



Are you a D/deaf or disabled artist with a creative idea you would like to take to the next level?

Are you a Coventry/Midlands-based artist or company with a new show that you'd like to develop?

If so, Talking Birds is offering supported residencies at The Nest (a new incubation space in Coventry, UK City of Culture 2021) to artists working in any medium - performance, visual art, film, sound/music, mixed-media....

Pick the level you would like to apply at:

Hatching >> gives you a few days of space, time and a sounding board to help you develop your idea.

Fledgling >> gives you a supported residency space for 2 weeks to enable you to nurture your idea.

First Flight >> gives you a supported residency space for 1-2 months to launch your idea to into the world (with an initial public sharing).

Tell us what your idea is / what you would like to do, what sort of space you would need and when you would like to do it. [You can fill in the online form here.](#) If you'd prefer to submit your idea as a video or in another form, that's fine by us.

If we think we might be able to support your idea, we'll be in touch to arrange a conversation.

FAQs:

Who can apply for the Nest residency programme?

Any artist or small company can apply, but priority will be given to D/deaf and disabled artists, and artists based in Coventry or the Midlands.

When's the deadline?

We've got a rolling deadline, but initially we're looking to support residencies from January 2019 onwards.

What spaces are available for working in?

We will try and match up your idea with a suitable space - which might range from a large-ish area in an industrial unit to somewhere small and cosy.

Will I get paid for my time?

This is a supported residency programme so we will offer you some financial support for your time in addition to space and a project mentor/sounding board if needed.

I'm on benefits, can I still apply?

Yes, we'll do our best to make the residency work for you

I've got a full time job, can I still apply?

You need to be able to commit enough time to your residency to make it worth while, but if you can give us a plan for your working pattern that works around your other work, that's fine by us.

I've got particular access needs, how will these be taken into account?

We'll do our level best to provide space and support that is tailored to you.

I'm a disabled artist based outside the region but interested in developing work in Coventry. Can I get help with travel and accommodation?

Yes

If I Hatch an idea I then want to take to Fledgling or First Flight stage, can I reapply?

Yes.

Who is funding this?

Arts Council, England, through its support of Talking Birds as a National Portfolio Organisation

Who/what is Talking Birds?

Talking Birds is a nationally renowned, Coventry-based company of artists specialising in Theatre of Place.

[Find out more on our website.](#)

What are Talking Birds' core values and do mine have to align with them?

We believe in making work in an environmentally sustainable way that puts access at the heart of its process - you can find out more on our website. We'd like to know how your residency will be consistent with these values and/or show a commitment to exploring them.

Why is Talking Birds running this programme and has it done this before?

We want to support the burgeoning creative life of our home city and in particular create the right conditions for disabled artists to develop their work. Although the Nest residencies are new, Talking Birds has a track record of curating project development and residency opportunities for other artists: we previously ran the FarGoSpace programme in (what's now) FarGo Village, we run a series of open auditions for performers called Open Cast, and we convene the F13 Artists' Network. It's also a great excuse for Bird-related puns.

Will my project supporter/mentor be one of the TBs team?

Yes if we have the right skills to support you - but we will work with you to identify what sort of support you need and may draw on one of our many partner/collaborators to work with you. In-house expertise and interests include: creative development, theatre-making, site-specific work, design, composition and sound design, making work accessible, strategic planning, evaluation, finance and funding.

Where will the residency be based?

Coventry - UK City of Culture 2021 (did we already mention that?)

Sounds brilliant! How do I apply?

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