



Performing Artists-in-Residence (PAIR) Request for Proposals

Deadline for Application: Monday, September 9th, 2019 11:59pm

Announcement of selected proposals: Late September 2019

Overview

The Staten Island Children's Museum with funding provided by The Staten Island Foundation is now accepting submissions for our inaugural Performing Artists-In-Residence Program (PAIR). This residency will provide visitors with a more enriched arts-based experience through a multi-series format. To implement PAIR, SICM will identify two to three performing artists (or groups) to establish residency at the museum. Children, ages 1-10 years old and their adult caregivers, will be engaged in interactive programs developed by the resident artists, and performed within the exhibits. The overall goals of the project are to expand cultural awareness of types of performance, increase interaction with diverse artist(s) while engaging with them and their craft, and deepen visitors' understanding of the museum's exhibits through performing arts. The Performing Artist in Residence (individual or group) will leave something for visitors or staff to interact with such as a short video clip, a prop, training program, or other tangible product.

About Staten Island Children's Museum

The mission of the Staten Island Children's Museum (SICM) is to nurture the creativity and curiosity natural to all children, to recognize and celebrate different learning styles, and to demonstrate vividly that learning can be exciting and fun. The Museum is committed to achieving these goals through programming that emphasizes direct and authentic hands-on experiences conducted in an environment that is welcoming as well as aesthetically pleasing. Furthermore, the Museum encourages participation by visitors of all abilities and endeavors to reach beyond its walls to serve as an educational resource for the members of our diverse community.

Founded by a group of parents in 1974, the museum opened in 1976 in a small rented storefront with one exhibit and program. A series of "hands-on, minds-on" exhibitions followed about history, the natural science and fine arts. By 1980, space limitations drove the museum to seek larger quarters. The City of New York invited the Children's Museum to join the Cultural Institutions Group, which included plans for the Museum to relocate to the ground so the newly acquired 83-acre Snug Harbor. Planning, funding and renovations for the new home at Snug Harbor Cultural Center took six years to complete and in 1986, the museum opened the doors to its new home. In 2003, the facility expanded to 40,000 square feet with the addition of the historic barn and the bi-level glass passageway. In 2013, the Museum completed another capital project, with the addition of a state-of-the-art tented picnic and performance pavilion on the East Meadow, and a vertical axis wind turbine and wind scoop addition to our roof.

Information sessions:

Thursday, August 8th 2019, 5:30-7:00pm OR Saturday, August 10th 2019, 8:30-10:00am

Prospective artist(s) must RSVP to Zoë Tirado, Program Manager prior to attending each session at ztirado@sichildrensmuseum.org.

Staten Island Children's Museum

1000 Richmond Terrace Building M

Staten Island, New York 10301

Attendance to sessions does not impact your application.

Go to <https://sichildrensmuseum.org/exhibits/> to see images of SICM's 9 interactive exhibits

Eligibility:

- Artists and or groups/collectives who are working in theater, puppetry, music, dance, multimedia, site-specific performance, socially-engaged performing arts, folk and traditional cultural practice.
- Artists who are residents of New York City—from any of the five boroughs—with priority to Staten Island based artist(s) who come from under-represented communities.

Qualifications:

- Have a demonstrated creative practice that is responsive to the museum's inter-generational audiences
- Demonstrated comfort working with children ages 1 - 10 and their families
- Are accustomed or open to having conversations with visitors about their creative process
- Be able to attend museum staff training sessions to ensure the most successful interaction with visitors
- Are at least 21 years of age.

Selection Criteria:

- **Artistic Merit (40%)**
 - Command of medium/material presented in their work samples (proposal can be based on prior work samples or be a proposed new project based off prior work.)
 - Demonstrated ability to complete projects on time and within a budget.
 - Artist(s) has a demonstrated history of producing and completing quality performances within public and community-based organizations.
- **Work that Resonates with Museum's Audiences (30%)**
 - Experience creating work that reflects a community or organization
 - A passion to create work that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion.
- **Comfort Working with Children (30%)**
 - Experience working with children and families.
 - Project proposal thoughtfully considers a child's experience within the museum.

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- Demonstrated ability to adapt to wide range of ages and abilities.

The selected resident(s) will be provided:

- Access to museum exhibits, in-house materials, electricity and PA system (if needed).
- Will be given “studio” space in Portia’s Playhouse, giving our visitors the opportunity to observe, learn, and interact with a professional performing artist in an informal setting.
- Support from Staten Island Children’s Museum, community partners for public engagement, event production and promotion.
- Private studio time (at the discretion of and if arranged in advance with Program Manager)

Compensation (for artist or group):

- Emerging artist/group stipend for 6 months = \$10K
- Established artist/group stipend for 6 months = \$20K

Applicants must check which box they want to be considered for by the above. Stipend will be dispensed in 3 installments upon successful completion of residency milestones.

The selected resident(s) will be expected to:

- Dedicate six months (or 100 - 133 hours of contact time, not inclusive of private or “prep” time). Hours are subject to change based on need to maximize visitor engagement.
- Begin residency between October 2019 – early June 2019
- Twice a month the artist(s) will be asked to open their “studio” for 16-22 hours per month, including weekends (10am – 5pm).
- Artist(s) will participate in daily programs including Storytime and Tots Time, as well as working with visiting school groups, and weekend visitors.
- Full immersion into the experience will be encouraged, with the artist(s) using the interactive exhibits and thematic spaces to explore locomotion, improvisation and sound (e.g. playing “over around” within the architecture of the exhibits).
- In the studio, the artist(s) will share the technical aspects of their craft (e.g. letting visitors watch them warm-up). Observers will witness these rehearsals and be allowed to ask questions or interact. Translators will be made available (including ASL), as needed, and dependent on the artist(s) background.
- Attend monthly check-ins with Program Manager to review status of completed performance and work collaboratively to create metrics to understand the success of the Residency as it relates to the PAIR project goals.
- Be available to provide summative narrative for final report to funder.

Selection: Prospective PAIR applicants will be selected by a jury panel comprised of SICM staff, multi-disciplinary arts professionals and community leaders and representatives.

Application includes:

- Resume
- References
- Work samples
- Artist statement
- Program proposal description
- Association with history/demographics of Staten Island?
- Budget (up to \$1000.00)
- Voluntary Demographic Information

Ready to apply? Complete the application below (link provided):

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/11VuVWw2mq6LbhKC0fk1G7k_GelrKESVHXQ94CloTAl0/edit?usp=sharing