

Application for Choreographers / Deadline September 1, 2024, 11:59pm

Velocity invites Seattle-based emerging choreographers to apply for Bridge Project 2025, presented this year in partnership with Base Experimental Arts + Space.

Bridge Project is the first step on Velocity's ladder of core residency programming and is designed to bridge an initial connection between Seattle's emerging dance artists and Velocity and its audience. Every year, this six week residency offers three choreographers up to 50 hours of rehearsal space each to research and present a new 20 minute dance work. Velocity provides each choreographer with an artist stipend, rehearsal space, + creative, financial, and administrative support during the research and presentation process.

This program is for movement-based artists who have been making work in the greater Seattle area for 5 years or less and self-identify as an emerging dance artist. Ideal applicants are interested in connection, mentorship, and challenging/deepening their choreographic process.

This program aims to expand their skills on the following:

- **Artistic mentorship:** mentorship and community support to make artistically innovative projects.
- **Financial resources:** fees to pay yourself, your collaborators, and your project expenses
- **Reciprocal Relationship building:** understanding your part in the larger ecology, and how to work collaboratively to connect and sustain your career within your ecosystem of artistic collaborators, local and national presenters, funders, and audiences.
- **Business development:** how to manage projects and undertake long-term collaborations and career planning.

Selected choreographers will receive:

- 50 hrs of rehearsal space at Base
- Artist Stipend of \$1500
- Lighting design by Velocity technical staff
- Mentorship and production support from Velocity staff and Curating Artist in Residence
- 4 in-person performances that are fully produced
- Documentation + Photos of the new work

Important Dates [selected choreographers must be available for all of the following]:

- Sun, SEP 1 | 11:59pm – Applications Close
- Fri, SEP 27 | 12-1:30pm – Production Meeting about Budget, Funding, Rehearsal/Audition Collaboration
- Fri, OCT 18 | Production Meeting- Framing, talking about your work and contextualizing.
- JAN 1-FEB 2 | Artists will schedule their own times with Creative Producer no less than 50 hours for the 5 weeks– Intensive residency @ Base
- Sat, JAN 18 | 12-4PM – Production showing @ Base
 - 1 hour for each artist - showing and then discussion with designers
 - All artists present for each artist

- FEB 3-4 | TBD – 2-hr tech rehearsal @ Base
- Tues, FEB 5 | 6:30pm – 3-hr tech run @ Base
- Wed, FEB 6 | 6:30pm – 3-hr dress rehearsal @ Base
- FEB 7-9 | 7:30pm [Saturday 2pm + 7:30pm] – Performances @ Base

The Bridge Project 2025 is presented by Velocity in partnership with Base Experimental Arts + Space. Support for this year's program comes from our awesome community of individual donors.

*This application will close on **September 1, 2024 at 11:59pm**, and we are not able to accept late applications.*

If you have questions or would like to speak to someone about your application, please contact Amy O'Neal: amy@velocitydancecenter.org

All received applications will be reviewed through a panel process. The panel will be comprised of Velocity Curating Artist in Residence Amy O'Neal, Creative Producer Shane Donohue, Nia Amina Minor, and Hannah Simmons. Panelists will review each application and score proposals using the below criteria, with scores from strongly meets criteria - somewhat meets criteria - does not meet criteria.

The highest scoring applications will be advanced to a discussion stage, where the panel will curate three projects to select for this year's cohort. Velocity staff + CAiR will be available to provide feedback on unsuccessful applications upon request.

Criteria	Description
1. Eligibility	Proposal demonstrates that the artist is (1) emerging; (2) a resident of the Greater Seattle Area; (3) available for all dates listed. (see below for more information)
2. Artistry	Proposal articulates a research concept that is compelling that clearly translates to a presentation within a performance and shows artistic promise.
3. Impact /Individual	Proposal demonstrates that this project would provide clear benefit to the artist's development.
4. Impact /Community	Proposal articulates how an investment in this project will benefit the wider Seattle community. Projects interested in hosting an audition will be scored higher on community impact.
5. Feasibility	Proposal clearly articulates an embodied research concept that culminates in a new 20-minute work that is achievable, given both the artist's experience and skills and the time and resources available.

Within Criteria 1 -

- *“emerging” - For the Bridge Project, we define emerging artists as individuals or creative teams who have been making work outside of educational institutions in the Greater Seattle Area for 5 years or less. We understand that there is nuance to this criteria, so we invite you to clarify on your application how you believe you meet this criteria.*
- *“in Seattle” - For the Bridge Project, when we say “in Seattle” we mean the Greater Seattle Metropolitan area, which includes King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. This project is specifically aiming to benefit residents of this region, so you must live and/or work in this area to be eligible for the Bridge Project.*
- *“available for all dates” - We mean that you are available to be present either physically or in some cases virtually for the entire duration of the dates listed. Selected applicants will set their rehearsal schedule during the residency, but they must be available for all meetings, technical/dress rehearsals and performances.*

Within Criteria 2 -

- *“Artistic Promise” - We mean that the proposal communicates a clear and innovative artistic vision, values, and intent. Because this is an opportunity for emerging artists, we understand that you may not have existing work that demonstrates these things, but artistic promise speaks to the demonstration that your future work will be defined by a strong vision, values, and intent.*

Within Criteria 5 -

- *“Feasibility” - The Bridge Project is a 6-week opportunity to create a short work to be presented alongside two other short works within a live theater context. We encourage you to stretch the limits of what is possible, but your proposal will be strongest if you help us understand how this proposal will exist within this context, and consider what is achievable given the resources and time available to you. We see the Bridge project as a catalyst for ideas, and many alums go on to expand their work beyond the original scope of the first performance, so keep in mind that this first iteration does not need to be the final product, but just the first premiere of your larger idea.*

A note on work samples:

The goal of this work sample is to give panelists a chance to see some of what you write about expressed through your work. Your work sample can be a fully produced recording of a live performance, but it can also be a rehearsal video or other in-process footage. If you feel like your work sample isn't representative of your current practice, we encourage you to create content that does feel connected to where you are and what you would create now, even if it's filmed in your living room. Panelists will be looking more at your ideas and expression, and less at the production value of the performance or video. Work samples can be dance film, documentation of live performance, other video content, spoken word, visual art, diagrams, sound or music, or any other sample that would help us to better understand you and your proposal.

A note on word and time limits:

The word and time limits listed in this application are offered as a suggestion and not a requirement. Our panels have a limited number of time to review each application, so we offer guides to give you an indication of the amount of content the panel could reasonably read, watch, and process from each applicant.

1. Contact Information
 - a. Name
 - b. Email
 - c. Phone
 - d. Pronouns
2. Eligibility
 - a. The artist is “emerging” Y/N - EXP
 - b. The artist lives or works in the Greater Seattle Metropolitan area (King County, Pierce County, Snohomish County). Y/N - EXP
 - c. The artist is available for all dates listed Y/N - EXP
3. About you

- a. Tell us about yourself and your work. What are the main influences upon your work as an artist? How does your past work or experiences inform your proposed project? Examples can include your mentors or peers and their work, forms or styles of movement or art, cultural heritage, research/work from outside your field, etc. (250 words)
 - b. How might the Bridge Project act as a catalyst for your artistic and professional growth? In what ways is this a pivotal moment in your practice? Why is this project the one you want to explore through the Bridge Project framework? (150 words)
 - c. What kind of impact—artistic, intellectual, communal, civic, social, etc—do you hope your work will have? What questions are you exploring with your work? (250 words)
 - d. Is there anything else you would like us to consider? (100 words)
4. About your project
- a. Project Title
 - b. Research Description (200 words)
 - i. What kind of methodologies or movement creation practices would you use and develop during this residency? (150 words)
 - ii. How does this research translate to a 20 minute new work? Paint a picture of what the work looks like in the final showing. Are you looking to audition or work with other dancers?(300 words)
 - iii. Technical needs and considerations: How would you like to research technical/theatrical needs in your work? (lights, sound, projection) How is this research useful for your work? (150 words)
5. Work Sample
- a. Provide up to 5 minutes of work sample
 - b. Provide any cue instructions or passwords
 - c. Describe your work sample and how it relates to you and your work, as well as your proposed project. (150 words)