

Fevered

Sleep



BACKGROUND – Artist-Led National Portfolio Organisation Group

The Artist-Led National Portfolio Organisation Group (ALNPO Group) is a group of 39 independent producing organisations that have come together over the last nine months. The group formed in response to the particular Covid-related challenges that have faced organisations whose work is not building-based, but rooted instead in touring and participatory work. As companies led by singular artistic visions – often the founder-led, Artistic Director visions – these organisations have found they share similar historical trajectories in the development of their practice and of their companies – particularly in terms of funding and relationships with Arts Council England.

The particular circumstances of the pandemic have thrown these organisations together – first as a mutual support and laterally as advocates for their piece of the arts ecology. While a subset of these organisations have taken on the management of the group, as small companies we have limited capacity to achieve all of our research, development and advocacy goals.

A research grant from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama is making it possible for the group to engage a freelance coordinator/researcher to provide key support through the first six months of the 2021 as we collectively work towards emerging from the Coronavirus pandemic.

PROJECT GOALS

- To ensure that artist-led/practice-led organisations (non-building based; not necessarily touring) are able to contribute directly to ACE and government-level conversations about the future of the arts and cultural sector and its ability to thrive in a Covid world, asserting influence on the development of policy with Arts Council England and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.
- To ensure that the needs of these organisations are addressed both in terms of funding strategies but also in the ongoing development of procedures/practice in relation to the pandemic recovery.
- To actively promote a public profile/understanding (and to actively correct misunderstandings) of the place these organisations hold in the wider arts ecology.

PROJECT ACTIVITY

- Coordinate the membership of the ALNPO Group – organising meetings, notes, networking/sharing opportunities etc.
- Develop a research programme that will support the Group's ability to articulate the needs and concerns of its membership – articulating who the group are, what has brought them together, our role in the ecology, what we offer.
- Develop/Coordinate advocacy messages on behalf of the group – what difference we make; how we work; how do we meet audiences; what is the particular role we hold in the arts.
- Coordinate a lobbying strategy for amplifying the voice of the group

DELIVERABLES

- Ongoing coordination of the group.
- Creation of an evidence base demonstrating the range of work delivered by the network's members.
- A report outlining the networks' activity and reach, before and during Covid.
- Creation of digital content - report, recommendations - for group members to add to their websites.
- A set of recommendations for the practice adaptations necessary to enable delivery post-Covid.
- A set of corollary recommendations to ACE and government on the nature of the support necessary.
- Creation of advocacy tools including possible micro-website and/or other digital tools/strategy.

PERSON SPEC

- Experience of working within the artist-led/practice-led ecology.
- Strong administrative/coordination/research skills.
- Persuasive communicator and advocate – written and verbal – able to articulate value and advocate widely across audiences including government.
- Understanding of funding culture, long-range perspective of ACE; ideally, experience of dealing directly with ACE at strategic level.
- Understanding of the immediate and mid/long term challenges facing ALNPO groups including our place in the complex arts infrastructure and the challenges of differing timescales in the post-covid recovery of different parts of the sector.
- A familiarity with the discussions and debates that have already taken place in the ALNPO group (and ideally other, similar working groups in other parts of the industry)

We envisage the commitment for this role is around 15 days spread across February - June 2020 for a flat fee of £4,500.00.

HOW TO APPLY

If you would like to be considered for this role please answer the following three questions across no more than two A4 pages:

- How would you approach this kind of advocacy, data analysis and building a case for support through research?
- How would you characterise the current challenges for the artist-led/practice-led national portfolio organisation?
- What would your goals/actions be for the first 30 days in the role?

Please send your answers along with your most up to date CV to recruitment@feveredsleep.co.uk by **Monday 8th February 2020 at 5pm.**