



Image: Jo Hayes

NORFOLK **NSM** NORWICH
FESTIVAL

**BURSARIES FOR
YOUNG CREATIVES
2025**



Norfolk & Norwich Festival is delighted to announce Bursaries for Young Creatives, a youth leadership initiative for 18-25 year olds in East Anglia. Bursaries for Young Creatives will support eight young people with £2,500 each to further their cultural and community leadership abilities. Run across nine months, the programme will enable participants to develop their creative skills and contribute to the creativity journeys of other young people in East Anglia.

Fee:

£2500

Closing date:

31/10/2024



Image: Luke Witcomb

Introduction



Norfolk & Norwich Festival's Bursaries for Young Creatives are for individuals aged 18-25 (on 1 January 2025) and who make, or aspire to make, an impact on the creativity journeys of children and young people.

You might see that phrase here a lot – 'the creativity journeys of children and young people' – and what we mean by that is the creative journey individuals take from birth, into childhood, work, adulthood, and so on.

We believe that everyone has the right to a creative and cultural life, and as such we are focused on supporting 'Creative Leaders' – educators, artists and young people – who actively contribute to the creative lives of others.

We have a broad understanding of who can be a young Creative Leader. You might be an artist, an assistant curator, or an arts worker; or you could be an activist, a graduate, or a community representative. We define a Creative Leader as someone active in sharing their passion for, and understanding of, arts and culture with others.

This programme is to encourage East Anglia's young Creative Leaders by supporting the activities devised by young people, **led** by young people, **for** young people.

Bursaries for Young Creatives are to help develop your role as a Creative Leader with the support of an existing organisation. We believe it is important for young people to be connected with (and supported by) organisations that have expertise and resources to share. Therefore, each applicant is asked to identify an organisational partner located in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, or Peterborough. We expect your organisational partner to be an arts organisation, such as a gallery or an arts centre, but it might be that you work with a different type of organisation, such as a youth club, a sports club, or a library. It might be the case that you are not yet connected with an organisation at all, or that there is not an appropriate organisation in your community. If this is the case, please let us know in your application form, and tell us about your strategy for building a relationship.

Proposals for bursaries can feature hands-on delivery and/or research and development. You may devise your own programme of activity, or you may conceive it in discussion with your partner organisation. For example, you could:

- Offer your expertise to your partnership organisation as an 'agent of change' to work with them to develop their thinking about how they listen to and connect with young people
- Attend a youth led cultural event (even outside England!) and return to your community to share what you learned
- Start and manage a crit club to review theatre/dance/visual art/digital art/literature and publish your critiques online, or share them over a cup of coffee
- Develop your skills as a cultural facilitator through action learning or a structured course
- Undertake research and development for a future event or project, and publish a manifesto so you can tell others about your ambitions.

We must be clear that these bursaries are not to develop your personal artistic practice. The focus of this initiative is on cultural leadership and activating others. You must live in East Anglia and your project must benefit young people in East Anglia (Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, or Peterborough).



Image: Malacky Luckie

Norfolk & Norwich Festival



Norfolk & Norwich Festival is a charity delivering one of the country's longest running arts festivals and a region-wide, year-round programme of creativity and culture for children, young people and their communities.

Norfolk & Norwich Festival takes place in Norwich and around Norfolk for 17 days each May. The Festival is distinctive because we collaborate with artists – from down the road and around the world – to explore the unique physical and cultural identities of our place and to make art which is meaningful to the lives of our audiences.

Festival Connect & Create is the Festival's participation initiative. We work across Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on projects that support and collaborate with educators, artists, young people and their communities.

Our vision

To lead and support celebration, creativity and curiosity in our community to make our part of the world a great place to live, learn, work and play. All of our work is informed by our 'programme principles' – our embrace of:

- **Art relevant to today**, blurring the boundaries between artforms and between art and everyday life.
- 'Festival spirit' which we bring to our work to celebrate, to share cultural experiences and to bring our community together.
- Questions and actions about a Social Responsibility with a focus on: Equality, diversity and inclusion; placemaking; and environmental sustainability.



Application process



Each bursary is worth a total of **£2,500**.

We expect that this will largely be spent on fees (i.e., to pay for your time) however it can also include materials, travel, venue hire, fees for collaborators and/or participants, cost of access needs, etc. Please ensure that the scale of your project is in line with the £2,500 bursary award. If successful with your application, we will work with you to compose your specific budget. At the application stage, the scale of your project needs to be viable and realistic. The activity proposed in your application must take place in the first half of 2025. The life of your project may continue after July 2025; however, we expect your bursary to be spent in the first half of the year. Applications must be made by individuals or as a collaborative team/collective. If applying with multiple individuals, one person must be named as the lead applicant, and it is this person who must complete the application form on behalf of the group. Please note that the level of bursary will remain at £2,500.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for a bursary you must be:

- Aged 18-25 on 1 January 2025
- Living in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, or Peterborough
- Committed to carrying out work in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, or Peterborough
- A member of Norfolk & Norwich Festival's Youth Network, FLOCK* (Sign-up now for FREE [here](#))

Norfolk & Norwich Festival embraces questions and actions about a changing world. We particularly welcome proposals from people who are part of groups underrepresented in the arts in East Anglia, especially people from culturally or socially diverse backgrounds and/or people who identify as neurodiverse, D/deaf or disabled.

*FLOCK is Norfolk & Norwich Festival's regional network of 18-25 year olds who live in East Anglia and who are driven to further their creative endeavours by way of a group collective. FLOCK membership is free and members are given the opportunity to network, meet like-minded individuals, develop creative skills, and attend youth led workshops and gatherings.

Selection Criteria

Our selection criteria are:

- The creativity and originality of your proposal
- The contribution your proposal makes to the creative lives of children and/or young people in East Anglia
- The strength and relevance of your work
- Your track record as an artist and as a project manager
- The viability of your proposal and whether it can be delivered within the timeframe and on budget
- Measurable and clear aims and objectives

Where possible, we will select project proposals which also:

- Provide geographical representation
- Provide a range of artform practices
- Provide a diverse and different cohort
- Impact on sector learning and practice

Selection Panel

The selection panel will be made up of Norfolk & Norwich Festival staff and representatives from Norfolk & Norwich Festival's FLOCK Network (for 18-25 year olds), and the East Anglia Youth Voice Consortium.

Q&A

We are hosting two virtual information sessions for potential applicants. These will be open and informal online events where you can ask members of the Norfolk & Norwich Festival team any questions about the programme and your potential application.

The information sessions are to be held on:

- Thursday 10 October: 5:30pm-6:30pm
- Thursday 17 October: 5:30pm-6:30pm

Book a place on one of the information sessions [here](#)

Application Timeline

- 24 September 2024: Bursary programme announced and applications open
- 10 and 17 October 2024: Online Q&A sessions for prospective applicants
- 31 October 2024: Deadline for applications
- November 2024: All applicants notified and announcement of recipients

Bursary Recipient Timeline

- 17 December 2024: Bursary induction + joint cohort event, in person
- 7 January 2025: Safeguarding induction, virtual
- 11 February 2025: Bursary for Young Creatives cohort event, in person
- 10 March 2025: Bursary for Young Creatives cohort event, virtual
- 3 April 2025: Bursary for Young Creatives cohort event, in person
- May 2025: Norfolk & Norwich Festival Bursary sharing Event, in person
- 15 July 2025: Bursary for Young Creatives cohort event, virtual
- 29 August 2025: Bursary for Young

Session lengths will vary from one hour to two and a half hours



How to apply

To apply you must complete an Application Form and Equal Opportunities Form and return both via email to ally.oberrotman@nnfestival.org.uk by 12 noon on Thursday 31 October 2024. Please put 'Bursaries for Young Creatives' in the subject line.

Deadline

12 noon, 31 October 2024

(November 2024: All applicants notified and announcement of recipients)

Queries

If you have any questions about the bursary, require the forms in large print or would like a paper copy posting to you, please contact Ally Oberrotman on;

ally.oberrotman@nnfestival.org.uk

