



we the curious Artist Residency



A Box of Experiments

This summer, We The Curious want to connect with five exciting artists from across the South West region to revolutionise the programme for The Box - our primary space for arts and creative programming. In the spirit of experimentation and responding to our programming theme of "Change" - we're seeking creative practitioners to push the boundaries of what can be housed in the space, using this period to test out the gallery's capacity as a home for artists and creative groups.

Background and context

The next two years mark an exciting time for We The Curious as we test out new ways of working and put our Manifesto into action. Over twelve weeks between July and October we want to create a rolling programme of two week residencies for local and regional practitioners and their projects. Inviting those people to test out what an artistic residency within We The Curious could be. We're on the lookout for practitioners from all artistic disciplines who are in the research and development stages of an existing project and are exploring themes within or are inspired by science, technology, engineering and maths. Particularly we want to connect with people in need of any of the following:

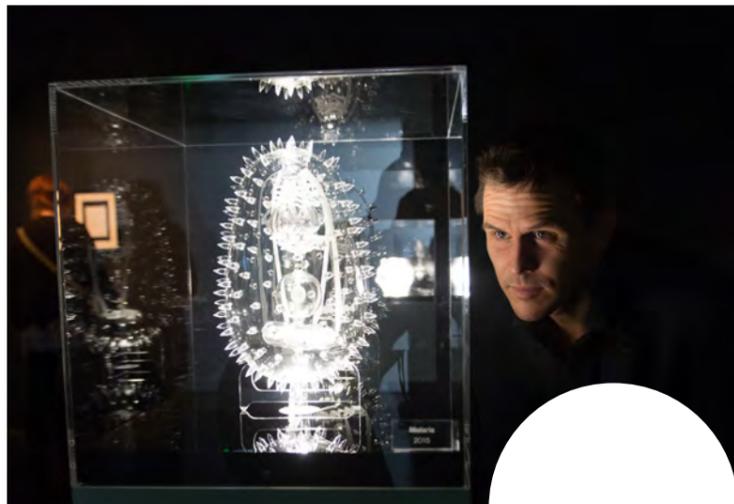
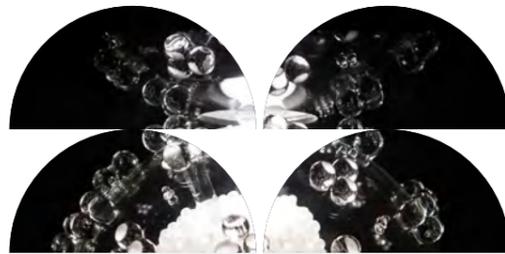
- _ A space to showcase new work.
- _ A captive audience to playtest early stage projects/performances/piece of creative technology.
- _ A diverse public voice to feed into your work.
- _ Links to a large community of scientific researchers.
- _ Or even just a place to work for a couple of weeks

The Box:

The Box is We The Curious' gallery space. It celebrates the synergy between art and science, and features exhibitions and artists this occupy the space. Over this time we've tested out its capacity for multiple art forms in an attempt to understand how to best bring a creative programme into a science centre. So far this have been informed by artists such as Luke Jerram, Kathy Hinde and David Lisser and many different mediums from the realms of visual and digital art.

Our Audience:

Over the summer we have just around 2000 visitors per week. They are a fantastic mix of families, adults and school groups. Our predominant audience this summer will be families with small children. Please bear this in mind when considering the type of work you may want to bring with you. We have the capacity to be able to market distinct workshops that are tailored to certain groups within our audience demographic, and we have adult specific events that can also be utilised.



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Residency Structure

The Box will be yours whilst you're with us. It will have full audio, projection and display capabilities as well as a large floor space for potential performance and a table to work around. Although we want to work with you to use this space as you wish, we unfortunately don't have staff capacity to physically change the set up so it's unique to each resident.

You're welcome and encouraged to use the space as a studio and meeting place over your two weeks but we understand your physical presence in the gallery is not possible at all times during our opening hours (10am – 6pm). In order to maximise our visitors' engagement with your work we'd like to collaborate with you to deliver the following:

An exhibition of three key objects that represent you and your work.

This can be either part of the project you're developing or objects that connect to your wider practice in some way.

2 - 3 workshops over the two weeks depending on your availability.

We're very eager for the practitioners to have a strong presence within our venue programming. Our hope is for these workshops to feed into the development of your work. We can tailor these depending on the nature of your work - creating workshops at specific times with specific audiences. They can be drop-in or transient in nature or more structured and bookable and we can support you with this.

When

Dates of the residencies are as follows:

- 16th – 29th July
- 13th – 26th August
- 27th August – 9th September
- 10th – 23rd September
- 24th September – 8th October

Organisational Support:

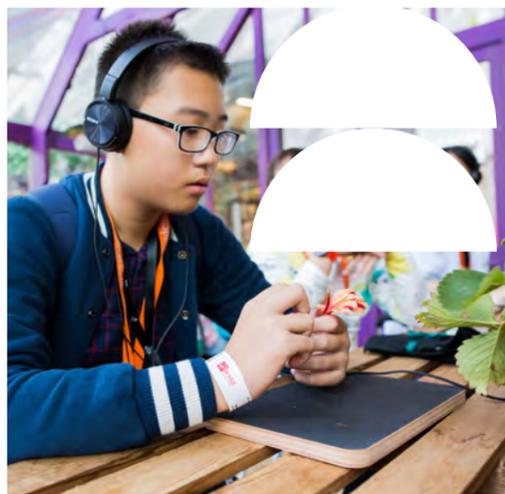
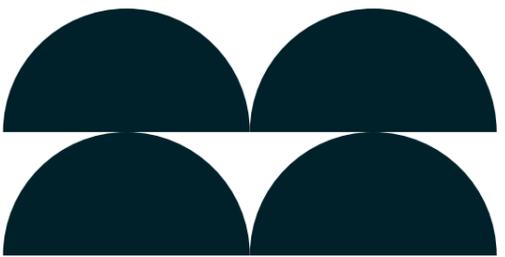
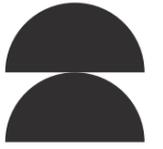
This residency offers artists the opportunity to occupy an experimental public facing studio space for two weeks - plus a small bursary of £500 to support your time with us. This opportunity is primarily about the chance to explore your practice with a daily flow of public audiences for a period of two weeks - while it is not a fully funded residency or commission, there are other avenues of support we can offer. These include:

Engagement expertise:

We The Curious has an exciting team of staff with years of experience developing engaging and unusual content inspired by scientific subject matter. As part of this opportunity you'll have time to connect with these teams to draw out the key entry points into your work and develop a unique workshop or activity.

Before your residency you'll have the chance to be buddied up with one of our Live Science Team who deliver science shows on gallery every day. This will be an opportunity to fully immerse yourself in our audience and get to know what makes them tick.

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Exhibition space and venue

The Box will be set up as a (relatively) blank canvas over the summer. Although we ask that you do not plan to make any physical alterations it's versatile enough that we can showcase most art forms in some way. The Box is an enclosed space with various options of lighting state, we can arrange a visit to the venue if you'd like to see the space before applying.

We encourage you to use the space for rehearsal, meetings and admin work but bear in mind the space will not be shut off to the public during operational hours.

Marketing and promotion

Working across digital and print media our programme of events and content is shared far and wide. Your work will be included in our main marketing campaigns for the summer that reach audiences across a diverse range cultural venues, communities and geographical areas of Bristol and the wider South West region.

Connection to scientific research teams

Through our work with Live Lab and Open City Lab pilots we are building a diverse network of academics within the University of Bristol, University of West England and the University of Bath. Although we cannot guarantee partnerships for this short term experimental, residency, there is lots of potential to facilitate connections with these groups.

How to apply

If you're interested in applying please provide the following:

- _ A short overview of the current project you'd like to develop and any links to your past work.
- _ A rough idea of how you might like to work with our audience.
- _ An indication of dates you definitely cannot make.

Application Time line

Please send all expressions of interest to creativeproducer@wethecurious.org by the deadline of 18th May 2018.

We hope to respond to shortlisted applications by 25th of May 2018. Unfortunately we will not be able to provide detailed feedback to all applicants.

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to take part in a short skype chat with the team before final decisions are made.