

BACKLIT and New Art Exchange (NAE) are delighted to collaborate in a new partnership that supports a shared ambition to enable artists to access Studio Space and develop their Studio Practice.



1. THE OPPORTUNITY

Together, BACKLIT and NAE are pleased to offer an opportunity to access up to five months of free studio space with a small commission fee and mentoring support for an artist from the Global Ethnic Majority.

This initiative aims to further support Global Ethnic Majority artists in the East Midlands' arts landscape who face barriers in accessing studio spaces and developing their studio practice.

This funded studio residency takes place between 1 November 2023 to March 2024. During this time, all costs related to renting a single studio at BACKLIT are covered, including rent and a deposit. A bursary of £2,500 will be provided for the research and development time as well as to cover any expenses such as travel.

The aim of the residency is to support a Global Ethnic Majority artist, who hasn't had a chance to develop their work and who encountered barriers in establishing their studio practice. The applicant must be based in the East Midlands (and can commit to travelling to Nottingham for the duration of the residency).

* Global Ethnic Majority is a collective term that refers to people who are Black, Asian, Brown, dual-heritage, indigenous to the global south, and or have been racialised as 'ethnic minorities'.

2. ACCESS AND SUPPORT

At BACKLIT, the successful applicant will have access to:

- Private artist and professional development feedback sessions with the BACKLIT team
- Support and guidance for wider funding and development opportunities
- Scheduled time with BACKLIT staff to discuss projects and development of practice
- An exclusive digital Members Portal, serving as a collection of unique development resources, skill sharing, and upcoming events
- Funded opportunities including commissions, collaborations, and exchanges with our partner organisations
- Feature on our artists profile space with your profile that can be used to highlight your work for curators and collaborators
- Being part of BACKLITs artist community, with peer-to-peer support and opportunities of collaboration.
- Regular Open Studios, which serve to present work, engage with the community, and develop a professional network
- Discounted hire for our galleries and project spaces
- Photography darkroom
- Screen-printing facilities

At NAE, the successful applicant will have access to two hours per month with either the CEO/AD or the Head Curator. This time can be used for:

- Mentoring.
- Coaching.
- Portfolio reviews.
- CPD advice.
- Guidance for funding and development opportunities.

Additionally, the successful candidate will receive a BACKLIT Associate Membership from April to September 2024. This opportunity allows:

- Access to BACKLIT's exclusive Members Portal, which houses a rich archive of workshops, member-exclusive events, studio meetings, and a treasure trove of other arts-related resources.

- Access to one-on-one development sessions with our dedicated staff.
- Access to a private photography darkroom and screen-printing facilities.
- Access to discounted rates when renting the galleries and project spaces.
- A feature on BACKLIT's artists' profile platform, providing you with increased visibility within the artistic community.

3. REQUIREMENTS

- You are an individual or a collective (max of 3) working in the field of visual arts.
- You want to experiment and develop your practice in a safe and nourishing environment.
- You want to get introduced to the vibrant community of arts in Nottingham(shire).
- You want to meet fellow artists, makers, educators, and curators.
- You may have experienced obstacles as a Global Ethnic Majority creative, which made it difficult for you to take your practice to a new level.
- You will partake in BACKLIT's quarterly studio meetings, open studios, exhibition openings and events.
- You will attend and engage with five individual critical feedback sessions with BACKLIT and up to two-hour monthly meetings with NAE.
- Your work and practice will be promoted via BACKLIT's and NAE's social media channels.

4. PAYMENT PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

The bursary will be paid in two instalments, 50% on signature and 50% on completion. Your invoices need to be addressed to finance@nae.org.uk

5. KEY DATES

1. 12 October 2023 5pm: Deadline for the applications
2. 20 October 2023: Interviews
3. 1 November 2023: Residency start
4. 31 March 2024: Residency finishes

BACKLIT and NAE are committed to ensuring an equitable working environment. We actively seek a broad range of people to reflect diverse experiences and backgrounds. We especially encourage applications from candidates who have Black, Asian, Mixed or Global

Majority heritage and/or are from working-class/lower socioeconomic backgrounds, identify as LGBTQ+, Female, and people with disabilities.

6. ABOUT BACKLIT

BACKLIT is a Nottingham-based, LGBTQ+ and Female-led independent public gallery and creative studios whose main aim is to support, develop, showcase, and promote emergent artists based in Nottingham, through a series of artistic and professional development opportunities. We provide a crucial contribution to the regional creative economy to springboard artistic careers.

Key areas for development 2022-2026 are to continue our work to enhance our provision and support around mental health, equality, diversity and inclusion, arts, and the environment and digital.

www.backlit.org.uk

7. ABOUT NEW ART EXCHANGE

New Art Exchange (NAE) is a ground-breaking, award-winning and internationally recognised creative space in the heart of Hyson Green, Nottingham. NAE is dedicated to promoting excellence in culturally diverse contemporary arts through our exhibitions, events and engagement initiatives.

The curatorial programme at NAE is designed to extend the organisation's mission statement: to stimulate new perspectives on the value of diversity in art and society.

www.nae.org.uk

8. ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- You are a Global Ethnic Majority creative, based in East Midlands.
- Commitment to equality and diversity.
- You are 18 or over.
- You have encountered barriers to developing your practice.
- You are interested in Nottingham(shire).
- You are not an existing BACKLIT member.
- You are not in full-time education.
- You have experience of developing arts practice for a minimum 3 years.

9. HOW TO APPLY

If you would like to have a confidential discussion about this opportunity, please contact Artist Development Coordinator Marta Marsicka marta.marsicka@backlit.org.uk to arrange a time for a conversation.

To make an application, please follow these links:

[APPLICATION FORM LINK](#)

[EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES LINK](#)

All applications should be submitted by 12 October 2023 5pm.

- If preferred, instead of the online application, we can accept different formats of the application, for example, audio or video (no longer than 5 minutes). We can also accept a paper hand-written copy if it arrives by the deadline.
- Interviews will take place on 20 October 2023.
- Please also complete the Equal Opportunities form (see attached). This helps us to see the overall diversity of our studio members. The form will be separated from your application as soon as we receive it and will not be passed on to anyone involved in shortlisting.



NEW ART EXCHANGE



BACKLIT