



open dialogo

A bilateral cultural exchange project for dance and disability in Italy and England



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



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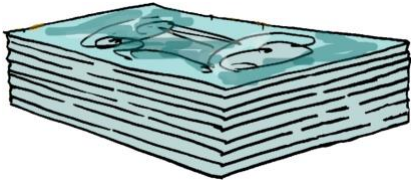


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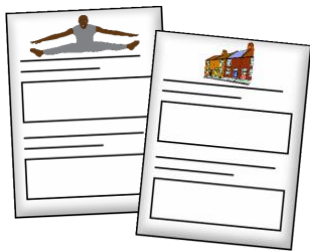
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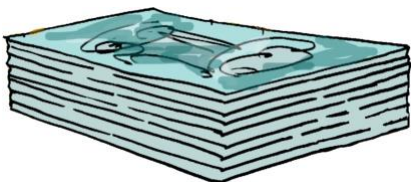
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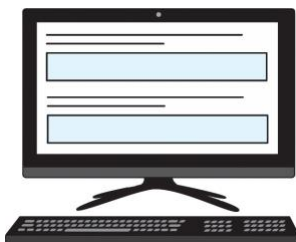
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What is Open Dialogo?



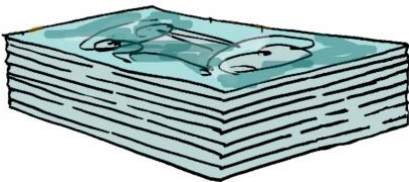
Open Dialogo is a **cultural exchange** programme in dance and Disability.



In a **cultural exchange** people share culture, ideas, and practices with others from different backgrounds.



The Arts Council of England, the Italian Ministry of Culture (The Performing Arts department) and the British Council **commissioned** this exchange programme.



Commissioned means they provided funding to run it.



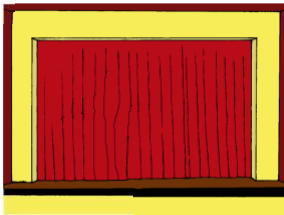
Stopgap Dance Company manages the programme.



This is the third year of a cultural exchange programme between Italy and England.

The cultural exchange allows for the sharing of knowledge and experience between:

- Disabled and non-disabled artists
- producers
- venues
- in England and Italy.



The Open Dialogo exchange means a swap between people in different countries.

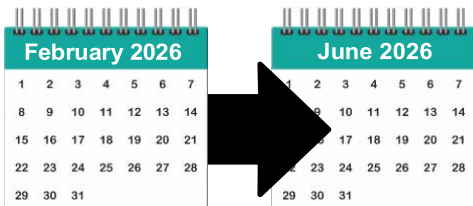
What this programme is about



We are looking for 2 England-based dance artists to travel to Italy and 2 Italy-based dance artists to travel to England.



The exchange lets dance artists explore Disability, dance, and inclusive creativity.



The exchange can take place between February and June 2026.

There are 2 types of exchange:

1. Artist residencies

When you live in another country for the cultural exchange it is called a **residency**.



- 2 England-based dance artists will travel to host organisations in Italy.



- 2 Italy-based dance artists will travel to hosts organisations in England.

2. Online opportunity

There will be an opportunity for 1 online only **collaboration** between dance artists based in Italy and England.



Collaboration means working with someone.

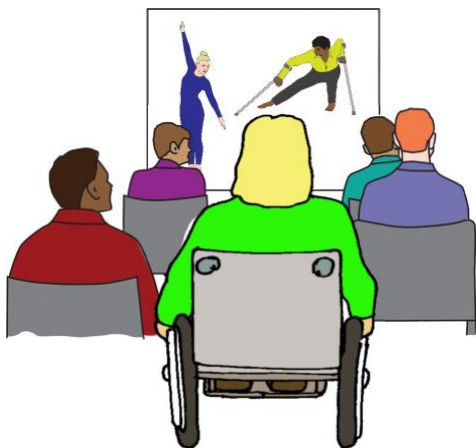
Artist residencies



Artist residencies will help Disabled dance artists travel to the opposite country.

Examples of projects we are looking to support

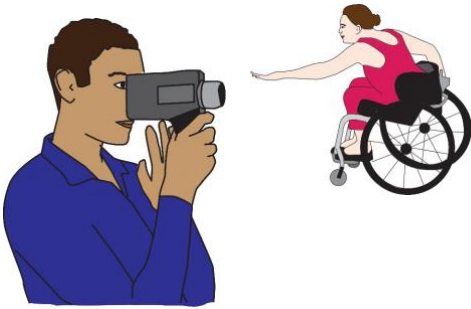
Here are a few ideas of how dance artists, companies and venues in England and Italy can find out more about Disability, dance, and inclusive creativity.



- Disabled dance artists can learn about new or existing work in the opposite country.



- Non-disabled dance artists can learn about new or existing work with Disabled dance artists in the opposite country.

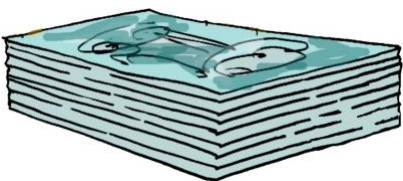


- Disabled or non-disabled dance artists can spend time watching or joining in with the activities of Disabled or inclusive groups to learn more.



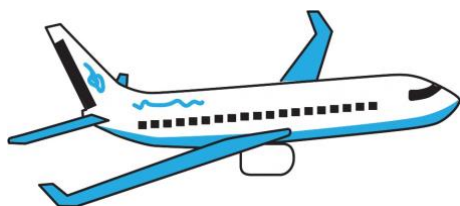
For more ideas look at the Open Dialogo webpage: www.stopgapdance.com/open-dialogo/

Funding



As an artist you can receive up to £10,000 to pay for your costs.

Your costs may be:



- travel



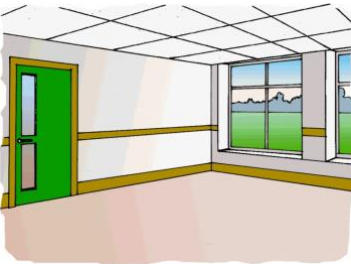
- accommodation



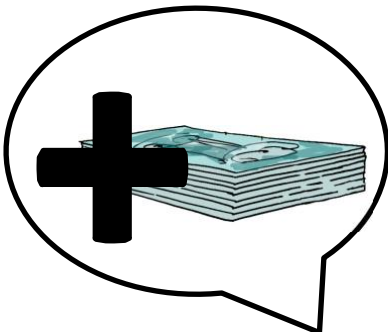
- living costs



- language interpreting

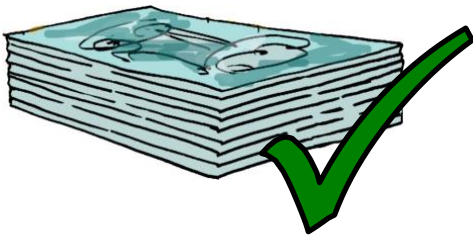


- hire of a studio.



You can also ask for extra money called an **access budget**.

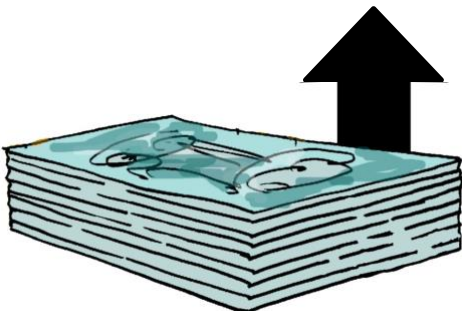
An **access budget** can cover the cost of sign language interpreters or audio describers.



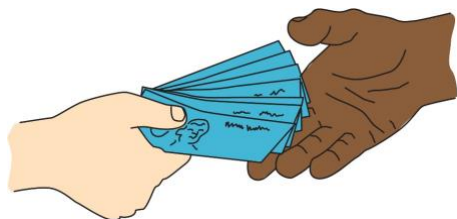
We want you to keep within this budget limit when you plan your proposal.



The Open Dialogo cultural exchange will allow up to three people to spend up to a week in the opposite country to explore creative ideas and expand their international network.



Some people may have projects that will cost more than our budget.

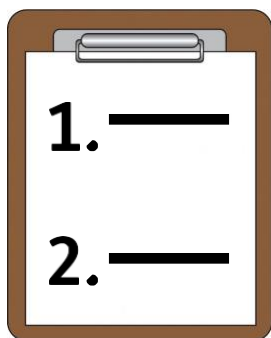


They may have already found extra funds from another donor.



You do not have to look for extra funds.

How to apply for artist residencies



There are 2 stages.



Stage 1: Expression of interest

In stage 1 you let us know you are keen to take part in the exchange.



You can download an application form, complete your answers and send it back to admin@stopgapdance.com



You can also answer the questions on the

form using audio or film recording.



You can download the form from the Open Dialogo webpage:

www.stopgapdance.com/open-dialogo/



A panel of people will look at your application.



If you are successful, they will match you with one of the host organisations to develop a partnership application.



Send us your expression of interest by **13 October 2025**.



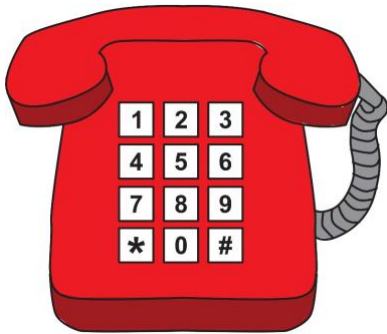
We will get back to you by

11

31 October 2025.



If you need help with making your expression of interest, please contact Stopgap Dance Company.



Phone:
01252 745443

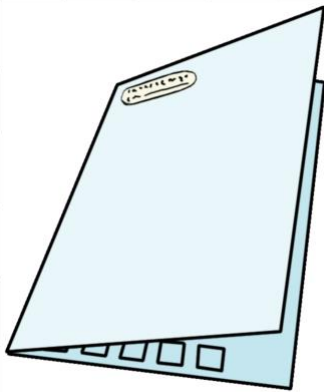


Email:
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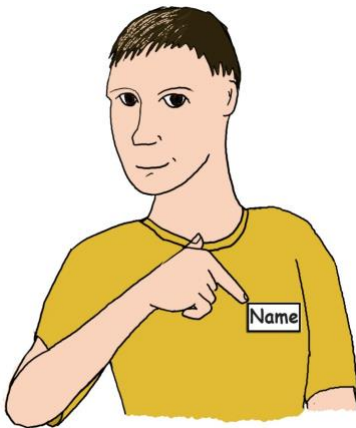


A member of the team can help you.

Stage 2: Full application



We will give you the full application form.



You must name 1 main applicant – either the artist or the host.

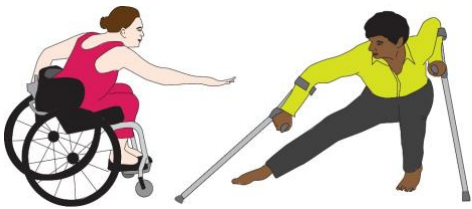


You must send us your final proposal by **1 December 2025**.

Online opportunity



There will be 1 online-only cultural exchange between Italian and English dance artists.



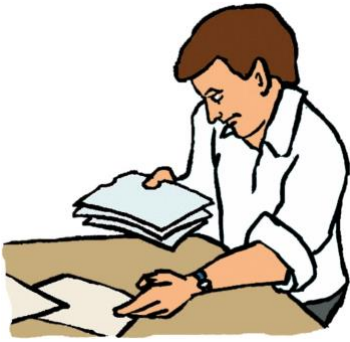
For remote collaboration we are keen to help Disabled artists from England and Italy to work together.



The project **must** involve at least 1 artist from Italy and 1 from England.



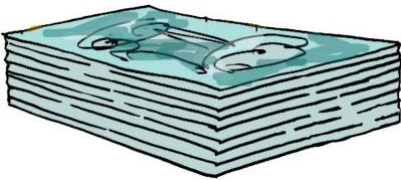
It can involve artists based in other countries as third-party participants.



We will look at a wide variety of proposals.



For examples look at the link on Open Dialogo website to the British Council's Digital Collaboration Fund.



Funding

There will be £2,000 for one project.



This fund must cover all costs such:

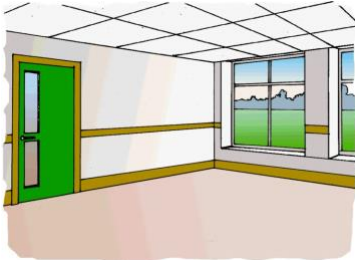
- artist fees



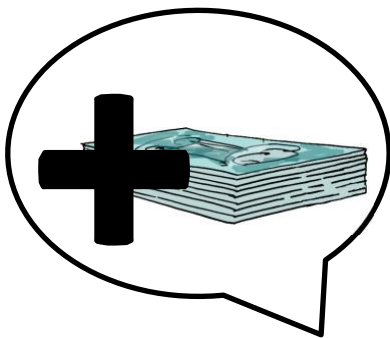
- living costs



- language interpreting



- hire of a studio or equipment.



You can also ask for extra money called an **access budget**.

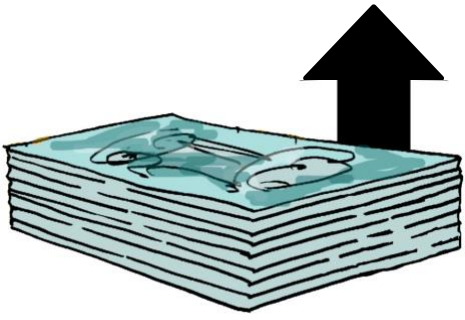
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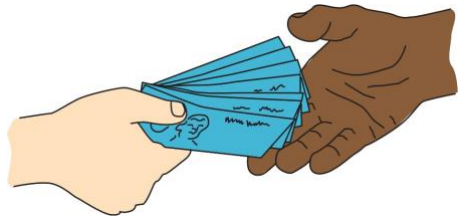
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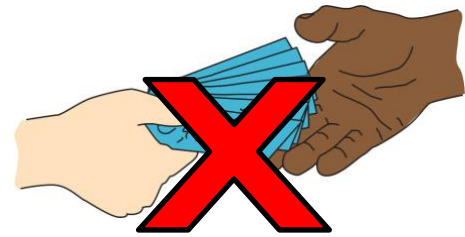
The Open Dialogo cultural exchange will allow up to three people to set up online sessions to learn about creative ideas and expand their international network.



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They may have already found extra funds from another source.



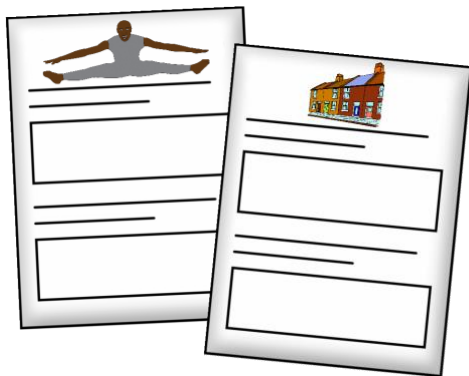
You do not have to look for extra funds.

How to apply for an online place

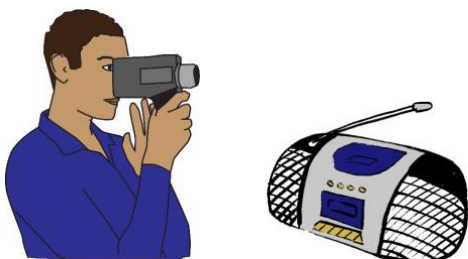


There is only 1 step.

We want you to complete the expression of interest form, with your collaboration idea.



You can download an application form, complete your answers and send it back to admin@stopgapdance.com



You can also answer the questions on the form using audio or film recording.



Send us your expression of interest by **13 October, 2025.**

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