

Open call for expressions of interest for participation in the artistic residency program organized in the framework of the 3rd Beyond DisDance Performing Arts Festival

What is Beyond DisDance?

Beyond DisDance is a performing arts festival dedicated to achieving more equal participation and access to live arts for people with disabilities. It is organized by Ipogia Skini NGO and Synergeio Theatre for the third consecutive year. The main aim of the festival is to create a safer environment for people with any form of disability who are interested in participating in performing arts as performers on stage and/or as spectators.

What is the role of the residency programme in this festival?

The residency program is designed to accompany the rest of the Festival's program and to strengthen the Cypriot creation of accessible and inclusive works. It aims to provide a framework for education and experimentation with accessibility practices in the performing arts. Guidance, tools and resources will be provided to individuals or groups of artists with and without disabilities who will be selected to participate in the project. The aim is to create new or existing works in progress by applying tools from accessible and inclusive performing arts practices. Respecting the personal aesthetics and particularities of each artistic direction and each work, these practices do not come to limit the work or artistic practice, but are an opportunity to engage in a dialogue with it and ultimately expand it. In this context, the exploration, familiarization and practical application of accessibility tools are more important than the goal of presenting a complete work. Artists will be supported to explore and ultimately choose what to implement and how.

Who is the open call addressed to?

The call is open to individuals or groups of people with or without disabilities who are active in Cyprus in the field of contemporary dance, performance art or any other art form with a central focus on the body, and who are interested in experimenting with practices of inclusivity and accessibility.

Terms and conditions:

- Proposals should concern works in progress or new works that will start developing during the residency.
- The projects may be of short/medium duration, or even durational.
- The works will be presented in December 2024 at Synergeio Theatre in the context of the Beyond DisDance Festival. The exact date will be decided in collaboration with all the people involved. *If you envision your work in a public space, please justify your request in the explanation of your below submitted concept (always considering accessibility).
- The selection will be made by a team of 4 members: Eleftheria Sokratous - performance artist and curator of the festival, Christos Papamichael - founder of

the Athens-based cultural organization liminal, Elena Sokratous - director and theatre educator, Adonis Kyprianou - artistic director of Ipogia Skini NGO.

- For any information/clarifications you can call 99784949 or email info@synergeio.org. Hours and days of availability: weekdays, between 9-12am.
- If necessary to get a clearer picture of your project, we may need to invite you to a half-hour interview before the final selection. In this case an appointment will be arranged based on your availability.
- Proposals must be submitted online at info@synergeio.org with the subject "Beyond DisDance / Application" no later than **August 23 at 23:59**. Applicants will receive an email response within a week of the application deadline.
- We accept applications in Greek and English. In case written language is a barrier, you could submit your application also in oral or sign language.
- Works can also be in Greek, English or Cypriot Greek Sign Language.
- In case of a group project directed by a single creator, then he/she/they should provide equitable reward to all participants regardless of whether they have a disability or not.

What is offered?

- Basic knowledge of accessibility and inclusion in the arts through the provision of free workshops which will be delivered alongside the hosting programme.
- Personal guidance on creative accessibility by Christos Papamichael.
- Hosting of rehearsals at Synergeio space (16-20 hours per month per proposal), upon request for availability of space.
- Basic documentation for archival purposes.
- Technical support and free use of the technical equipment of the space (light,sound, projector,microphones)
- Reward (the amount must include the salaries of all participants, with or without disabilities, and any other expenses such as costumes, props, etc.)
 - For a solo project (one performer): 1.000 €
 - For a duet (two performers): 1.500 €
 - For a group work (three or more performers): up to 2.500 €
- Basic promotion and advertising of the events through the Festival's advertisement

What is expected from chosen artists:

- Connect with disabled members of our community to create opportunities to engage them in their work.
- Prepare the audience for their project through a public presentation (small workshop, discussion, presentation, something else they want to propose) which will be implemented in November at Synergeio.
- Be consistent in terms of deadlines for submitting required information which is aimed at promoting the events etc.
- To advertise and promote their work on social media (in as accessible a manner as possible) in addition to the advertising provided by our NGO.
- The scenery and the light design should be easy and quick to set up/unset.

Applications must include ALL of the following information:

1. Name of artist(s) or artistic team
2. Telephone Number
3. Email
4. Attached CV's or portfolios of performers
5. Website or links to previous works (if available)
6. Title of the proposed project
7. Estimated duration
8. Describe your proposal with reference to the creative concept.
9. Elaborate your methodology/artistic approach in the frame of the work while explaining how does the approach meets the framework of inclusion and/or access.
10. Describe how you envision the final presentation format (Type of performance, installation, experiential sharing)
11. Which audience do you think your proposal addresses and in what way?
12. What action do you want to propose for the sharing in November and how do you think it will prepare the public for your project and your self for the audience you want to address in the frame of this work? (concerning access and how you will provide it).
13. If you are a disabled artist explain your accessibility needs.