**Commissions & touring opportunities for new outdoor work in 2019**

Articulture, in collaboration with a consortium of leading arts organisations, invites artists and arts companies based in Wales from any discipline to request support for the creation and delivery of new outdoor work for presentation and touring to up to seven locations in 2019.

**Background**

The Wales Outdoor Arts Consortium work together to co-commission and present new Welsh outdoor art. They formed in 2015 and are offering a new round of opportunities in 2019.

Articulture is the manager of the consortium, as well as a consortium partner. Articulture is a creative organisation that aims to bring together practitioners to support the production of innovative, high quality outdoor arts in Wales. [www.articulture-wales.co.uk](http://www.articulture-wales.co.uk)

**Consortium partners 2019**

Taliesin Arts Centre, Swansea

Dance Days, July dates tbc

[www.taliesinartscentre.co.uk](http://www.taliesinartscentre.co.uk)

Pontio

Gwledd Syrcas Circus Feast

18-23 July

[www.pontio.co.uk](http://www.pontio.co.uk)

The Riverfront, Newport

Big Splash 20-21 July

[www.Newportlive.co.uk/riverfront](http://www.Newportlive.co.uk/riverfront)

The National Eisteddfod of Wales

3 – 10 August 2019

[www.eisteddfod.org.uk](http://www.eisteddfod.org.uk)

Green Man Festival

15-18th August

[www.greenman.net](http://www.greenman.net)

Theatr Hafren, Newtown

Newtown Food Festival

7th-8th September

[www.thehafren.co.uk](http://www.thehafren.co.uk)

### LLAWN Llandudno Arts Weekend

September Date TBC

[www.llawn.org](http://www.llawn.org)

**Consortium aims**

* Present & develop work from a new & emerging generation of Wales based outdoor artists.
* Support & encourage Wales based artists who may not have had previous experience of outdoor arts, but would like to.
* Work with established Wales based companies & artists who are keen to experiment & develop new approaches to their work.
* Help stimulate new, surprising & engaging outdoor arts collaborations between Wales based artists from different disciplines.
* Encourage the development of outdoor works that are accessible to Welsh-speaking / bilingual audiences
* Support the development & presentation of work with culturally diverse and deaf and disabled Wales based artists.
* To work as a collective and with Wales based artists in a positive, open and collaborative way, allowing space for active sharing and learning throughout the process of developing and touring work through regular communication and ongoing evaluation.

**Commissions in 2019**

In 2019 the Consortium will be looking to support the creation and touring of new work to book into their events across the year.

We are looking to invest in work that meets these agendas -

* **Innovative**

We are looking for work that is imaginative and striking in concept and delivery. Work that challenges the idea of what outdoor arts can be, and leaves a lasting impression on the audience.

* **Engaging & captivating**

We are looking for work that actively draws in and includes its audience, offering them the opportunity of some kind of adventure - an immersive and transportive experience.

* **Bilingual**

We are looking for work that considers an audience of both Welsh and English speakers. So for example work could either be non-verbal or bilingual.

We are open to work along any concept or theme.

**Eligibility and guidance**

* The Consortium exists to support the development of new and ambitious work by **artists in Wales;** we can support projects that are developed in association with international artists but **the lead partner on the project must be based in Wales.**
* We are looking for work from all disciplines and genres, including walkabout, circus, digital (such as mapping), street theatre and dance.
* In 2019 we are looking for small to medium scale projects that require no more than £5,000 from the Consortium.
* The consortium events will take place in a range of locations across Wales from May to September 2019. Some of these dates are confirmed, some are still to be confirmed. Please specify if there are any specific dates or locations that would prove impossible for the commissioned work to be shown within this time period.
* The work must be suitable for touring to the consortium members’ events and artists should be committed to exploring touring opportunities for the work post touring the consortium’s events, subject to bookings.
* Proposals need to be suitable for both rural and urban spaces, with consideration given to the work being adaptable to being taken under cover in the event of bad weather or unforeseen programme changes.
* Proposals must include planning, budget, and resources for a mandatory dress rehearsal in a public place for critical review by Articulture prior to first tour date.
* Applicants must be eligible to work in the UK.
* Applicants must have the appropriate insurance cover for their proposal (eg: public liability / employee)
* Artists must be prepared to work within the spirit of the consortium - in a positive, open and collaborative way allowing space for active sharing and learning throughout the process of developing and touring work, through regular communication and ongoing evaluation.

The Consortium is also open to supporting the touring of a project that has already raised its core creation costs, provided that the show has not already toured in Wales, and provided it clearly meets our priorities.

**Commissioning funds**

The sum of money which has been raised collectively by the Consortium, is to invest in commissioning and touring of new work. We would prefer not to fund any project 100% and would be looking for projects that can demonstrate other match funding in cash or in kind, however small, where possible. This could be anything from the loan of rehearsal or storage space to technical or mentoring support.

In summary the financial support available is –

* Creation fee – Up to £5,000 towards a total creation budget
* Performance fees – Up to £500 per tour date

**Additional support**

In addition to the consortium funds, we also can provide the following support, the details of which will be agreed by the artist/Articulture once selected -

* Up to 3 days of mentoring by an appropriate professional (including mandatory dress rehearsal)
* Support in the marketing of your work and tour through the consortium partners
* Support where reasonably required with production management advice
* Support to undertake site visits to consortium partner locations where appropriate

**How to submit your proposal to the Consortium**

Please complete the form below and submit a detailed budget identifying how you intend to develop the idea within the timescale outlined above to: [annie@articulture-wales.co.uk](mailto:info@articulture-wales.co.uk)

**Deadline for commission proposals is 1st March 2019, 5pm.**

**FAQ’s**

**What do you mean by small / medium commission?**  
There are no clear rules for defining scale but we normally think of projects as:

Small Scale – if they are ideally suitable for audiences of under 500 people in one performance

Medium Scale – if they are ideally suitable for audiences of 500 – 1500 people in one performance

**Do I have to request commission money from the Consortium or can I just request support to tour to the Consortium network?**

If you have already raised the money you need to create your project you may not need to request commission money. The Consortium will consider supporting the touring of new projects that we have not commissioned through the network.

**How much money can I request from the Consortium as a commission?**

The Consortium will be looking for projects that require no more than £5,000 from the consortium to create the work. We would prefer not to fund any project 100%, looking for projects that can demonstrate other match funding in cash or in kind, however small, where possible. Please consider your costs carefully to ensure that your budget assessments are realistic and appropriate.

**What do I need to include in my creation budget?**Your creation budget includes all costs related to the rehearsal (both your own and a mandatory dress rehearsal in a public place for critical review by Articulture prior to first tour date), development, build, design and creation of your piece, including all artists/creative fees, insurance, show materials, marketing materials, and costs related to rehearsing your project. If you are VAT registered please do not include VAT that you can reclaim.

**Please do not include performance costs, as these should be shown separately.**

**What should I include in my performance fee?**

Your performance fee for each of the tour dates given should be up to £500 depending on the scale of the work. There may be some flexibility on this, please contact us to discuss. Performance fee should include such items as cost of setting up and delivering your show / piece, artist fees, travel etc.

**Do I need to include technical costs in my performance fee?**Availability of resources and in house equipment (staff or crew, power etc) at the venues varies, but is minimal. Please give a detailed list of your technical requirements, both those that you will provide, and those you will ideally need each Consortium venue to provide. This includes event steward support during your time on site if you have a set. Please note that for this round we are looking for proposals that require very basic or no venue technical requirements.

**What form will mentoring for my work proposal take?**

Post selection the Articulture team and you will sit down to review your proposal and identify areas that it would be beneficial for an outside professional to support, and who this could be. It could be one or more people, offering up to 3 days support in total, including the mandatory dress rehearsal.

**What do you mean by mandatory dress rehearsal in a public space?**

We are looking to develop work that is a finished product when it starts the tour, not a work in progress. A dress rehearsal in a public place as part of the development of outdoor arts work is vital to help identify any areas that still need work. The aim would be for this rehearsal to be as simple as possible over the course of no more than half a day, with the full support of the mentor and the Articulture team.

**Can I apply for support to tour an existing outdoor piece?**We cannot support the touring of projects that have already toured in Wales.

**Can I apply for a commission to redevelop an existing piece?**The Consortium exists to support the development of new work, so it would be unlikely that we would offer commission investment to redevelop an existing piece. You would need to demonstrate that it was substantially different for us to consider this.

**Can I apply for a commission to create an installation or a durational piece?**

Yes, if it is participatory / interactive. Please explain how many people can experience the piece in the course of one day / session.

**Can I apply to create and tour a piece that requires the involvement of local/community participants at each venue / festival?**

Yes but please be aware that most Consortium events do not have permanent outreach staff, so you would be responsible for recruiting and supporting community involvement.

**I have received some development money from the Arts Council of Wales to research my piece; can I still apply for commission funds to create my piece?**

Yes provided your R&D process is clearly separate from your creation process.

**If I receive a commission from the Consortium can I still tour to other events that are not part of the network?**  
Yes although please be aware that you will only be able to do so once the Consortium events are complete in September 2019.

**I already have some commission funds in place from other events that are not part of the Consortium; can I still apply for support?**  
Yes, please explain which other events have committed support and check whether they require to premiere the piece; if this is the case please confirm the date of the premiere so we can see whether this would exclude any of the Consortium events.

**Can I apply for commission money in 2019 and tour the piece in 2020?**

No this is not possible.

**I have applied for some funding but I don’t know yet whether it is confirmed; can I still apply for a commission?**  
Yes but please be sure to tell us when the outcome of your application will be known.

**What happens after I submit my proposal?**

All the proposals will be circulated to all the Consortium members and discussed at a selection panel meeting the week of 5th March. We will let you know by 12th March 2019 if you have been successful and your induction meeting will be arranged. Despite limited resources we will endeavour to give feedback to all applicants.

**Outdoor art commission - proposal form 2019**

Please complete this form if you wish to request support from Articulture and its consortium partners to create and/or tour your new outdoor project in 2018.

**Please ensure you read the guidance notes before submitting a proposal.**

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| **Cover Sheet Summary** | | | |
| **Artist/Company** |  | | |
| **Main contact for this proposal** |  | | |
| **Position** |  | | |
| **City/Region** |  | | |
| **Address** |  | | |
| **Telephone** |  | | |
| **Email address** |  | | |
| **Website** |  | | |
| **Project** | | | |
| **Project Title** | |  | |
| **Summary of proposal (20 words max)** | |  | |
| **Art forms involved** | |  | |
| **Is your project best described as static or moving?** | |  | |
| **Is your project best described as small or medium scale?** | |  | |
| **Is this project led by deaf and disabled or culturally diverse artists?** | | Yes / No | |
| **What language or languages (if any) is the work in? If it is bi-lingual how does this work?** | |  | |
| **Budget** | | | |
| **Are you requesting commission money from Articulture?** | | | Yes / No |
| **Total commission requested from Articulture** | | | £ |
| **Total funding requested from other funders or investors (Please indicate if this is confirmed, or the date that that confirmation will be given)** | | | £ |
| **Total creation costs of project**  **(including Articulture request)** | | | £ |

**1. Please describe your proposal in no more than 300 words**

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**2. Please describe your company / artists / collaborator, and indicate to what level you have previous experience in creating outdoor work (150 words max.)**

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**3. Budget**

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| **3.1 Please attach a budget for your creation costs (please show this net of VAT)**  *Please include other funders or investors in your project and indicate whether other money is confirmed.* |
| **3.2 Are you VAT registered**? 🞏 Yes 🞏 No |
| **3.3 What is your anticipated performance fee for:** 1 day - £ 2 days - £ |

**4. Production Plans**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **4.1 Approximately how long will your show be?** |  |
| **4.2 What technical support and specialist equipment will you need?** *(e.g. PA, power, lighting, overnight security, steward support, )*. If you have a technical needs please attach them. |  |
| **4.3 How many shows will you normally perform per day?** |  |
| **4.4 How many people will be on tour?** |  |
| **4.5 Do any members of your company have any access requirements?**  *Please explain* |  |
| **4.6 When will your show be ready to tour?** |  |
| **4.7 What are your rehearsal / development plans?** E.g. dates, locations |  |
| **4.8 Please specify if there are any specific dates or locations in Wales that would prove impossible for the commissioned work to be shown within the time period June – October 2018.** |  |

**5. Mentoring**

**Is there a particular area of the development of the project proposal you would like the support of a mentor for? If so is there someone you would like to nominate? (150 words max.)**

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**6. Marketing material**

*Images, drawings, or visual material about your project are highly valuable to inform the consortium selection process. If you have any, please send them separately; please clearly mark the attachments with the name of your company and your show.*

**7. References**

*You do not have to supply a reference with this proposal, but if you want you can include a letter of support from a promoter or other professional contact. This would be especially useful if you are an artist or company new to outdoor arts in Wales.*

**Deadline**

Please email your completed form and detailed budget to **annie@articulture-wales.co.uk by**

***1st March 2019, 5pm.***

**Timeline**

Deadline for submission of proposals: **1st March 2019, 5pm**  
Successful applicants notified: **12th March 2019**First rehearsal **early May 2018, exact date TBC**

**Contact**

For further information please contact Articulture

07980 337951 | [annie@articulture-wales.co.uk](mailto:annie@articulture-wales.co.uk)

[www.articulture-wales.co.uk](http://www.withoutwalls.uk.com)