

Artist Commission Brief

UCL Trellis 4 (2023-24)

Deadline **EXTENDED** until 16 January 2023

[Apply now via our online form](#)

Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Artist Commission Brief | 1 |
| What is Trellis? | 1 |
| Who are we looking for? | 2 |
| Who will you be working with? | 3 |
| How to apply? | 3 |
| Contacts | 3 |
| Timeline | 4 |
| Visual timeline | 4 |
| Text based timeline | 4 |
| Expected time commitment | 5 |
| Links for more information | 6 |
| Application form questions | 6 |

What is Trellis?

Trellis is a programme that bring together artists, UCL researchers and east London communities.

Initially we bring together around 40 artists and 40 researchers to meet and share their areas of interest and knowledge. We then fund ten groups or partnerships £2,000 to develop ideas for a collaborative commission. Finally, five groups are funded £15,000 to create a commission, which must be a co-creation between at least one artist, at least one UCL researcher and an east London community.

We will host an exhibition of the work in Spring 2024. You can read more about the timeline later in this document.

Trellis wants to create opportunities for collaboration between artists, researchers and local communities in order to create new knowledge, ideas and the potential for change or action.

You can [read more about Trellis on our website](#), and there are lots of links at the end of the document to previous projects.

You can also watch this short film where Lizzy, the Trellis project manager, talk about the programme.

Trellis is co-funded by [Foundation for Future London \(FFL\) Westfield East Bank Creative Futures Fund](#) and the [Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council \(EPSRC\) Impact Acceleration Account](#).

Who are we looking for?

You will be a contemporary artist working in any discipline, with an active practice that is:

1. Socially engaged.
2. Rooted meaningfully in east London.
3. You will be willing to commit to collaborating with a research partner to create a new artwork that broadens our understanding and appreciation of issues faced by those who live and work in this highly diverse part of the capital.
4. You will be experienced in connecting with a diverse range of people and community. We are particularly interested in those who work with people not often engaged in arts practice or in research
5. You will be happy to contribute your ideas and expertise to achieve the project outcomes and work according to the inclusive ethos that we champion at UCL.

These categories are how we will make our decisions on who is involved in the programme. It might be that you don't fit all of these categories, but if you can tell us why you are interested in exploring them, we will be happy to consider you.

We are **not** looking for people who already have a partner at UCL and a project idea ready to go. If you have links to UCL partners, this is fine as long as you let us know, but you must be open to forming new relationships through Trellis.

We (the Trellis team) are particularly keen to support artists who are underrepresented in work with higher education, and disabled people and others living with health conditions or facing barriers to participation. This includes, but isn't limited to, disabled, d/Deaf, and neurodiverse people, LGBTQ+ people, people from Black, Asian and ethnic minority backgrounds, and people from working class backgrounds.

The first thing you will be asked to do, if you are successful, is attend a matchmaking session to meet a number of researchers. You have the option to attend an online session, or one in person. These sessions will be a mixture of structured activities and informal networking.

Collaboration and relationship building is fundamental to Trellis, but we understand that people may face barriers to participating. We encourage you to contact us to explore ways we can support you or adapt our processes to allow you to participate fully.

Who will you be working with?

We can't tell you yet who the researchers from UCL will be, or what academic departments or subjects they will be interested in.

This is because we are doing an open call to them as well; people from across the university can apply. This means that when you apply you need to be open to meeting lots of different people from different backgrounds.

We will be choosing researchers who are interested in collaboration and community engagement. They do not need to have experience in these areas, but in the past we have found that most of them do.

You can, however, [find information on the UCL East website about the main themes people at UCL East are working on](#). You could also look at the [priority areas for one of our funders, the EPSRC](#).

If you are interested, you can [read about previous Trellis projects on our website](#), which have included subject areas as diverse as nanotechnology, support for migrants and refugees, the history of industry in east London and artificial intelligence.

How to apply?

We first ask for an expression of interest. This is to prevent artists spending too much time on an application when only a limited number can take part. We expect to be able to invite 40-50 artists to the initial matchmaking stage (see below for a more detailed timeline).

[Please use this link to apply via an online form.](#) The questions you will be asked on this form are at the end of this document to help you plan your answers.

If you would like to apply in a different format, or need help to use the form, please get in touch with us by email (public.art@ucl.ac.uk) or phone (07741670879).

Before you apply, you can go on our [Trellis YouTube playlist](#) where you can find lots of video about some of the past Trellis programmes and projects.

We will also be hosting some information sessions about Trellis for artists who are interested. You can sign up to attend these here:

[Wed 30 Nov 2pm \(online\)](#)

[Tue 6 Dec 6pm \(online\)](#)

Contacts

You can contact us via email or phone as below:

Public.art@ucl.ac.uk

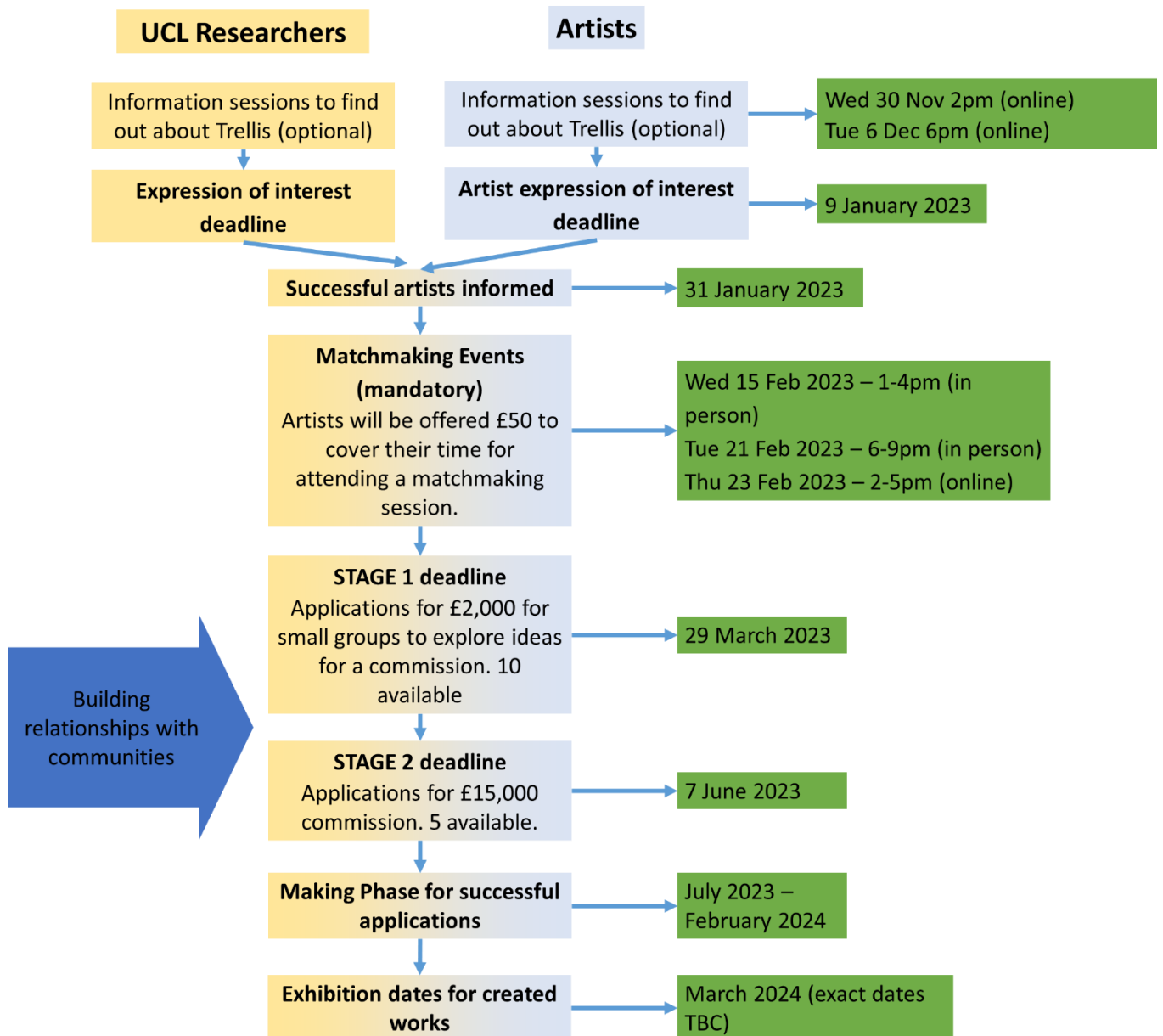
07741670879 (Lizzy's phone number)

Project manager: Lizzy Baddeley

Project curator: Rosie Murdoch

Timeline

Visual timeline



Text based timeline

| Event | Date |
|-------|------|
|-------|------|

| | |
|---|---|
| Information Session to find out about Trellis (optional) | Wed 30 Nov 2pm (online) Tue 6 Dec 6pm (online) |
| Artist expression of interest deadline | 16 January 2023 (extended from 9 Jan) |
| Successful artists informed | 31 January 2023 |
| Matchmaking Events (You must attend one of these, you will be asked to state your availability in the application, please highlight all you can do) Artists will be offered £50 to cover their time for attending a matchmaking session. | Wednesday 15 Feb 2023 – 1-4pm (in person) Tuesday 21 Feb 2023 – 6-9pm (in person) Thursday 23 Feb 2023 – 2-5pm (online) |
| STAGE 1 deadline Applications for £2,000 for small groups to explore ideas for a commission. | Wednesday 29 March 2023 |
| STAGE 2 deadline Applications for £15,000 commission. 5 available. | 7 June 2023 |
| Making Phase for successful applications | July 2023 – February 2024 |
| Exhibition dates for created works | March 2024 (exact dates TBC) |

Expected time commitment

Please use this table as a rough guide for how much time we expect you to commit to the programme, at various stages.

| Stage | Estimated commitment | Paid/unpaid |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Matchmaking session | 3 hours | Paid @ £50 |
| Initial planning for application | 2-8 hours talking to potential partners and drafting application (varies depending on how many partners you reach out to) | unpaid |
| Stage 1 (if successful) | 7 days | Paid @ £2k (but this will also include costs of travel/meetings with partners) |
| Interview for stage 2 | 1 hour | Unpaid |
| Stage 2 (including exhibition) | 35 – 45 days | Paid within the £15k commission |

Links for more information

[Application form link](#)

[Trellis website with examples of previously funded projects](#)

[Trellis YouTube playlist](#)

[UCL East website](#)

[UCL East thematic areas of research and teaching](#)

[EPSRC priority research areas](#)

Funders:

[Foundation for Future London \(FFL\) Westfield East Bank Creative Futures Fund](#)

[Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council \(EPSRC\) Impact Acceleration Account](#)

Application form questions

[Please use the online form to apply](#), or speak to us about other formats.

1. What is your name?
2. Please share your preferred pronouns
3. What is your email address and telephone number?
4. Why are you interested in taking part in Trellis?
5. With reference to the criteria, why do you think you are a good fit for the Trellis programme?
 - You will be a contemporary artist working in any discipline, with an active practice that is:
 - Socially engaged
 - Rooted meaningfully in east London
 - You will be willing to commit to collaborating with a research partner to create a new artwork that broadens our understanding and appreciation of issues faced by those who live and work in this highly diverse part of the capital.
 - You will be experienced in connecting with a diverse range of people and community. We are particularly interested in those who work with people not often engaged in arts practice or in research.
 - You will be happy to contribute your ideas and expertise to achieve the project outcomes and work according to the inclusive ethos that we champion at UCL.

Along with the previous question, we will use these criteria to make our decisions on who is involved in the programme. It might be that you don't fit all of them, but if you can tell us why you are interested in exploring those which you don't fit, we will be happy to consider you.

6. We are running matchmaking events on

Wednesday 15 Feb 2023 – 1-4pm (in person in east London)

Tuesday 21 Feb 2023 – 6-9pm (in person in east London)

Thursday 23 Feb 2023 – 2-5pm (online)

Attendance at one of the match-making events is an essential criteria of participating in the Trellis Programme. To ensure maximum accessibility one of the three sessions will be online (23 February).

Please indicate which of the sessions you are available to attend, and indicate your preference if you have one. (we are aiming to secure a balance of researchers and artists at each event and so will let you know which event(s) you are invited to when we have collected all responses)

7. Please let us know here if you have any working relationships with people at UCL.

We are not looking for people who already have a partner at UCL and a project idea ready to go. If you have links to UCL partners, this is fine as long as you let us know, but you must be open to forming new relationships through Trellis.

This answer won't stop you being involved, but will help us understand who is applying.

8. Please provide a link to your website or other relevant site. Required to answer.

9. Do you have any dietary requirements (for the matchmaking) Required to answer.

Section 2

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

As part of Trellis we are striving to be as accessible to as diverse range of artists who meet the selection criteria as we possible can be. We need to monitor and analyse diversity information so that we can ensure that our processes are fair, transparent and promote equality of opportunity for all.

Completion of the below question is voluntary, but if you are able to do so it will help us to understand who we are attracting to apply for this programme and how we might improve in the future.

All information provided on this form will be treated as strictly confidential and it will not affect your application if you do not fill it in.

10. If you feel comfortable doing so please can you tell us if you identify as being from communities that are under-represented in higher education and at UCL.

This includes, but isn't limited to, disabled, d/Deaf, and neurodiverse people, LGBTQ+ people, people from Black, Asian and ethnic minority backgrounds, and people from working class backgrounds.

Section 3

Accessibility

We want to help as many people take part in Trellis as possible.

The first thing you will be asked to do, if you are successful, is attend a matchmaking session to meet a number of researchers. You have the option to attend an online session, or one in person. These sessions will be a mixture of structured activities and informal networking.

Collaboration and relationship building is fundamental to Trellis, but we understand that people may face barriers to participating. We encourage you to contact us to explore ways we can support you or adapt our processes to allow you to participate fully.

Please use this section to tell us if there are ways you think we can support you to take part.

Your answers here will not affect your application and will only be used to help us to help you take part.

11. Are there any barrier you foresee to taking part in the matchmaking, or ways we can help?
12. Thinking about the rest of the programme, is there anything you would like to flag as a potential barrier?