words)
- **Your target audience**
(100 words)

A bit more about yourself including:

- **Ambitions for yourself as an artist/company**
(250 words)
- **A short biography of you/your company's work and background.**
(250 words)
- **Links to websites, video, photos etc.**

Marketing assets (ready to be inserted directly into our brochure):

- **Marketing copy** (100, 50 & 20 words)
- **Marketing image(s)** (hi-res at 300 dpi)

If you have one, please attach a tour pack or show information pack in addition to the above information.

APPLY ONLINE: watersidearts.org/waves

NOTE: If you are applying with a script please provide a synopsis and either one sample scene or a five-page extract which you feel demonstrates a flavour of your writing.

We also ask you to fill out the equal opportunities form, for ease this can be completed online after submitting your application. You'll find the link on the 'Thank You' submission page.

Please note the equal opportunities form will in no way be linked to your application and therefore won't have any bearing on the outcome of your proposal. This just allows us to monitor and assess our reach to artists and companies we engage with in our callout processes.

Please note this is not mandatory.

QUESTIONS?

We can't wait to hear from you and look forward to hearing about your project!

In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries please contact:

Ross Carey
Theatre Commissions Coordinator
ross@watersidearts.org

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We will aim to let all applicants (successful and unsuccessful) know by Tuesday 23 April. Though we are not currently planning any interviews around this opportunity, if required we may invite you to an informal Skype chat to expand on your ideas and project.

Interested in future artist development opportunities with Creative Industries Trafford? Join the club, sign up at creativeindustriestrafford.net