



TITLE: Creative Communicator	CONTACT: jo@thestyx.nz
LOCATION: 75 Lower Styx Road	CLOSING DATE: 31 st July 2024

The role of the Creative Communicator/Artist in Residence is interpreting aspects of the Styx Puharakekenui Catchment in the North of Christchurch in a creative way. Its aim is to produce artwork that raises the profile of the Catchment, and the restorative work of local river group, the Styx Living Laboratory Trust. The Trust aims to provide professional development opportunities for the successful applicant, as well as the Styx community, with opportunities for the community to be invigorated through an exchange of ideas and new ways of working, facilitating community participation, and communicating freshwater values through art and Mātauranga Māori. This programme is part of the Styx Living Laboratory Trust's Project Kōtare (Puharakekenui Freshwater Improvement Project), funded by the Ministry for the Environment to improve the Styx River Catchment.

Position aims

- To interpret aspects of the Catchment in a creative way, producing an artwork/creative work to raise the profile of the Styx Catchment, and the work of the Styx Living Laboratory Trust.
- To support artists and showcase artistic endeavours and communication in the Styx Catchment.
- To support creative development in all areas of visual arts and contribute to the cultural narrative of the Puharakekenui/Styx River.
- To provide professional development opportunities for the successful applicant as well as the Styx community, with opportunities for the community to be invigorated through an exchange of ideas and new ways of working.
- To facilitate community participation and communicate freshwater values through art and Mātauranga Māori.
- Encourage experimentation in the way freshwater values are communicated, providing an opportunity for public access (via mutual agreement between Trust and artist) to an artist at work, as well as a workshop or artist talk as part of the term.

When is the position term?

The position will typically be for 12 weeks beginning at a mutually agreed date between September 2024 and April 2025.

Where you will work

Workspace is provided at the Styx Living Laboratory Trust Field Centre (75 Lower Styx Rd) with the expectation that work takes place on site or within the Styx catchment area.

Are you eligible?

We seek applications from mature, independent and adventurous artists who are based in Canterbury. Artists need to have a proven exhibition or performance record and to commit to creating a new body of work inspired by the Puharakekenui/Styx River. Only New Zealand-born artists or those with New Zealand residency status will be considered.

What kind of 'creative'?

We welcome applications from artists working in all art forms. The settings would suit: visual artists such as photographers, printmakers, painters, sculptors, film makers or installation artists and creators such as composers, writers, poets and choreographers. The limited timeframe and artist fee may preclude completion of sizable, costly or complex projects.

Can I collaborate?

Unfortunately we can only accommodate working space for one artist at a time.

Criteria for selection

Priority will be given to:

- artists making high-quality and innovative work
- artists creating site-specific or site-responsive work
- artists who offer some interaction with others in Trust interest groups, i.e. Catchment community, iwi, schools, volunteers

Priority may be given to:

- artists who propose a development from their previous work
- artists who can articulate a particular benefit from working in a catchment environment
- artists living in the Styx Catchment, with a connection to the place

Conditions of the position**The artist needs to:**

- create new work related to the place or to the experience of the position. This position is not for artists wanting to complete work already started or for work on projects unrelated to the Catchment
- create work which can be completed during the position timeframe or within a month of completing the position term
- for the position to culminate in the production of an artwork, to be displayed in the Field Centre or elsewhere on the Catchment, if an exhibition output is not confirmed during the term
- be available for photo shoots and interviews with media
- give or enable reproduction of artworks for interpretation/Catchment awareness purposes
- cooperate with other Styx Living Laboratory Trust staff to showcase the term of the position including documentation of work-in-progress and outputs for website, social media and print media (with artist retaining copyright)
- initiate, design and facilitate (in conjunction with the Trust) an approved public-facing project with community groups, in the form of: a workshop, artist talk, exhibition, presentation of research, performance or concert or school visit
- the suggested koha for the acceptance of the position is the donation of an artwork to the Trust - this is expected to be something that was produced during the term of the position and could be in any form, including concept/sketch.

What is the offer? Position stipend

A stipend of \$1000 (GST ex) per week will be given to the artist to facilitate the development of his/her work.

Workspace

A workspace (which is not purpose built for this position) will be provided, and space made available to suit the proposed output and working requirements.

Exhibition or reproduction of work

Opportunities for the exhibition/performance of works developed while in residence or afterwards may be offered at venues in or near the Catchment.

Promotion

Styx Living Laboratory Trust staff may provide assistance with related position events such as a workshop, final performance or exhibition. Staff will facilitate media coverage and promotion via our website, social media, local newspapers and newsletters. Support staff and the Trust will provide background information on the Catchment before the residency begins and provide orientation on arrival.

Tools, equipment and materials

Artists will bring with them any tools, materials and equipment they need. Local, found or natural material may be used but only with permission from the park rangers.

Application form

Please complete and return to jo@thestyx.nz – ideally compiled into a single pdf

1. Applicant details

Name

Address

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Email

Mobile phone

2. Art form (Please circle or remove options that don't apply). Are you a:

printmaker

sculptor

painter

installation artist

photographer

mixed-media artist

filmmaker

writer

choreographer

composer

other, please specify

3. Puharakekenui/Styx River Catchment association

Please state your connection with the Catchment (if any)

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4. Workspace

Please indicate any special workspace requirements. (Bear in mind these sites are not designed as artist workshops/studios)

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5. Referees

Please provide the names and contact details of two referees. *Written references are not required.*

Name

Email

Phone

Name

Email

Phone

6. How did you find out about this position?

Please circle or remove options that don't apply

Styx LLT Website - Word of mouth - Social media – Facebook - Brochure or poster - The Big Idea

or Other, please specify

7. Position concept proposal (Please attach)

Please give a brief outline of a project you propose working on during your position term. Articulate this in some way (written, visual) on no more than 2 A4 sheets of paper or in a 2-5 minute clip. We suggest you refer to the selection criteria while shaping your concept. You may adapt or extend your proposal once selected and on site if negotiated with the Programme Manager. Please note this position is for the creation of new and original Catchment related work. It is not for completing work underway or on an unrelated theme.

8. Curriculum vitae (Please attach)

Please include: Qualifications, birthplace, significant exhibitions or events, commissions and creative highlights.

9. Samples of work (Please attach)

- Visual artists – please include visual depictions of at least 3 recent works in colour.
- Writers – please provide extracts of 3 written works in any form, e.g. poems, prose, stories, script.
- Composers/choreographers/filmmakers please provide portions of 3 works.

10. Reference material (Please attach)

Provide a selection of recent reviews or responses to your work - if you have them.

11. Motivation

- What are your reasons for applying for this position?

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- What benefits would it bring to your work?

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- How might Catchment visitors/residents benefit from your position outputs?

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12. Preferred Term (please describe all available periods)

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