



ROAM (*Space*)

We are looking for emerging artists to participate in ROAM (*Space*) – a new project which aims to explore the idea of establishing an artist run project space in Dumfries & Galloway, which is run by and for emerging artists.

What we would like to do:

- Bring together a collective of early career artists who will work with an established artist over the next year, through a process of research and learning.
- Gather ideas and research, with the aim of exploring how a collective of artists might work together to create space to share and present ideas, exhibit work, experiment creatively and connect via contemporary art practice.
- Identify what is missing for emerging artists and work to address that gap.
- Consider what type of model or space might work in Dumfries & Galloway by investigating questions such as - is a space needed? What could it be? How it might be run?

This doesn't have to be a fixed, physical space – as existing spaces could be used for pop-up events and exhibitions. Without a fixed physical space the project could potentially span different areas of D&G.

It will be up to the group to investigate and come up with ideas. The research and development undertaken by the group will play a key role in informing future projects and development.

The group taking part will:

- Work with Upland to select the lead artist who will support and work with them through the process
- Undertake research and development of what an artist project space in the region could be
- Attend regular meetings with Upland and the lead artist (these can be a combination of physical meetings and on zoom) between December 2022 – July 2023
- Go on 'go & see' trips to visit other artist run spaces and galleries
- Put on a pop-up exhibition at the end of the project which showcases their own work or work by invited artists (to be decided with the group)

The programme of activities will also include:

- Talks from artists, curators and organisations (organised and facilitated by Upland specifically for the group)
- The opportunity to gain support and skills in organising an exhibition, including communication, coordination, PR, design of flyers, curating, labelling, how to wrap / hang works

We are looking for six early career artists to take part. There are four spaces for artists under 30 years and two spaces for artists of any age.

(The spaces for artists under 30 years are funded by The Holywood Trust, whose remit is specifically to support young people).

Bursary & Costs

A small bursary of £400 is available for each participant.

Additional support with travel costs can also be given.

There is an additional budget for travel relating to trips. The costs associated with the 'go & see' trips such as travel and lunch will be covered by Upland.

There is a budget of £1,000 for the group to stage their pop-up exhibition.

Project Timescale

September – Mid October – call out for emerging artists to take part

End October – emerging artist group selected

End October – Mid November – Call out for lead artist

During this time the emerging artist group will meet with Upland to talk through the project

End November – lead artist selected (emerging artists to be on selection panel)

December – initial group meeting and visit to local gallery

Commitment: 2 meetings (including go & see visit locally) before end of December.

Please note the following may change, but offers a guide and idea of commitment:

Jan / February 2023 – Group to continue to meet (approx. one meeting in D&G and two visits to galleries out with the region), setting goals for the pilot, research visits etc.

March 2023 – Continuing regular meeting / talks by curators/ defining key aims of the group / confirming 'pop-up' space for summer exhibition (approx. 2-3 meetings)

April – July 2023 - Planning & curating a (small) group exhibition to open as a 'pop-up' event July (regular meetings throughout this time, at least 2 per month)

Commitment over 7 months: 12 meetings (including talks) / 2 go & see visits

Wider context

This project sits within Upland's wider programme of activities that seek to investigate, explore and grow space for contemporary art and experimental projects in our rural region, considering new responsive models and routes to engagement. The project aims to work with artists to develop and grow projects in a collaborative way, allowing us to see how best to commission future projects which are bespoke to Dumfries & Galloway.

Alongside ROAM (*Space*) is a complimentary strand titled, ROAM (*West*).

ROAM (*West*) is focussed on exploring how contemporary art practice can be developed in the Western region of Dumfries and Galloway. It sees artist-in-residence Jack Tan explore questions about how contemporary art can be made in the rural context, including: what is needed to support it, whether there is an audience for it, and how a supportive network of contemporary art practitioners can be created. Jack will be working with his own cohort of artists in the West of the region. There will be an opportunity to learn from each other and the two strands will overlap at points.

Definitions & further information.

Artist-run space

An artist-run initiative is any project run by artists that enables them to share their own work and the work of others. Artist run initiatives can take different forms / models - examples: [Narture](#) (Ayr), [Market Gallery](#) (Glasgow), [Generator](#) (Dundee), [GRAFT](#) (Lancaster), [Salt Space](#) (Glasgow)

Early career / emerging artist

Open to emerging artists, 5 years (or less) out of University, Art School or College as well as those who can evidence a sustained emerging practice which is in the first 5 years of development. Please note that a formal qualification is not necessary. If you are currently studying an art course and would like to take part, please just get in touch, as long as you feel you can make a commitment to the project and have a creative practice established then you are welcome to apply.

If you have any queries at all please contact amy@weareupland.com

How to apply to take part.

Please submit your interest in taking part by submitting the following to amy@weareupland.com:

- A short statement which tells us a bit about why you would like to take part, why you consider yourself to be an emerging artist, what interests you in the project etc. (no more than the one side of A4)
- An artist statement (no more than A4)
- A CV
- Four images of your work - if including time-based media please include links to online content (vimeo, you tube, soundcloud or similar)
- Links to your website if you have one or an Instagram

Please send all documents as either word docs or a PDF.

Please also get in touch if you prefer to submit your interest in an alternative form, we are flexible and open to different methods of applying such as video and/or audio.

Deadline to apply to take part: 12 October 2022 5pm

If this opportunity is oversubscribed we will use the following selection criteria:

- Relevance of the Short Outline and Artist's Statement to the project as outlined in this call.
- Relevance of practice and previous experience.
- Potential impact on the development of participant's creative practice.

About Upland www.weareupland.com

Upland CIC is the visual arts and craft development organisation for Dumfries & Galloway.

Upland delivers a year round creative programme that includes events, exhibitions, residencies, workshops and professional development. We engage and collaborate with a wide audience that includes young people and emerging and established artists and makers.

Upland provides a network for learning and sharing, offering advice and support to creative practitioners whilst aiming to inspire and educate a wide range of audiences to participate in and be supportive of visual arts and crafts.

Upland is a membership organisation that works to create opportunities that connect our artists and makers with audiences, communities and each other. With a strong sense of place, we aim to highlight and celebrate our unique region and its creative community, raising its profile in a national and international context.