



Liverpool Biennial x SEVENSTORE

Artist Bursaries Information Pack

Closing date: 11.59pm, 9 April 2023

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Liverpool Biennial

LB x SEVENSTORE Artist Bursaries

Overview

As part of a shared commitment to supporting local artists in Liverpool and Merseyside, Liverpool Biennial 2023 and SEVENSTORE are joining forces to offer three bursaries of £3,000 each for artists and creative practitioners between June – September 2023, within the 12th edition of Liverpool Biennial.

Taking over unexpected and public spaces, historic sites and art galleries, Liverpool Biennial has been transforming the city of Liverpool through art for over two decades. The 2023 edition, 'uMoya: The Sacred Return of Lost Things' is curated by Khanyisile Mbongwa and marks the organisation's 25th anniversary.

'uMoya' addresses the history and temperament of the city of Liverpool and is a call for ancestral and indigenous forms of knowledge, wisdom and healing. In the isiZulu language, 'uMoya' means spirit, breath, air, climate and wind. The festival explores the ways in which people and objects have the potential to manifest power as they move across the world, while acknowledging the continued losses of the past. It draws a line from the ongoing Catastrophes caused by colonialism towards an insistence on being truly Alive.

These bursaries are open to artists and creatives who are examining or working with practices of care. Our Liverpool Biennial 2023 artists are all responding to care in very different ways, bringing in diverse viewpoints and practices from around the world. We'd like to extend this question of care – what it can mean and the different ways it can manifest – through this bursary programme to support artists exploring this line of thinking here in Liverpool and Merseyside. What we mean by 'care' can be very broad, and might include ideas around sustainability, accessibility, Queer and LGBTQ+ culture, BIPOC and race issues, fighting injustice, community or social practice and more.

The Biennial will support the recipient artists to develop their practice through self-determined professional development activity that responds to their own unique needs. Artists will benefit from dedicated time with the festival Curator and exhibitions team, plus assistance from the Marketing and wider Biennial staff to support their research and development, help make connections and to create opportunities for the sharing or showcasing work or practices within the framework of the festival.

Deadline for applications: Sunday 9th April 2023, midnight

Apply

Applications should be submitted via email to info@biennial.com by no later than midnight on Sunday 9th April 2023.

Applications should include answers to each of the following questions and be submitted in either Word Doc / PDF format or by video (no longer than 3-5 minutes) as an email attachment or WeTransfer. Emails should include the subject line 'SEVENSTORE BURSARY APPLICATION'.

How to apply:

- Provide a short overview of your proposed bursary activity (up to 40 words)
- Please provide an outline of your artistic practice (up to 100 words)
- Provide a full description of your proposed bursary activity (up to 150 words)
- Outline your budget (up to 100 words)
- Why is the opportunity crucial to your professional development at this time? (up to 150 words)
- Additional Links / Website / CV

Please also complete our Equal Opportunities Monitoring form which is anonymous and will not be used in the selection process: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GVNTFZG>

For more in-depth guidance on how to answer these questions, please see our FAQ section at the bottom of this document.

Unfortunately, we are not able to provide guidance on individual applications, however if you have any questions that aren't covered in the guidance below or if you require the application form in an alternative format you can contact us by email via info@biennial.com

Information

Who can apply?

Liverpool Biennial x SEVENSTORE Bursaries are open to artists and creative practitioners who are specifically working with or interested in exploring practices of **care** - either thematically or through their approach, or both.

We welcome applications from artists that meet the following criteria:

- Living and working in Liverpool or wider Merseyside
- Consider themselves emerging in their art career (e.g. practicing between 1-3 years outside of any formal education)
- There is no age limit, any age is welcome to apply
- No formal education or qualifications are necessary
- Any form of visual art medium is welcome to apply, including (but not limited to) sculpture, painting, printmaking, audio, film, live art, illustration or photography
- Are able to demonstrate a clear rationale for why they'd benefit from the bursary

Unfortunately, we are not able to accept applications from:

- Organisations or companies
- Full-time students
- Artists living outside of the UK
- Artists within 24 months of completing an undergraduate course
- Individuals who have received any Liverpool Biennial bursary since 2021

Artist collectives are welcome to apply, but please note that only one bursary will be allocated per successful application. We cannot accept multiple applications from the same collective or project.

How much can be applied for?

There are three bursaries available at £3,000 per recipient.

What activity can be supported?

Liverpool Biennial x SEVENSTORE Bursaries are intended to support the professional development of your artistic career. This bursary seeks to support the development of new skills, knowledge and networks that will benefit your career and professional development in the short and long term.

We ask that each artist recipient uses part of their bursary and/or time to host a public sharing or showcasing of their work or work in progress, which should take place within the final weeks of Liverpool Biennial festival (4-10th September 2023). This activity can be anything from an informal sharing or discussion, an online screening or blog post, to a pop-up exhibition and can take place either digitally or in person.

This activity should be self-directed and produced, however the Liverpool Biennial team will support all recipients to develop and create a showcasing opportunity that is responsive, appropriate and comfortable for you and your practice. This support may include help with finding a temporary exhibition or activity space and in-kind digital advertising of your activity, as well as connecting with other Liverpool-based organisations and events if appropriate. There is no expectation to complete a finished piece or body of work as part of this bursary.

Bursary activity might include, but is not limited to:

- Making and sharing work with audiences
- Research and development costs for a new way of working or collaboration
- Learning new skills through professional training, courses, peer-to-peer learning with visual arts or non-arts experts
- Mentoring, coaching or curatorial feedback
- Networking with artists, galleries, organisations or other groups of interest
- Visiting national or international conferences, biennials, exhibitions, organisations, cities or any other specific location or event relevant to your practice

Alongside the activity itself, the £3,000 bursary can also be used to support:

- Fees to cover for your own time
- Materials (should not be more than 50% of the total)
- Associated national or international travel costs, accommodation and subsistence
- Contribution to caring costs and any access needs

Examples of activity that can't be supported include:

- Applications made only for the purchase of materials or equipment, however this could be included as part of a broader application where learning through making is vital and clearly beneficial in the long-term. Material or making costs should not be more than 50% of the total amount asked for
- Applications made only for goods or services e.g. paying a contractor for a website to be built, unless this is part of a broader application where other learning or skills building for the artist is included

- Applications that fund the making of new or unfinished work or projects for exhibition, art fair or sale, however this could be one element of a broader application
- Applications that are dependent on other unsecured funding

What is the selection process?

Applications will be reviewed by a selection panel including Liverpool Biennial, SEVENSTORE and previous Biennial bursary recipients. Bursaries will be awarded at their discretion.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome by 30 April 2023.

Other requirements

Bursary recipients will be asked to:

- Provide information including an artist's bio and media of past work and participate in PR activity where necessary
- Produce a blog or social media post about their activity for use on the Liverpool Biennial website or social media channels. These can be completed by text, video, audio and/or images
- Contribute to an evaluation of the programme.

Application Guidance

Please find some notes below to support you when you're writing your application.

Provide a short overview of your proposed bursary (up to 40 words)

This short outline should communicate the most important aspects of your proposal – what is it you want to do?

Please provide an outline of your artistic practice (up to 100 words)

The shortlisting panel may not be familiar with your work, this is a space to introduce what you do, and how and why you do it. Share your interests, motivation and process in a clear and concise way, avoiding jargon.

Remember that we're specifically looking for artists who are interested in themes or practices of care to link in with Liverpool Biennial 2023, which you can [read more about here](#).

Provide a full description of your proposed bursary activity (up to 150 words)

Use this space to expand on the information in the short outline to tell us more about your proposed activities. You don't need to repeat the information provided in the short outline. Try to be as specific as you can. For example, if you want to undertake a research trip, tell us why, where and how the research will take place. Who will you meet or network with, how will you make the most of your time there? If you are including a period of mentoring or coaching, give examples of who this will be with and why.

Successful applicants often draw several different activities together to form a bespoke programme that makes the most of an opportunity. For example, if you are applying to attend a conference, you could also visit some exhibitions in the host city while you are there or set up a networking opportunity. If you applying to do a residency, would it also be useful to have some coaching or mentoring to support you to get the most out of this opportunity? Please note that you do not need to include any details or ideas for your public sharing or showcasing at this stage, and there is no need to complete a finished piece or body of work as a result of the bursary.

Outline your budget (up to 100 words)

Use this section to tell us how you plan to use the bursary award. Please break down and itemise the amount by separating out different costs including your own artist fees.

Your budget must total the bursary amount (£3,000)

If you will be supplementing the budget with your own funds, other secured financial support or in-kind support please clarify this here.

Any applications that are dependent on other unsecured funding will not be successful.

If successful, you can use an LB x SEVENSTORE bursary as match funding for seeking further funding.

Why is the opportunity crucial to your professional development at this time? (up to 150 words)

Tell us why this activity will make a significant difference for you now. Try to be as specific as possible. We want to know why this is the right time for you to be doing this.

Tell us how these activities will impact on your current position and how you'll benefit in the short and long term. Are there any barriers you face which might result in you being unable to complete your proposed activity without this opportunity, and what new opportunities could it open up for you? Link the activity to your ongoing practice so we can understand why what you're proposing is vital to your artistic career.

Additional Links / Website / CV

Add a link to your website, online portfolio, CV or other means of viewing your work online. If you do not have a website, alternative ways to share examples of your practice could be a Dropbox folder of images or a link to a video sharing website such as YouTube or Vimeo (if applicable).

Please do not include links to personal social media accounts unless they are solely dedicated to your artist practice and present only your own artwork.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GVNTFZG>

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Image 1: Dandelion Flowers Ice Cream by Jorge Menna Barreto, LightNight 2019. Photo by Jake Ryan

Image 2: Emma Dolan

THE DOCKERS

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WITH BIG

WIDE MOUTHS

