

Career Development and Mentoring Programme

Guidance Notes

This programme is free, no fees apply.

What is the 'Belfast Exposed Futures - Career Development and Mentoring Programme'?

'Belfast Exposed Futures' is a career development and mentoring programme for artists and photographers in post-education or early stages of embarking on their photographic career. It is tailored to support the development and presentation of new work by professional mentoring, promotional opportunities, exhibitions and publications.

Selected artists will benefit from the following:

- Mentorship with a specialist photographer in their field.
- A bespoke programme of experts and consultants to support career planning, develop a 5-year artistic plan and a 2-year business/marketing plan.
- A tailored research and critical debate programme.
- Financial support that counts towards research, production costs and artists/curator fees.
- A significant solo exhibition (aligned with an established artist or photographer exhibiting in our main gallery).
- Dedicated marketing activities promoting them and their work.
- An exhibition showcase in Belfast Photo Festival 2020.
- Inclusion in a Belfast Exposed Futures catalogue.
- Inclusion in a network of photographic excellence.

The programme is limited to 6 photographers per year.

This programme will last for approximately 1-year for each person.

Who can apply?

Artists and photographers, 18 + years, from UK & Ireland, in post-education or early stages of embarking on their photographic career.

How to apply?

To apply email Johnny at j.cordner@belfastexposed.org.

Please submit:

- **A CV**
Your CV should be a maximum of 2 pages and only include relevant information relating to your artistic and/or photographic education, training and career.
- **An artist statement about your practice**
Your artist statement is a short, written description of your current working practice/career as a photographer. This should be a maximum of 1 page.
- **A statement outlining how you think you would benefit from this opportunity.**
This should be a maximum of 1 page.
- **10 digital images of your work.**
These should be of your current and best work.
- **Equality Monitoring Form** (Attached separately)
The Equality Monitoring Form ensures fair and wide access to this programme. This does not form part of the decision-making process; however, you are required to fill this in as Belfast Exposed is obliged to comply with equality legislation.

Criteria for assessment

Criteria will be based on:

1. Less than 10 years as an emerging artist. (Yes/No)
2. Quality of existing work. (50%)
3. Ambition to develop a contemporary photography career. (30%)
4. Ability to build capacity and confidence in their proposed work. (20%)

Scoring criteria

For points 2 to 4 (above) candidates will be scored between 1 to 5.

5 - excellent, 4 - good, 3 - average, 2 - poor and 1 - nil response.

Application Process

Submission closes **Thursday 30th April**.

Applicants notified of results **Friday 15th May**.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure we have received all the above by the deadline. A response will be sent once your files have been downloaded and opened.

Documents can be RTF, DOC, DOCX or PDF. Links to exterior sites are accepted within your submission documents. (Please make sure any included links work.)

Images can be TIFF, JPEG or PNG. (These do not need to be of the highest resolution as they are for preview only. A maximum size of around 5MB per image will do.)

Video can be AVI, MP4 or MOV. (Not restricted in size)

Please submit everything as one email.

We suggest using **WeTransfer.com** to transfer your submission as large files can be attached (up to 2 GB for free) also WeTransfer will inform you when your files have been downloaded.

Please contact Johnny for more information: j.cordner@belfastexposed.org

Frequently asked questions

Application process:

Q. Can I apply if I am currently in full time education?

A. The programme is for those in post-education or early stages of embarking on their photographic career however, you can apply if you are in your final year in education.

Q. Can I apply if I am not from the UK & Ireland?

A. Anyone can apply as long as you have been living and working or studying in the UK & Ireland for the past 12 months

Q. Is there an upper age limit to the programme?

A. No.

Q. Can I apply if don't have a professional qualification?

A. Yes, so long as you fit the criteria, see 'Criteria for assessment' above.

Q. Can I appeal if I have not been successful?

A. No, the selection panel decision is final.

Q. If unsuccessful can I apply again?

A. Yes.

Q. If I have already been a Futures participant can I apply again?

A. No, you can only be on the programme once.

Fees and financial support:

Q. Will I have to pay any fees?

A. You do not need to pay any fees to take part in the programme.

Q. Will I receive any financial support?

A. You will receive a limited amount of financial support that could contribute towards research, production costs and artists/curator fees. This will be determined by Belfast Exposed on a needs basis however, the programme can work with you to help you secure further financial support if required through external funding and grant applications.

The Futures programme:

Q. How long does the programme last?

A. The programme will usually last for one year, however this may be extended if necessary.

Q. How is the mentoring programme structured?

A. The programme is bespoke to each individual, mostly on a one to one basis, although there may be some group activities.

Q. In what form will my mentoring take?

A. You will have one or more mentors based on your particular needs.

Q. I do not live in Northern Ireland, will I receive travel, accommodation and subsistence?

A. For applicants outside Northern Ireland we anticipate a minimum of 2 funded trips in relation to your mentoring and if appropriate a studio visit will take place by one of your mentors.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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About Belfast Exposed

Belfast Exposed is Northern Ireland's premier contemporary photography organisation, commissioning, publishing and showing work by artists and photographers from Northern Ireland and across the world. We believe photography is for everyone, it is accessible, meaningful and has the ability to tell stories, allowing us to create dialogue that reflects upon our history, informs our present and inspires a positive future.

Belfast Exposed

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Belfast
City Council

