

VELOCITY

VELOCITY DANCE CENTER

Curating Artist in Residence (CAiR) 2023-24 Application

About Velocity:

Founded in 1996, Velocity is an artist-led nonprofit in Seattle, WA that is dedicated to providing Seattle dance-makers with the resources, advocacy, and collaborative support they need to blossom their ideas into impactful art and community actions. This is central to our mission to advance contemporary dance and movement-based art by fostering the creative explorations of artists and audiences. We do this through flexible and responsive platforms that support dance research and creation, movement education, and opportunities to share and experience contemporary dance performance.

Our core programs include Velocity's Creative Residency Programs, a ladder of new work incubator programs and process-driven residencies; Movement Education Programs, which provide training and classes for beginning through professional dancers, including the Seattle Festival of Dance + Improvisation; and Velocity Presents, a full season of performances, discussions, and community collaborations.

Velocity's programs create employment and artistic opportunities for more than 100 artists each year and our work reaches up to 20,000 audience members and class-takers annually.

About the Residency + Role:

Title: Curating Artist in Residence (CAiR)

Starting: September 2023

Prior to start date, CAiR will receive a full-tuition to attend SFD+I 2023, and will be strongly encouraged to attend

Application Deadline: March 28, 2023

Residency Dates: September 2023 – October 2024 (13 months)

Hours per week: Flexible, with an expectation of an average of about 8-hrs/week (this is a stipended residency)

Place of Work: Ongoing administrative work will be performed remotely. Weekly team meetings and core season events will take place at 12th Avenue Arts | 1621 12th Ave. Additional events may take place in other venues across Seattle.

Applicants can be locally or nationally based. However, the CAiR will need to be able to attend Velocity productions and in person events in Seattle during the term of their residency. If the artist is relocating to the Seattle area for this opportunity they will be responsible for securing their own travel and housing.

Stipend: \$10,800 paid in monthly installments. Additionally, Velocity's CAiR receives free participation and tickets to all Velocity produced programming, including SFD+I, for the duration of the residency.

During the residency the CAiR will not be eligible to apply to any of Velocity's open calls for artists because they will be a part of the curation for those opportunities.

Residency Overview:

Velocity's Curating Artist in Residence is a program that supports movement artists and choreographers interested in curation, arts administration, and program development. The CAiR (pronounced "care") artist will receive a \$10,800 stipend to serve a 13-month residency term. The selected artist will receive mentorship while supporting in the curation and coordination of the residency program the Bridge Project, the performance program Next Fest NW, and aspects of Seattle Festival of Dance + Improvisation. They will also develop their own program with the mentorship and support of Velocity staff. The intention of this program is to ensure that there is working artist leadership at Velocity, while supporting the professional development of artists as curators and arts administrators.

The exiting and entering CAiR artist will overlap for the month of September to facilitate a passing of the residency and an onboarding process.

Responsibilities include:

Curation + Artist Mentorship

- Work with Velocity staff to assemble curatorial teams for Velocity's Bridge Project, NextFest NW and Seattle Festival of Dance + Improvisation, while engaging in program management, administration, development, fundraising and any other needed event coordination.

- Act as artistic mentor for emerging artists within Velocity's programming, especially the Bridge Project.
- Contribute to organizational conversations about strategies and ideas for Velocity's present and future informed by the organization's lineage and the input of our artists and supporters. This position splits the line between following and upholding current practices and structures of Velocity's programming, budgets and timelines, with the ability to vision and think beyond our current structures.
- Develop your own curated project or program through Velocity. Velocity staff will support the artist's vision and collaborate with the artist to discover and celebrate the intersections of their artistic vision, their curatorial efforts and the values and artistic vision of the organization.
- Build connections to local, national, and international networks of artists, producers and partners in the dance and performance field. Attend meetings and conversations about what additional shows and events might be produced through Velocity.
- Attend weekly team meetings as well as weekly program and communications meetings, to work collaboratively with Velocity staff.
- Interface with artists, community partners and audiences.
- Assist in the promotion of the programs they are leading as well as any other general organizational promotion and fundraising needs during their time in residence.

Desired Skills/Qualifications:

- Be a working artist involved in dance, performance, and/or interdisciplinary arts with a passion for movement based forms. Ideally candidate has been working in performance for 5 or more years
- A familiarity with the Seattle arts and dance landscape
- Be passionately creative and possess the ability to develop original ideas for artistic programming in line with Velocity's mission and organizational goals.
- Have great communication skills and a passion for creative thinking - expansive and practical - with an ability to work independently and collaboratively as part of the Velocity team
- Have experience as an artist leader and/or a strong interest in developing leadership, engaging and developing relationships with artists, audiences and community partners, as a public-facing team member for Velocity.

- Ability to see artistic projects through from idea to fruition, through conceptualizing and following through on a production timeline, project management and executing administrative tasks
- Be able to operate inside of institutional priorities, budgets and deadlines as well as have a fresh perspective for ways to re envision the systems and programming.

How to Apply:

To apply, complete the online application by midnight on March 28, 2023. Online applications will open on February 28, 2023. We are not able to accept late applications.

If you have questions about the application process, please contact erin@velocitydancecenter.org

Curatorial Artist in Residence Application Questions:

Name:

Pronouns:

Email:

Phone:

Bio:

Questions:

- Tell us a bit about yourself and your background. Why are you interested in this residency?
- What are a few of the concepts and questions regarding curation and programming for dance and performance that you hope to explore during this residency?
- How might the residency act as a catalyst for your artistic and professional growth?
- How will this residency affect you and/or the communities you plan to engage with during your time in residence?
- Tell us about 1 or 2 of your favorite past experiences as a curator in the arts, no event is too big or too small:
- Tell us about a past challenge you've had as a curator or lead artist. How have you solved issues when difficulties arise during a production and/or selection based process?
- Do you have any major schedule conflicts for the residency period?
- Are you available to attend SFD+I 2023

Artist Assets and Work samples:

Provide 5 work samples (max length for videos 5 min, max length for text 2 pages)

1. Video of your artistic work (performance or curatorial documentation or preparation)
2. Writing about your art - One article about your work and or process written by you or someone else; **OR** some video of you being interviewed about your creative process or work; **OR** a creative writing sample written by yourself (preferably published) that reflects your artistic process
3. (Optional: A review, critique or thought piece based on a performance you have been a part of or one that you watched)
4. A high quality digital headshot of you, the artist
5. A high quality digital photograph of the you, the artist in performance or creative process mode

Work sample links and descriptions:

Please provide links to the requested documentation above. Please provide any necessary passwords to access the samples or cueing information for viewing videos:

Describe your samples below and how they relate to you and your work (not required for the headshot!).

REFERENCES please provide 2 professional references:

Name, Relationship to applicant, email, phone number

References can be colleagues, collaborators, mentors, anyone in the arts that can speak for your promise and potential as a great fit for this opportunity!