



CALL FOR CREATIVES

Creative practices for resilient cities

Deadline: 12 pm, 21 November 2022



Sussex Co-Lab is a creative policy decision-making initiative, based on the collaborative and democratic values of socially engaged art, led by the ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) at the University of Sussex.

We are currently seeking proposals for three creative partnership residencies for local creatives, businesses, and community organisations to explore creative interventions in sustainable city planning and form ideas around how city spaces can be utilised, repurposed, and reclaimed. The residencies are primarily concerned with sustainable planning in central Brighton and will either be based there (at a venue hosted by Sussex Co-Lab), or at a location of the partners choosing, from December to February.

Sussex Co-Lab emerged as a response to the need for dialogue and engagement in the sustainable planning of Brighton's city centre and our mission is anchored in a desire to improve access and representation in city planning as part of the wider effort in the city to align such process with inclusive, collaborative, and sustainable values. The goal of the Co-Lab is to produce an alternative method for engagement with communities that goes beyond public consultations, and instead collaborates with constituents from the moment of conception and design, throughout implementation and delivery.

During the first week of November, we will be offering a sandpit session to those interested in applying to the Brighton Co-Lab. The session will be conducted as a partnership-finding and application writing workshop to support those interested to develop their ideas, broaden their networks, form partnerships, and understand the application criteria. A limited number of *participation stipends* (up to £200) will be provided on application and selection to those experiencing financial barriers to attend the sandpit.

Attendance to the sandpit is not required to apply for a place the Co-Lab, and is only intended to support applicants in the writing and development process.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Proposals are welcome from partnership cohorts of creative practitioners, businesses and community organisations; and we are particularly interested in proposals from partnerships newly formed for this opportunity. We particularly encourage partnerships consisting of digital practitioners alongside analogue artists or other organisations where there is a mutual benefit from the transfer of skills and knowledge between partners.

We expect the work to invite dialogue and participation. We are especially interested in applications that represent and look after the interests of marginalised or underserved communities. The applicant's creative vision should be articulated clearly and demonstrate potential for impact, by finding consensus, boosting innovation, diversifying representation, and/or facilitating engagement.

Proposals must:

1. focus on themes of sustainability (see *Definitions*) in the claim for public space and address the urgency of meeting national Net Zero targets;
2. be led by the principles and processes of socially-engaged art;
3. actively include either residential or interest communities and a wide range of differing perspectives;
4. can be delivered through and/or across any creative form, though it is expected that at least one residency will be awarded to a digital project
5. be formed of partnerships where the majority partner(s) have been based in the *Greater Brighton Region* for at least 5 years.
6. be of a sustainable practice, demonstrating a commitment to sustainability (as described in the *Definitions*) through their previous work and/or the sustainable approach of their application
7. be collaborative, demonstrating a practice in, understanding of, willingness and ability to work in a collaborative environment
8. be co-creative, demonstrating an engagement with, and understanding of, the co-creative process, and be able to adapt their work dynamically on-the-go
9. be community-orientated, demonstrating commitment to working with communities, through various means of engagement and action
10. include any access requirements for engagement.

Projects can:

11. take place anywhere in the city, though must be cognisant of the opportunity to co-locate at a central location during delivery and presentation;
12. and be in active delivery across an anticipated 8 weeks from December 2022 through to February 2023

A fee of £10,000 will be available for applicants, with an expectation of at least £2,500 to be spent on materials and resources.

EXPECTED RESIDENCY OUTPUTS

Throughout the length of the programme, project teams will be asked to participate in a series of public engagement activities, facilitated by the University of Sussex ESRC IAA team.

Final exhibition and/or performance(s)

At the end of the residency, you will be expected to be part of the Brighton Co-Lab Exhibition (Feb 2022), held in a central Brighton location (this could be the same as the residency location).

Brighton Placemaking Workbook

The goal of the Co-Lab is to produce a new method for engagement with communities that goes beyond public consultations, one that collaborates with constituents from the moment of conception and design, throughout implementation and delivery.

To share this nationally, we (the ESRC IAA team at the University of Sussex) expect to create a workbook in order to guide Local Authorities and policymakers to successfully replicate and adapt the approach to their own local policy challenges. As part of this, and forming part of the content, those selected and their participants might be interviewed by the Sussex Co-Lab team at different points of the process. Their work will be showcased as case studies, and ultimately inform the design of a new method for public engagement in city planning.

Workshops

Near the end of the residency, you may be asked to participate in a day-long workshop to fellow creatives and/or general public. In this workshop, you and fellow residents will be asked to talk about your work and share your insights from the programme. Participation in this workshop will be remunerated.

FUNDING

£10,000 for fees and materials & resources (an expectation of 75% on fees, 25% on materials/resources)

HOW TO APPLY

Sandpit

To attend the Sandpit please submit an expression of interest to Alejandro Ezquerro-Nassar at ae389@sussex.ac.uk by **24 October**. Please indicate if you are applying for a participation stipend and what the funding (up to £200) would be covering – for example, child care, loss of earnings, your access assistant costs- and if have a project partner or are seeking one, and if seeking one, what type of partner that is – this will help us frame the day.

Residency

Application is by Expression of Interest, as per form below. Deadline for EOI submission is **21 November**, sent to Alejandro Ezquerro-Nassar at ae389@sussex.ac.uk.

ACCESS

If you have any access requirements to submit your sandpit application and/or your residency proposal, please let us know.

Any questions on the application process should be sent to Alejandro Ezquerro-Nassar at ae389@sussex.ac.uk

TIMELINE

Sandpit:	w/b 31 October 2022
Application deadline:	21 November
Shortlisting:	22 November
Interviews:	24/25 November
Residency partnerships announced:	25 November
Residency begins:	5 December
Residency Close and Exhibition:	11 February 2023

Decision process

Shortlisting, interviews, and final selection will be carried out by representatives from Policy@Sussex and the core Brighton Co-Lab team. Interview questions will be provided to candidates in advance. The interview panel will consist of:

Dr Alejandro Ezquerro-Nassar

Lead, Sussex Co-Lab

Impact Fellow, ESRC IAA

Dr Cara Courage

Placemaking Lead and Creative Direction, Sussex Co-Lab

Elena Denison

Research Programmes Manager

School of Media, Arts and Humanities/Sussex Humanities Lab

Dr Lorna Hards

ESRC IAA Project Manager

Laurence Hill

Curator, Sussex Co-Lab

Visiting Fellow, Sussex Humanities Lab

DEFINITIONS

Creative (noun)

Any person with creative ideas and skill. This includes (but is not limited to): designers, community developers, cultural producers, artists, engineers, performers, architects, carpenters, builders, software developers, programmers, and so on. Rather than gatekeeping what it means to be creative, our focus when evaluating an application will be to determine whether the creative proposal matches the skills of the team.

Co-Creation

Co-creation is a process by which creators and the community at large engage in a continuous dialogue from beginning to end. It is the iterative way in which a creative plan evolves as an active response to input and lessons learned throughout. Proposals should allow flexibility to adapt and evolve dynamically

Appreciation of Difference

Appreciation of difference refers to the acknowledgment of contrasting points of view as a strength. Rather than a hinderance, differences represent an opportunity to honour different world views, respectfully combine aesthetics, and generate new dialogues. Creative ways of addressing difference are as challenging as they are rewarding, and appreciating difference is paramount for true diversity to exist in city spaces.

Sustainability

We are interested in transitions that are equitable and just. This means sustainability beyond environmental, but also social and economic. These interlinked pillars of sustainability are reflected in the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Our idea of sustainability closely aligns to the 16 SDGs. Candidates should demonstrate how their proposal addresses wholistic visions of sustainability.

Net Zero

The urgency to act on the climate emergency requires special attention be brought to reducing carbon emissions. This remains a concern particularly in wealthy nations such as the UK.

Resilient City

A resilient city takes a holistic approach to Net Zero that is wrapped-up with economic and socially valuable experiences. Residents feel safe, connected and included, and can access affordable housing, good public transport and active travel networks; there is resilience in high-quality services, spaces, education and employment, and; environmental sustainability is embedded. Resilient cities are collaboratively designed to offer economically and socially valuable experiences that benefit all citizens' wellbeing and health, based on an inclusive and creative approach to planning.

Cross-sector partnership

The Co-Lab sees the largest potential in knowledge exchange between creatives, businesses and third sector organisations. As such, we will give priority to those proposals that include meaningful partnerships including at least two of: *(A) Creative Practitioners, (B) Businesses, and (C) Community Organisations.*

A cross-sector partnership should ensure all partners' viewpoints are carefully considered and represented in the work. While the final outcome of the residency is ultimately the applicant's

responsibility, it is expected that the partnerships will render something valuable to all parties. The contributions of each partner should be appreciated, and their interests should be reflected in the planning, building, and delivery of the work.

Community organisation

A community organisation is a charity, grassroots, or activist group. A partnership with a community organisation should ensure that the proposal reflects the interests of those the organisation represents. The organisation should be of local relevance to Brighton or the Greater Brighton Region.

Expression of Interest

Lead Co-Applicant

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street

City County Post Code

Phone: _____ Email _____

Relevant links or online presence
 (e.g. personal website, social media): _____

Title of Project: _____

Do you have a right to work in the United Kingdom? YES NO

Are you applying as a member of an organisation? YES NO
 If yes, please specify: _____

Are you available for an interview on 24/Nov? YES NO

Please note, at least one of the co-applicants listed on this form must be available for interview. Limited flexibility exists for those unable to attend the interview on 24/Nov.

Co-Applicant 2

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street

City County Post Code

Phone: _____ Email _____

Relevant links or online presence
 (e.g. personal website, social media): _____

Do you have a right to work in the United Kingdom? YES NO

Are you applying as a member of an organisation? YES NO If yes, please specify: _____

Are you available for an interview on 24/Nov? YES NO

Co-Applicant 3 (if applicable)

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street

_____ *City County Post Code*

Phone: _____ Email _____

Relevant links or online presence (e.g. personal website, social media): _____

Do you have a right to work in the United Kingdom? YES NO

Are you applying as a member of an organisation? YES NO If yes, please specify: _____

Are you available for an interview on 24/Nov? YES NO

Personal Statement and Experience

To be completed by lead applicant

Introduce yourself and your approach to your work. For this question you may:

- Highlight any past works or engagements relevant to this residency
- Speak about how your lived experience might inform your practice
- Speak about your motivations to work in sustainability and placemaking

max 500 words

Detail your team's experience in collective work or community organisation

max 200 words

Proposal Details

Outline your proposal:

max 300 words

Describe how the partnership will be managed and explain the value each of your partners brings to the project:

max 250 words

Outline your interest in engaging with the Co-Lab and how principles of Creative Placemaking align with the proposal in question:

max 250 words

Costs and Breakdown of Activities

Give an approximate timeline for your project by describing your planned activities and milestones (250 words)

max 250 words

Add rows as needed to the table below.

Item or Activity	Cost	Time period
Total		

Signature

I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Name and signature: _____ Date: _____