

VELOCITY

VELOCITY DANCE CENTER

Curating Artist in Residence (CAiR) 2025-2027 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: October 2025

Residency Dates: October 2025 – October 2027 (25 months)

Hours per month: Flexible, hours range from 10 in lower months to 60 hours per month during high programming months.

High Programming Months: October, January, February, July, September. During these months, the CAiR will be expected to be onsite, in Seattle for much of the time.

Artist Circle Meetings: Within allotted hours, there will be five in-person four-hour Artist Circle meetings, where the CAiR, Artist Circle, and Velocity staff will meet to collaborate on institutional and programmatic visioning.

Place of Work: Ongoing administrative work will be performed remotely. Monthly/bi-Monthly Curatorial Team meetings and core season events will take place at 12th Avenue Arts | 1620 12th Ave. Additional events may take place in other venues across Seattle.

Applicants should be based in the greater Seattle area.

Stipend: \$20,750 paid in installments of \$830/month for 25 months. 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 dance artists and choreographers interested in curation, arts administration, and program development. The CAiR (pronounced "care") artist will receive a stipend of \$20,750 to serve a 25-month residency term. The selected artist will support the curation and coordination of the residency programs Bridge Project and OUT THERE, and aspects of Seattle Festival of Dance + Improvisation. 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 outgoing and incoming CAiR artist will overlap for the month of October 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, OUT THERE 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 incubators 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.
- 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 monthly/bi-monthly curatorial team team meetings to work collaboratively with Velocity staff.
- Interface with artists, community partners and audiences.
- Assist in the development and launching of applications for our residency programs.
- 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 a candidate has been working in performance for ten or more years.
- Have 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 and mentorship skills, 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 perspective for ways to re-envision the systems and programming.

Application Process: This year we invite community members to nominate artists they suggest for the role. Velocity will invite all nominated artists to complete an application.

The CAiR Application is available by nomination only. [Please fill out this form if you are interested in nominating someone for this position.](#) Self nominations are welcome.

Nomination Period: May 22 - June 5

Application Period: June 6 - 30 at midnight

The application form will be sent out to nominees on June 6, 2025 via email.

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

Curating Artist in Residence Application Questions:

Name:

Pronouns:

Email:

Phone:

Bio:

Questions:

- About you:
 - Tell us a bit about yourself and your background. Why are you interested in this residency? What drives your work as an artist?
 - Tell us about one or two of your favorite past experiences as a curator or mentor in the arts, no event is too big or too small. Share with us your thought process behind curation or mentorship which could include context, aesthetics, artist development, audience needs or more.
 - 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?
- About what you want to do:

- What are a few of the concepts and questions regarding curation, programming and mentorship for dance and performance that you hope to explore during this residency?
- How might this 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?
- Do you have any major schedule conflicts for the residency period that would prevent you from being in Seattle in January, February, July, or October?

Artist Assets and Work samples:

Provide the following (max length for video 5 min, max length for text 2 pages)

1. Suggest an artist for an upcoming teaching or performance engagement who you feel is aligned with Velocity's mission. Explain what type of engagement you would suggest and why you think they would be a good choice.
2. Optional: share their website or video link
3. A high quality digital headshot of you
4. A high quality digital photograph of you 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!