



Ollscoil Chathair
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City University

Artist in Residence in Technology and Innovation at DCU Alpha –Talent Garden

In partnership with the Arts Council



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Introduction

DCU in partnership with the Arts Council is offering an exciting and unique residency opportunity to a professional visual artist.

The residency will provide an artist with the environment and resources to explore innovative technologies through their practice.

It is hosted on DCU Alpha (a commercial innovation campus) within Talent Garden (a digital innovation and co-working hub).

The residency is designed for visual artists whose work would be enhanced by an immersive engagement in this context.

This document describes the residency opportunity and sets out how to apply.

Where is the residency hosted?

The residency is hosted by DCU and the resident artist will have access to opportunities across its campuses. However, the unique feature of this residency and its primary focus is that it will allow for an artist to access and engage with the facilities and communities of Talent Garden and DCU Alpha.

What is DCU Alpha?

DCU Alpha is a commercial innovation campus which promotes the growth of research-intensive businesses dedicated to creating the technologies and services of tomorrow. It has a unique focus in Ireland on 'Digital Transformation and the Internet of Things', across Robotics, Connected Health, Intelligent Transport, AI, Sensor Technologies, Data Analytics and Machine-to-Machine (M2M) communications.

DCU Alpha is the largest university-linked innovation hub in Ireland with over 80 companies and 900 staff. As well as being home to Siemens Ireland, Shimmer Sensing, Taoglas, Fire1, Dolmen Design and other IoT

innovators, DCU Alpha also hosts the DCU Ryan Academy for Entrepreneurship, the Intel-Movidius 'Edge AI' incubator programme and the Talent Garden digital innovation and co-working hub.

What is Talent Garden?

Talent Garden is the leading European digital innovation hub and co-working network. Founded in Brescia, Italy, Talent Garden has now grown across 20 European cities and is hosting over 4,500 digital professionals in 26 campuses across 8 countries.

In 2018, Talent Garden opened a new hub in Dublin in partnership with DCU. Talent Garden Dublin provides members with access and opportunity to collaborate across a global network of tech professionals, allowing them to expand and internationalise rapidly.

Talent Garden puts education and innovation at its core in developing its tech community. It hosts an Innovation School which offers masterclasses and bootcamps focused on topics in demand from entrepreneurs and businesses undergoing a digital transformation such as data, design, and AI.

What does the residency offer?

The residency offers a unique opportunity for an artist to work within an innovative co-working environment and to engage with a community of researchers, engineers, innovators and entrepreneurs.

The resident artist will receive:

- Office/studio space in Talent Garden based on DCU Alpha campus.
- Access to Talent Garden facilities including 24/7 access, 3,200 sqm of creative co-working space, meeting rooms, TAG café, community areas and on-site parking.
- A fee of €20,000.
- A budget of up to €5,000 to support project related costs.

- Access to a cutting edge research community in the field of innovation and technologies through DCU Alpha and Talent Garden.
- Access to networking opportunities with lab technicians, engineers, entrepreneurs.
- The support of DCU's Visual Arts Development Officer and Talent Garden's Country Manager to broker introductions with researchers and business across the campus.

The artist will also benefit from the following:

- Access to 'TAG People', Talent Garden's online collaboration platform for its pan-European community of innovators and entrepreneurs.
- Access to library and including online journals throughout DCU.
- Access to a range of public events at DCU.

What is the scope and nature?

The nature of the residency will evolve from the successful applicant's proposal, and DCU takes an open and flexible approach in this regard. The residency might be *thematic*, responding, for example, to DCU Alpha-Talent Garden's disruptive technology-laden environment (including areas like the internet of things, artificial intelligence, connected health and data analytics). Alternatively, the residency could be *research-based*, and the artist could use the process of research to create the experience of the residency, or to create solutions and alternative approaches to issues arising from DCU Alpha-Talent Garden's digital innovation community generally.

What are the expectations?

- The artist is expected to actively engage with the facilities, resources or communities available within the Talent Garden and DCU Alpha, utilising the opportunities and

networks that it offers.

- While there is no set amount of time required from the artist, a regular presence on the campus is expected across the full term of the residency.
- This residency has no set deliverables. It is anticipated that the residency will naturally lead to a range of exchanges or interactions with the DCU community during the period. This could simply be a talk or a workshop or some other type of intervention that was appropriate to the artist's practice.
- To maintain regular contact with DCU's Visual Arts Development Officer and contribute to monthly reports (written or verbal).
- To report to us at the end of the process, in order to help us evaluate the success of the residency for the artist, the host and its partners.

Who is offering the residency and why?

The residency is offered by DCU in partnership with the Arts Council. The selected artist will be engaged by DCU on a contract for services basis. The artist will be responsible for managing their own tax.

In 2017, DCU launched its Strategic Plan for the period 2017-2022, '*Talent, Discovery and Transformation*', which emphasises the university's commitment to '*Nurture Creativity and Culture across the University*'. In line with this, the university has produced a Visual Arts Framework which sets out its ambition to collaborate with cultural partners in order to develop infrastructure and supports for artists across its campuses. Embedding a culture of visual arts among its students, staff and wider community.

It is a Goal of the Arts Council that Artists are supported to make excellent work that is enjoyed and valued. The Arts Council partners with a range of third level institutes on artist in residence programmes. Through this residency the Arts Council is seeking to

extend the range of contexts in which artists can avail of residency opportunities.

Our objectives in offering of this residency are;

1. To provide time, space and resources for an artist to develop their practise and skills.
2. To explore possibilities arising at the intersections of art and technological innovation.
3. To offer collaborative and networking opportunities for an artist in the area of technology and innovation.
4. To broaden the range of residency contexts for artists.

Application Process

Queries and Site Visit

Please email any queries in relation to the residency to Visual Arts Development Officer Marcella Bannon before the 5th February 2020.

Interested artists are also invited to an orientation tour of Talent Garden - DCU Alpha on 23rd January 2020 from 10am – 1pm. Booking necessary. Email: marcella.bannon@dcu.ie

Eligibility

- Professional practicing visual artists with over five years' experience.
- Resident in Ireland.
- The artist must be available to commence and undertake the residency from March 2020 to March 2021.

Applications

Applications (**MUST** be as one PDF) should include:

- An artist CV outlining experience and achievements to date;

- A written statement not exceeding 1 x A4 pages about the artist's working practice – highlighting any projects or work to date that is relevant to the opportunity;
- High quality captioned and contextualised images. Links to video or audio files and/or any links to relevant websites;
- A residency proposal which responds to the residency brief, outlines your initial interests and describe how you might engage with the opportunity.

The deadline is 4pm on 10th February 2020. All applications received within the deadline will receive an acknowledgment. Applications should be emailed to marcella.bannon@dcu.ie.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be given priority based on the following:

1. Quality of the proposal in response to the residency brief.
2. Demonstration of an arts practice/ track record that is relevant to the residency opportunity.
3. The level of engagement proposed and demonstration that the artist will fully exploit the opportunity and contribute to the dynamic of the Talent Garden at DCU Alpha.
4. Extent to which it will develop or enhance the artists practice.

Selection Process

Following receipt of applications, a shortlist will be compiled for interview. Interviews will be held at DCU in mid-February 2020. The interview panel will include a visual artist, a DCU nominee, an Arts Council nominee and a Talent Garden nominee.

