



CITY NOW CITY FUTURE

AN IDEA FOR A FUTURE LONDON: OPEN CALL

**Application deadline:
Friday 12 May 5pm**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Museum of London
150 London Wall
London
EC2Y 5HN

museumoflondon.org.uk
#CityNowCityFuture

BACKGROUND

City Now City Future is a year-long season of exhibitions, creative commissions, large-scale public events, talks and debates at the Museum of London (May 2017 – April 2018) that explore the wide range of initiatives taking place in cities around the world, with a particular focus on the lives of Londoners today and how we experience the contemporary city. We encounter the city as a series of relationships at different scales – as individual urban dwellers, within our local communities, our wider neighbourhoods, and the city beyond. In London, and around the world, new ideas and innovations seek to improve cities, and the experience of living in them.

During 2017 and 2018 the Museum of London will be a host for open and diverse conversations about the present and future of the city of London, encouraging our visitors to see themselves as active citizens and agents of change. We think positive change and active citizenship can come in many forms. From governments and policy-makers to community groups and individual residents, we are all part of making our city.

As a core part of the season we are running an open call to invite proposals for live projects which offer a proposition for urban change. This call for **An idea for a future London** is open to all kinds of practitioners (including, but not limited to, artists, designers, architects, planners, creative technologists, filmmakers, writers or social entrepreneurs) and projects – we want to understand how people are operating, or speculating on how, to create positive change in the city and to support a demonstration project which will communicate new ways of working to our visitors and communities.

The Open Call will award the winner a budget and support to deliver a project which will inhabit the Museum of London's City Gallery between February and April 2018. **An idea for a future London** is co-commissioned by the Museum of London and Thirteen Ways as part of **City Now City Future**.

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THE BRIEF

Duration: September 2017 - April 2018, including a display period in the Museum of London's City Gallery between February-April 2018.

Project budget: £27,000 [proposed as £12,000 artist fee and £15,000 production]

The brief is to research and deliver a new project for the **City Now City Future** season in spring 2018 which engages with a community or range of communities in London and which will propose and test out methodologies for urban change. We want ideas to be pragmatic and practice-led as well as propositional and speculative, to act as a 'toolkit' for change, creating new approaches for Londoners to engage and respond to their city.

The commission will include a research period with the opportunity to collaborate with local communities outside the museum, and then to present a public aspect of the project in the City Gallery at the Museum of London between February-April 2018. The occupation of this space may be through the form of an exhibition, active space, club, screening room, events programme or something else entirely.

Alongside supporting the realisation of this winning proposal we will make public a selected longlist of creative ideas for urban change – a valuable mapping of a shared field of possibility.

As part of **City Now City Future** the museum is producing a series of projects developed with and produced by young people focusing on their lived experience of London, now and looking to the future. These include a series of research clubs for secondary school and supplementary school students, volunteer and work-experience opportunities and a young people's festival, which will all bring different groups of young people and different voices together, and will be part of a multi-generational conversation across the **City Now City Future** season. We are establishing a Young Commissioners Group to document and evaluate the open call project. The selected practitioner / group will be expected to engage with the Young Commissioners at points during the research and display period.

We welcome applications from individuals, groups and organisations across a range of creative practice (including, but not limited to, artists, designers, architects, planners, creative technologists, filmmakers, writers or social entrepreneurs) who are not in full-time education. Applicants should have experience of working in the field of collaborative socially engaged practice, understand the ethical issues involved, be relevant to local conditions and engage a broad audience. You will be expected to demonstrate that you have the experience to deliver engagement aspects of the project and that the realisation of the project in the gallery space will be of a high standard, communicating your idea effectively to the museum's visitors as well as participants.



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SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL

Applicants are invited to submit their proposal before 5pm on Friday 12 May via email at opencall@museumoflondon.org.uk. Please use this email address for further information and any queries.

Your proposal must include a CV, biography and artistic statement of no more than 1,500 words describing the following:

- 1) What: A concise 300 word description of your idea, including the public presentation of the project within the City Gallery at the Museum of London.
- 2) Why: Your experience of working in the public realm, working with communities and/or making positive change within the city, including links to further information and images for up to three relevant past projects.
- 3) Who: Which communities or external partners might be included; will the project exist inside and outside the museum?
- 4) How: Please set out an initial plan and timetable for how you will research and execute your proposed project.
- 5) Indicative budget breakdown: Your proposed allocation of fees, expenses, materials and production budget to the total of £27,000.

You may include up to six visuals to communicate your project idea and its realisation in the space. This is not a requirement.

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Support and resources:

The Museum of London will provide a Creative Producer to manage the overall Open Call project, including the installation of activity within the City Gallery. There is a separate internal budget to support transportation, insurance, installation and design work associated with activity taking place in the City Gallery.

It is expected that the successful applicant would manage any relationships with external participants, partners, or communities, and would be responsible for the research and production of all content for the public presentation of the project within the City Gallery.

City Gallery:

The Museum of London's City Gallery is located within the Museum's lower floor galleries, adjacent to the Sackler Hall, and with a series of floor to ceiling windows along one wall overlooking London Wall at ground level. The gallery will be free to enter and open to both the museum's general visitors (including families, school groups and adult visitors) as well as visitors particularly interested in the **City Now City Future** season. The type of activity and material proposed should consider the varied nature of the potential visitors to the space.



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The City Gallery will exist as the Open Call project space between February-April 2018 (start and end dates to be confirmed) and will be open during normal museum opening hours. Standard invigilation is provided; however if your proposal has additional supervision or facilitation requirements this will need to be included within the project budget stated above.

The City Gallery is closed for refurbishment until July 2017. Shortlisted applicants will be provided with gallery plans and the opportunity to have a site visit in advance of interviews taking place in June.

Selection process

Shortlisting will take place in May 2017. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview to present their work to the judging panel in June (date to be confirmed). Shortlisted applicants will be offered a fee of £250 and reasonable travel expenses to attend the interview. The winning proposal will be announced by the end of June 2017 and the decision of the panel is final.

The judging panel will include:

Lauren Parker, Senior Commissioning Curator, Museum of London
Clare Cumberlidge, Director, Thirteen Ways
Beatrice Pembroke, Director, Creative Economy, British Council
Heather Phillipson, artist and poet
Finn Williams, Greater London Authority

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