

FAQs for Fellowships

Eligibility

Can I apply? I'm not based in Scotland

It is a requirement of this programme and our agreement with funders that this opportunity is for creatives who are currently based in Scotland, and are able to work in the UK (this includes those not born in Scotland, but who have visas already in place, or their status / citizenship allows this). Please note, we are not able to provide visa sponsorship.

So if you are based in Scotland and are able to work in the UK then you would be eligible to apply.

5 years minimum, what does this mean exactly?

This doesn't need to be 5 years of working full time or 5 years consecutively. This can include part time work, as well as other professional work that hasn't been paid. We understand that sometimes compensation can come in different forms such as receiving vouchers/ skill share etc. It also can include working in different roles within the arts and creative industries.

Professional work can include things which involve public performances, research and development/ development workshops, public or community-based activity as well as working within the arts and other settings (ie Arts and Education, Arts in Healthcare, Arts in Social Care and Justice, Arts with other third sector organisations)

Application Process

Can I apply for more than 1 role?

Yes you can apply for more than 1 role. Within each application you need to state which is your priority.

We understand that as creatives you "wear different hats" and work in different roles as part of your practice.

For example: list your preferences as follows"1 -Directing, 2 - Producing, 3

Dramaturgy". It is recommended you adjust your cover letter to tailor it to each of the specific role/s you are applying for.

Ok I'm applying for more than 1, but how do I decide which is my top choice?

In making your choice, think about which opportunity would develop your skills the most or in the deepest way. At this point in your career and practice - what's going to be the thing that will help you make that next big leap? For example:

What does having the space and resources to be lead artist/ director on a project do?

What does providing a range of dramaturgy on performance projects and working with artists at different stages and lived experience do for your practice?

What does producing one off events, providing producing support to performance projects at different scales do for your practice?

I have an initial idea for the Research project – change-making how much do I need to share?

At stage 1, it is ok for it to be just one sentence about the change you want to see or an area you want to explore. At stage 2 (invitation to interview) there is time for you to share more about your idea or how you may like to use some of your research time.

For background and more context:

Fellowships are about supporting creatives who are interested in developing their role as cultural leaders. We are living in incredibly difficult times, we are living in polycrisis (multiple and intersecting crisis), and there are many changes we may need now and in future. Cultural leaders (and their different forms of leadership) will be involved in making these changes. Creatives have skills such as being storytellers, making imagination into reality, being innovators / experimenters / facilitators / problem solvers. These research projects are about giving supported time and space for creatives to explore their change-making idea.

For Directing Fellow: I have many ideas for theatrical projects, which one should I include?

During your fellowship, you will have dedicated time and budget to do some research and development so choose the idea that could most benefit from this time and access to NTS knowledge and resource. Ask yourself if there is one idea that you could ONLY move forward through this opportunity.

For Directing Fellow: What can the research and development (R&D) time be spent on?

- You will have approximately 45 days which can be spent on your project. This may be broken up into some days doing some research, some days in development or in a workshop with other creatives, some reflection and next stages time.
- R&D budget – can be spent on creatives (designers, performers, creative collaborators), materials (books/ reading, production items), CPD (attending shows, workshops/ master-classes), travel and accommodation (within UK)

During the R&D the Director/ Lead Artist will be supported by Artist Development Producer and Artistic Development Coordinator to manage their budget, support with logistics and contracting. At NTS we have resources such as equipment, stationary, rehearsal rooms, and staffing to support the development.

- At stage 2 (invitation to interview) we will share more about the budget and any other parameters. For this stage you can share what your idea is and what phase it is at. We expect ideas pitched and supported by this opportunity to be at the start or an early stage of their development journey . This is for ideas which are looking to be developed into possible production from 2027 and beyond. There is no guarantee that a project developed through the Directing Fellowship will be picked up for producing, but please refer to Our Process (https://www.nationaltheatrescotland.com/for-artists/our-process?token=wfexc8EeWL53kSxF0Bx4mThWvDZwTFU_) for further details into how our artistic programming decisions are made.

I'm having issues with submittable.

Please contact artistresidency@nationaltheatrescotland.com if you are having any issues.

Glossary – what do you mean by?

‘Contributing to decision making and Cultural democracy’ – there are many definitions and models of cultural democracy. At NTS we are exploring different models and the fellows can contribute to this. Some examples of cultural democracy models are co-creating ideas, projects and programmes with stakeholders (this could be audiences, communities); opening up who contributes to decision making (this could be having young people having an active role in Governance of a cultural organisation). At the National Theatre of Scotland we are developing our cultural democracy model as part of our vision *to be a theatre without walls for everyone, that sparks connection between people, between communities, and between Scotland and the world* and our mission *is to make extraordinary, relevant theatre by, with and for contemporary Scotland.*