

## Ideas Fund

### Funded Projects

#### **Alice Tomlinson (Audience Development Assistant, Capsule, Birmingham) & Lauren Walsh (Production Assistant, Theatre Royal Plymouth) – Alto Comedy**

Alice and Lauren have received support to establish a new quarterly comedy night in Birmingham, designed to promote and celebrate female-identifying comedic artists. This project will allow Alice to deepen the local networks she's developed through her work with Capsule, and support Lauren's ambitions to become a Production Manager for theatre and public events. It also provides them with an opportunity to establish a new producing collaboration. The first event took place in March 2019. They have now scheduled a second event for June 2019.

Website: <https://www.alto-comedy.com/>

Alice has since been offered a new job as Events Officer at the Royal Shakespeare Company. Lauren continues to work for Theatre Royal Plymouth on a freelance basis.

#### **Bryan Beresford (Curatorial & Community Engagement Assistant, Touchstones Rochdale) & Laurèl Hadleigh (Learning Assistant, Peckham Platform)**

Bryan and Laurèl got to know each other during their international placements at Venice Biennale. Together they would like to develop a skill-sharing platform that connects communities in the north and south of England, analysing preconceived socio-political identities determined by regionalism. The Ideas Fund will support a phase of research and development to effectively establish regional networks. This research is inspired by their work with activist housing group, Assembly for Social Housing Venice (ASC). Bryan will expand on his own experience of socially-engaged practice with communities in Rochdale through Touchstones' Contemporary Forward programme, while Laurèl will research grassroots organisations in London.

Bryan's contract with Touchstones Rochdale has been extended.

Laurèl will take up a new role at Peckham Platform on a part-time basis as Youth Platform Co-ordinator.

#### **Callum Berridge (Programme Assistant, Site Gallery)**

Callum has received funding for a series of mentoring sessions with playwright Chris Thorpe. Alongside his placement as Programme Assistant at Site Gallery, Callum has spent the last year developing his live art performance practice. He was offered a place on the Third Angel Mentoring Programme and the Bridge the Gap Producer Training Programme, and has recently been invited to share his work at Sheffield Theatres and LCB Depot. Callum intends to use his mentoring sessions to build his confidence with incorporating text into his work, and to potentially enter a submission to the Bruntwood Playwriting Prize in June 2019.

Callum is now working on a fixed-term contract as Alternative Realities Programme Coordinator for Sheffield Doc Fest.

**James Ashfield (Membership Officer, Sheffield Theatres)**

James applied to the Ideas Fund to cover a year's ITC membership, and to undertake focused training courses in fundraising and producing. Alongside his placement with Sheffield Theatres, James produced work for The Backpack Ensemble, a New Diorama Emerging Graduate Theatre Company for 2018-19. The grant will also cover a period of professional mentoring to help him identify his next career steps.

James was offered a pay increase and a promotion from Fundraising Assistant to Membership Officer during his placement with Sheffield Theatres. He is currently seeking other opportunities and hopes the development potential offered by the Ideas Fund will increase his skills and profile.

**Jennifer Murphy (Administrator, Farnham Maltings)**

Having relocated from Farnham to the North West, Jennifer applied for a 'go-see fund' to help her develop her own practice as a theatre-maker and director over the next six months. She will also participate in a series of workshops with theatre companies such as Little Bulb and Art with Heart, as well as the Lowry Studio.

Jennifer has since started a new administrative role with Bamboozle Theatre Company in Leicester.

**Kayt Hughes (Education Assistant, Liverpool Biennial), Priyanka Mistry (Festival Assistant) & Maddie Sinclair (Public Programme Assistant: Great Exhibition of the North, Sage Gateshead) – Artful Publication**

Kayt, Priyanka and Maddie will collaborate to create the first issue of 'Artful Publication', a cross-disciplinary nomadic book exploring obstacles faced by people seeking access to the arts. The collective are currently inviting submissions from programme participants, alumni from previous editions, and members of the public. The publication encourages submissions that use text or images, and propose possible creative solutions to issues surrounding access and inclusion in the arts. The fund will pay for their own time on the project, publication fees, research into accessible publication formats, and fees for contributors.

Kayt has recently been awarded an A-N bursary to support her visual arts practice.

Priyanka has relocated to London to take up a position as Marketing Officer at the Southbank Centre.

Maddie continues to work for Sage Gateshead on a part-time basis, and has been granted further support by New Writing North to develop her interest in zine-making with young people in the North East.

**Lara Costello (Creative Marketing Coordinator, Poet in the City)**

Lara will take part in a week-long residential storytelling course in rural Worcestershire in May 2019. The course is led by Ben Haggarty, who founded the Crick Crack Club, and will explore different genres of international traditional narrative, differentiate the nature of orality from the nature of literacy, and introduce rasa theory, an ancient and highly effective compositional tool. After a year of developing skills in event production and marketing, Lara made a strong case to dedicate some time to reinvigorating her own freelance performance practice.

Lara continues to work for Poet in the City on a part-time basis and pursue independent creative projects.

**Lou Bartley (Junior Producer, Duckie), Megan Hamber (Creative Projects Assistant (Producing), & Vicky Moran (Assistant Director/Facilitator, Cardboard Citizens)**

Lou, Megan and Vicky will develop a regular Queer live art and club night in York. The Ideas Fund will support an initial research and outreach programme, to ensure the events have a strong foundation to responsibly platform local artists and support audiences effectively. They will meet with queer live art performance companies such as Pxsy Palace and DRYHUMP, attend Transform Festival in Leeds, and run a series of workshops aiming to connect LGBTQIA performers based in Yorkshire. They are intending to pursue collaborations with local artist collective SLAP and run workshops with student societies in York.

Lou's contract as Duckie's Junior Producer has been extended.

Megan will continue working for Yorkshire Dance with the new title of Assistant Creative Producer. Vicky is pursuing freelance directing opportunities, and continues to make her own work. A verbatim performance piece she created was recently shortlisted for The Charlie Hartill Fund at The Pleasance.

**Louis Palfrey (Programme Assistant, Open School East) – Naïve Noise**

Louis has received funding to produce and facilitate 'Naïve Noise', a one-day experimental music workshop run in collaboration with Netherlands-based musician and instrument-builder Yuri Landman. The pair met in 2018 when Louis attended Zomeracademie, a week-long workshop in experimental instrument building and composition techniques, which was co-facilitated by Yuri. This was funded by the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme as an alternative to Festival D'Avignon. The workshop will take place at Radio Margate in April 2019, and will culminate in a public performance on the same day.

Website:

<https://radiomargate.co.uk/events/2019/4/25/naive-noise-experimental-music-workshop-led-by-yuri-landman-and-louis-palfrey>

<https://mouthless.bandcamp.com/track/assist-louis-palfrey-bram-van-weverberg-chadwick-rolfs>

Louis continues to work for Open School East on a part-time basis as an Administrative Assistant. He is also a composer, producer and sound artist, and releases music under the alias Mouthless.

**Maddie Sinclair (Public Programme Assistant: Great Exhibition of the North, Sage Gateshead)**

Maddie successfully applied to the Ideas Fund to publish the first edition of a multi-authored zine for young writers and artists based in the North of England. The theme of the edition is 'Loneliness in the age of connectivity', and will explore how the condition of loneliness intersects with regionalism, nationhood and austerity. The project aims to platform young voices in the North East, develop her understanding of the practicalities of publishing a physical edition, and challenge the exclusionary structures of the London-centric publishing industry. Maddie will seek ongoing mentoring and support from Northern Fiction Alliance and New Writing North. Given the potentially sensitive subject area of the zine, Maddie will also work with mental health charity Mind to ensure that all applicants are directed to the appropriate support where necessary.

Maddie continues to work for Sage Gateshead on a part-time basis and to develop micro-publishing projects in the North East.

**Maxine Clark (Special Projects Coordinator, Cockpit Arts)**

Maxine will undertake a five-day Silver Jewellery Intensive course at the London Jewellery School. Maxine hopes this will develop her confidence and skills as a craftsperson, and provide a strong foundation for her to produce her first jewellery collection.

Website: <https://www.instagram.com/maxineclarkarts/>

Maxine's role as Projects Coordinator with Cockpit Arts has been extended until June 2020.

**Megan Hamber (Creative Projects Assistant: Producing, Yorkshire Dance) & Bakani Pick-Up (Graduate Dance Artist, Dance4)**

Megan and Bakani will use the funding to explore a new collaboration, with the intention of creating a new immersive dance-theatre company for children. They will both attend a Performance Practice Workshop with Punchdrunk in London, and visit Imagine Festival in Edinburgh. After a period of research, they will spend three days in a studio at Yorkshire Dance, reflecting on their recent learnings, sharing elements of their previous practice and exploring new methodologies.

Megan will continue working for Yorkshire Dance with the new title of Assistant Creative Producer. Bakani is exploring new opportunities as an independent dance artist. His work with Bakani Pick-Up Company was recently programmed at Resolution 2019 at The Place.