



Request for Interest

British Council Southern Africa Arts Storytelling Delivery Partner

British Council Southern Africa Arts Overview

Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe form part of the British Council cluster of Southern Africa Arts. We create opportunities for urban 18 - 35 year old artists, creatives and audiences through programmes focusing on Creative Enterprise, Connections and Festivals. We do this through linking creative communities, partners and audiences both online and offline and across disciplines to build greater exposure for contemporary practice and culture. We undertake regional programmes where appropriate by responding to the interests and excitements of artists and arts organizations in the region and the UK.

Our work in Sub-Saharan Africa

The British Council's Sub-Saharan Africa Arts programme (SSA Arts) works in the diverse and varied cities of Sub-Saharan Africa and the U.K. Individually, each city and art sector has much to offer and exchange, collectively they tell multi-layered stories of contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and the U.K. Our arts programmes are underpinned by research, focused on young people (18 – 35-year olds), and are committed to:

Supporting the creation of new art and sharing this art to audiences both online and in person

Sharing skills and knowledge between creative communities in SSA and the U.K

Creating new connections between young people in SSA and the UK.

Our programmes are delivered by partners (artists, arts professionals, arts organisations, collectives, hubs) who have the vision and understanding of their creative communities and are best placed to lead and tell the stories of their local art sectors. With our partners, we stimulate new ways of connecting with and understanding each other through the arts.



Creative Economy

Our research into the next generation of young people in SSA and the U.K. tells us that people want:

- Spaces to talk, share concerns, and support each other;
- Business skills training, and peer to peer mentorship opportunities;
- Capital to start-up creative businesses of their own.

We respond to this through our Creative Enterprise Support Programme, where we offer individuals and organisations training in business and digital skills, networking events, access to new markets, connections to resources and finance opportunities.

Connecting

Our British Council arts teams in SSA and the U.K. continually build their insight, expertise and first-hand knowledge of their contemporary art sectors to offer art making and mobility grants. At time of print, the live opportunities available are:

- new Art new Audiences: An annual open call for artists across SSA and the U.K. to make new art, and to share this art with international audiences.

- _in Motion: travel grants for SSA and UK artists to research and engage with each other's art sectors, festivals, and creative communities - and to share their journeys with others.

We continually explore the art sectors in which we work, so that we can share knowledge with others and inspire new connections and imaginings between SSA and the U.K. We do this through storytelling projects such as the People's Stories Project, and by being actively available to create new connections and respond to enquiries on our programmes.

Festivals

Festivals are vibrant artistic platforms. They are meeting points, and a hive of activity for people to network, share skills, exchange ideas, and share each other's art with wide and varied audiences. We work with festivals across SSA and the U.K. through:

- An annual meet up of festival leaders from SSA and the U.K

- Future Festivals: An open call for SSA and U.K. festivals to exchange and showcase new contemporary art

- ColabNowNow: A digital arts residency taking place within festivals, giving SSA and U.K. artists the time and space to experiment and collaborate in making new art, and presenting this art digitally.

Specification

The programmatic work that we are undertaking over this financial year engages many organisations, artists, and audiences across Southern Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and the UK. We are looking for an organisation that is able to encapsulate the work we do through creative storytelling and direct engagement with identified projects through a modular system which will allow flexibility in rollout.

Our work in Southern Africa Arts

The British Council Southern Africa Arts programme is foregrounded by multi-form art practice in digital in all three of our SSA programmes.

Objectives of the Storytelling

- Show the creative process and creative sector to wider and new audiences
- To create a source of content which describes the work we do through the engagement of real people and the stories related to their creative practice
- To integrate monitoring and evaluation practices into the work (with assistance from our appointed M&E partner)
- A consistent aesthetic that encapsulates an authentic and contemporary idea (look and feel) of Southern Africa

Storytelling formats

- Longform text
- Interview
- Photography
- Shortform video
- Longform video
- Live event coverage
- Instagram takeover marathons
- Impact stories
- Partner storytelling catalyst (Working with artist/partner org to create storytelling content)

Tasks are expected to include

- Developing a delivery plan in conjunction with the British Council
- Work together with a British Council Project Manager to align content with programme timelines
- Managing the delivery of content on our social media channels
- Liaising directly with artists and project partners
- Managing a team of creatives able to deliver various storytelling formats
- Reporting on delivery quarterly - financial and audience numbers

Audience for this work

- 18-35 year old artists, creatives and audiences throughout Southern Africa
- Internal British Council sharing
- Project partners and artists

Links

[Instagram](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#)

Registration of Interest

Only organisations who meet the requirements of this Request for Interest will be invited to submit detailed proposals during the tender stance of the project.

This request of interest is broad in scope and it is understood that certain partners might want to compile a team of various individuals in order to deliver on the broad scope of the project. If this is the case, please be sure to indicate who would be the responsible coordinator for the project and how each involved creative would add to the team.

You are required to fill in this application form as your expression of interest:

<https://airtable.com/shrowG1tire1iAuOU> - **Deadline end of day 11 November**

This Request of Interest is managed by Eduardo Cachucho (Programme Manager Arts - SSA) and Sandra Banda (Senior Procurement Manager, Southern Africa Cluster)

What happens after the application?

A selection panel will view all review all the applications - creating a shortlist of 5-10 applicants who will then be requested to tender for the storytelling project. The tender will be open for two weeks (10 working days) - current timelines projecting 15-28 November 2019.



ColabNowNow 2018 - Afopefoluwa Ojo (Nigeria) and Valarie Amani (Tanzania)

