

Open Call for Applications: Artistic Residency Program-
Organized within the framework of the 4th Beyond DisDance Performing Arts Festival

What is Beyond DisDance?

Beyond DisDance is a performing arts festival dedicated to achieving more equal participation and access for people with disabilities. It is organized by Ipogia Skini Organisation and Synergeio Theatre for the fourth 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 program in this festival?

The residency program complements the Festival's overall vision and supports the creation of accessible and inclusive artistic work in Cyprus while it offers a space for education and experimentation with accessibility practices in the performing arts.

It aims to provide a framework for education and experimentation with accessibility practices in the performing arts. The selected individuals or group of artists, with or without disabilities - will receive guidance, tools, and resources to develop new or in-progress works using accessible methodologies. The focus is not on presenting a polished final work, but rather on exploring and applying accessibility tools in a way that aligns with each artist's personal aesthetic and creative direction.

It is an opportunity for artists to expand their artistic practice(s) through dialogue and experimentation using the notion of accessibility-not as a limitation, but as a source of inspiration.

Who is the open call addressed to?

This call is open to individuals or groups- disabled or non-disabled - who are active in Cyprus in the fields of contemporary dance, performance art, or any other body-centered art form, and who are interested in exploring inclusive and accessible practices. While the open call prioritizes applicants that live and work in Cyprus it is also open to receive applications from Greece as well because of the interest that emerged the past years.

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 2025 at Synergeio Theatre in the context of the 4th 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 the curator of the Festival -Eleftheria Sokratous.
- 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 May 25th at 23:59. Requested proposals 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 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 should provide equal 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 program.
- Personal guidance on creative accessibility by Christos Papamichael.
- Hosting of rehearsals at Synergeio space (15 hours per month - max. 60 hrs per proposal in total) upon request for availability of space.
- Basic video documentation- for archival purposes.
- Professional photo-documentation
- 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.
- Few mentoring hours by a mentor (conversing partner) that the artist will choose together with the producer.

What is expected from chosen artists:

- Connect with disabled members of the local community to create opportunities to engage them in your artistic work.
- Take part in all three workshops
- Prepare the audience for their project through a public presentation (small workshop, discussion, presentation, something else they want to propose) which will be implemented **latest 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 organisation.
- The scenery and the light design should be easy and quick to set up/unset.
- To be present to all the mandatory workshops related to accessibility training as well as dramaturgy. The dates will be arranged later based on the availability of all participants.
- To be autonomous individuals and consistent in scheduling meetings with their mentors.

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. (Up to 500 Words)
9. Elaborate your methodology/artistic approach in the frame of the work while explaining how does the approach meet the framework of inclusion and accessibility. (Up to 500 Words)
10. Describe how you envision the final presentation format: Type of performance, installation/ experiential sharing/other. (Up to 300 words)
11. Which audience do you think your proposal addresses the most and in what way? (Up to 300 words)
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?. (Up to 500 words)
13. If you are disabled please explain your accessibility needs. (Up to 200 words)