**ARTIST CALLOUT 2022:
CONVERSATIONS SERIES III ‘NARRATIVES’, MANCHESTER**

Application deadline 5pm, Monday 21st March 2022

Venture Arts are seeking expressions of interest from North West based visual artists to engage with the Conversations Series III residency in 2022 - A partnership project between Venture Arts, Castlefield Gallery, The Lowry and EXPLORERS.

**About the Residency**

**Conversations Series III** is a collaborative residency that will bring together four artists

based at Venture Arts, to work alongside four other artists to develop shared ideas and create new work that investigates personal histories and stories through art. This residency builds on the success of [OutsiderXchanges](https://outsiderxchanges.com/) from 2015 and [Other Transmissions](https://venturearts.org/exhibitions-events/conversations-series-ii-other-transmissions/) in 2018-19.

We are passionate about the intersectionality of lived experience. The four selected Venture Arts artists will develop their work relating to their cultural background and personal life influences. We will identify four other artists from this call out for whom cultural identity is similarly part of their practice and who would like time to work with others to build new work.

Artists will have the opportunity to work with a social historian and [Ahmad Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre](https://www.racearchive.org.uk/) at Manchester Central Library. Castlefield Gallery will support the artists, including through crits and artist mentoring.

We are particularly interested in hearing from artists who are keen to develop their practice and networks, and who are willing to make tangible artwork to exhibit and tour.

**Fees & Resources**

All 8 artists will receive a fee of £2880 and be given access to studio space for five months (April 2022 – Sept 2022) coming together for 1 day per week to share the space.

**Application Process**Please e-mail your expression of interest to sarah@venturearts.org:

Deadline: **21 March 2022**

Please include the following:

1. Brief outline stating your interest in being involved in this artist co-residency (no more than 200 words)
2. Brief outline of initial ideas of how you would interpret and approach the project (no more than 200 words)
3. Examples of recent work/links to websites containing examples of previous work
4. Your CV (no more than 2 sides A4)
5. Any access requirements you may have
6. To help us monitor the diversity of applicants, please complete our anonymous equal opportunities form at <https://form.jotform.com/212772637073054>

We are open to alternative forms of application. If you would prefer to make your application by video, please send video file of no longer than 5 minutes via Wetransfer.

This opportunity is open to all, but the venues involved are well-versed in supporting learning disabled, disabled and neurodiverse artists.

If you have access needs that could be a barrier to applying, or participating, and want to discuss this, please contact Sarah Boulter at sarah@venturearts.org or on 0161 232 1223

**FURTHER INFORMATION**Contact Sarah Boulter for any further inquiries you have regarding the project or the application process.

E-mail: sarah@venturearts.org

Tel: 0161 232 1223
Venture Arts
43 Old Birley Street
Manchester, M15 5RF

**Shortlisted applicants will be notified by:** 8 April 2022

**Partners:**

**VENTURE ARTS** is a progressive visual arts charity based in Hulme, Manchester, who have been working with learning disabled people since 1985. They work alongside learning disabled artists to create and show exciting new collaborative visual art work using a range of art mediums. Venture Arts vision is to see learning disabled people play a valued and valuable role within arts and culture as artists, critics, audiences, advocates and workers. [www.venturearts.org](http://www.venturearts.org)

**CASTLEFIELD GALLERY**

At Castlefield Gallery (Est. 1984), we make new art possible. We are dedicated to the advancement of contemporary visual art. We are artist facing. We work with artists and creatives in Greater Manchester and beyond, at all career stages. We support them to develop their practice and careers, and to find ways not just to make art, but to make a living. We do this through: our gallery, and its free exhibitions and events that are open to all; through tailored career and practice development support; through our 200-strong artist Associates scheme; through the provision of low-cost studio and project space; through commissions and co-commissions; and through collaboration with universities, including annual graduate programmes that provide mentoring, coaching and more.

For 35 years, we have supported young and older artists, new graduates right through to established artists, connecting them to each other, and to our international network of curators, arts organisations, artists and collectors. Castlefield Gallery’s international work is focused on exchange between artists in the North West of England, and the rest of the world. We have an established track record in public art commissioning and public realm animation and activation. We are a female led organisation and a registered charity. Castlefield Gallery is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation and Manchester City Council Cultural Partner. Our Artist Patron is the celebrated Ryan Gander, OBE. <https://www.castlefieldgallery.co.uk/>

**THE LOWRY**

The Lowry has a diverse visual arts programme that offers free access to exhibitions and events all year round. It holds and displays works from the world's largest collection of work by Manchester born painter L.S Lowry, and has a dedicated contemporary art programme of temporary exhibitions, events and performances.

Working with British and international artists, the contemporary programme delivers high quality, ambitious presentations of art, often drawing on connections to its place and history. As an arts venue that combines two theatres and a gallery, the Lowry is an ideal space to explore the intersection of performance and visual arts.

EDITS is a strand of the exhibitions programme that enables artists and performers to develop previously unexplored ideas in a gallery setting. Its short-term format allows for ambitious presentations of work, often participatory and engaging with new audiences. Previous invited EDITS artists have included DJs, dancers and choreographers, illustrators and artist collectives.

[www.thelowry.com](http://www.thelowry.com)

**EXPLORERS PROJECT**

Led by Project Artworks, EXPLORERS PPROJECT is a dynamic collaborative programme of art and action that opens up routes into artistic practice for neurominorities, dismantling attitudinal and systemic barriers to representation and rights in art and society.

The Explorers Project is supported by Arts Council England and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

[**www.explorersproject.org**](http://www.explorersproject.org)

**@Explorers\_\_Project #ExplorersProject**

**Our Equality & Diversity Statement**

Venture Arts is committed to promoting equality of opportunity, tackling discrimination and welcoming and valuing the diversity of the communities we serve.

Our ambition is to work together to promote a more inclusive environment, which attracts all candidates and signals our commitment to celebrate and promote diversity.

We welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons regardless of their sex; religious or similar philosophical belief; political opinion; race; age; sexual orientation; or, whether they are married or are in a civil partnership; or, whether they are disabled; or whether they have undergone, are undergoing or intend to undergo gender reassignment.