

COMMUNITY IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMME 2026

APPLICATION PACK



**FUSE
BOX**

**CREATIVE
YOUTH**



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KEY INFORMATION

Application Deadline: Fri 13 March 2026, 17:00

Interviews: Wed 18 March 2026

Public vote: Wed 1 April – Mon 13 April 2026

Selection & announcement: from Wed 15 April

Start Date: May 2026

Creative Youth is looking for a creative group, organisation, or collective, to join our next Community Residence Programme! Having identified a need for affordable spaces for creatives to come together and work with communities, we launched this programme in FUSEBOX, our new multi-arts venue on Kingston's riverside, in 2023.

The successful organisation becomes our community resident and **has 12-month access to FUSEBOX**. The community resident will work with Creative Youth to run Community Creative Activities in an outreach area within Kingston upon Thames. The programme culminates in a Final Showcase in FUSEBOX, produced by the community resident.

Our aim is to make Kingston's local community more resilient, and partner with others who are committed to engaging diverse audiences in the transformative power of the arts. In doing so, we will share our resources, spaces, and skills with the community resident.



ABOUT CREATIVE YOUTH



Creative Youth is a youth arts charity dedicated to creating futures through the arts for young people aged 5 to 30. FUSEBOX is the engine that drives our work; the space where ideas ignite and dreams are realised. It is where we work, connect with our community and innovate across artistic disciplines. Through it, we offer a space to nurture, develop, and celebrate young creative talent. It's more than just a venue; it's the beating heart of everything we do—open, accessible, and welcoming to all. Out of FUSEBOX, we deliver innovative and impactful programmes that empower young people. We provide: an incubator to nurture social and artistic growth, springboards for career development, and platforms to showcase brilliant creative practice.



OUR VISION is a world where every young person—regardless of background—can harness the transformative power of the arts to shape their future, sustain a creative career, and lead artistic practices both in their community, and beyond.

OUR MISSION is to break down barriers for young artists, providing the space, programmes, and opportunities they need to grow, create, and lead in the arts, at home and around the world.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT US:

Instagram / Facebook - @CreativeYouthUK
Website - creativeyouthcharity.org

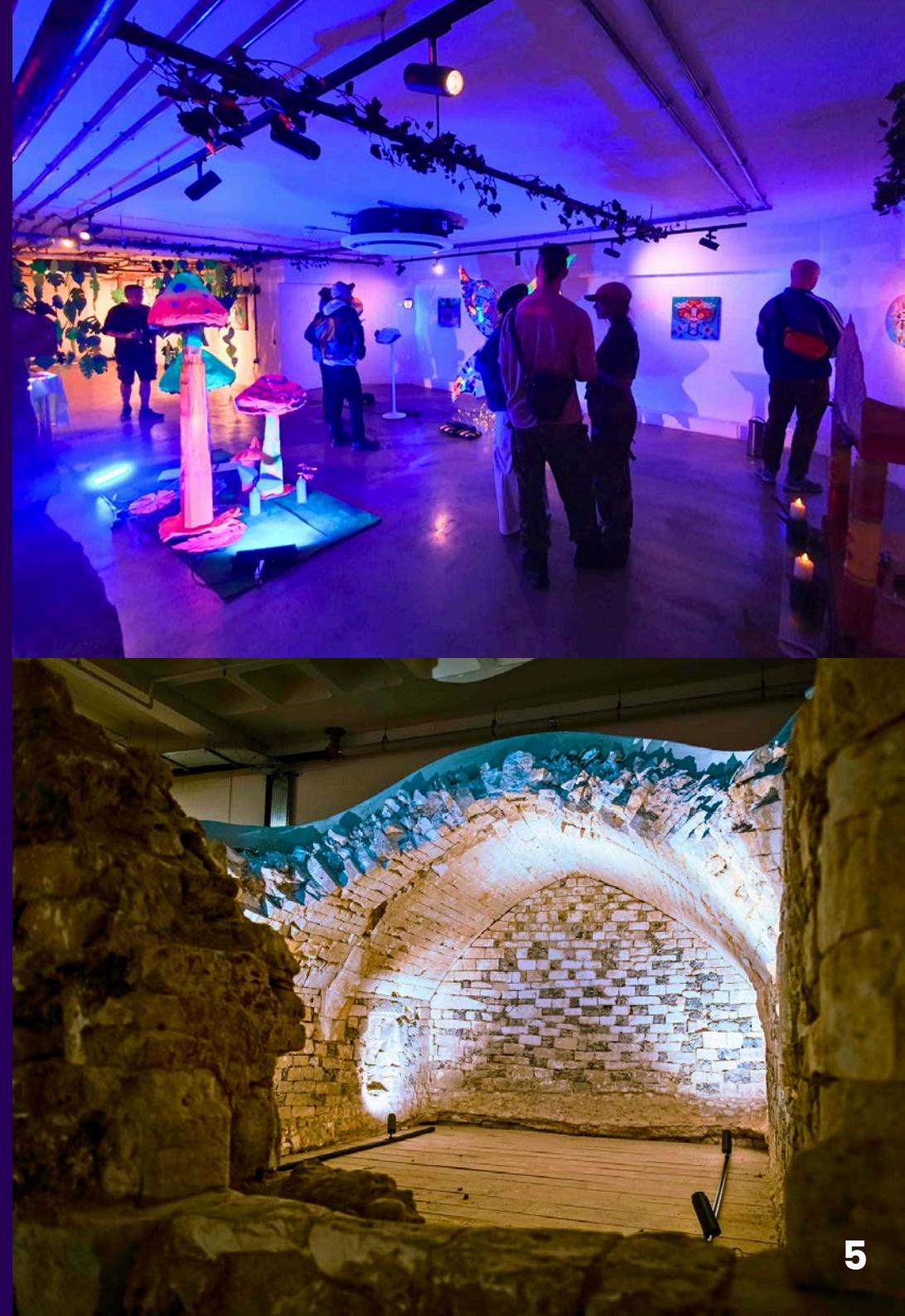
ABOUT FUSEBOX

FUSEBOX is a playground for Kingston, a place for young people to produce work, try new things, learn, share and develop their talents.

Our venue is open for community use and commercial hire and offers a flexible, open-plan space steeped in local heritage. It houses the footings of the original Kingston Bridge and a medieval Undercroft.

Since 2023, FUSEBOX has engaged over 28,000 people by hosting 444 creative and community events and providing over 2,100 hours of subsidised space for young people and local groups who might otherwise be excluded. With support from grant-making bodies, sponsors, local authorities, and the Greater London Authority, we have leveraged more than £1 million in partnership investment to directly invest £40,800 in 61 emerging artists. So far, more than 120 young people aged 16–30 have gained practical skills, volunteering experience, and career development opportunities. We are proud of the work we have delivered through FUSEBOX and the difference this has made in Kingston.

You can find out more about FUSEBOX by [watching this video](#), [take a virtual visit](#) to the space, and read more about the resources available through our [Venue Hire Guide](#).





PREVIOUS COMMUNITY RESIDENTS

1. WOM Collective

WOM Collective are a grassroots organisation of London based women-identifying artists, passionate about inspiring and empowering each other and our communities. Over the years, the collective has proudly been a part of numerous community projects, touching the lives of children, teens, and adults alike.

As our first community resident, WOM Collective played a vital role in shaping the programme. They delivered family activities in FUSEBOX including mural painting, DJ sets, and workshops, whilst receiving fundraising and partnership-building training. They also led a street art project on Cambridge Road Estate, culminating in a large public mural. Their final exhibition, *ROOTED*, transformed FUSEBOX into an immersive street art exhibition.

2. Kingston International Film Festival

Kingston International Film Festival (KIFF) brings independent filmmakers, industry professionals and the local community together for three days of screenings, workshops, and events. An international arena for new voices in cinema, KIFF celebrates filmmakers from around the world, with a special focus on emerging talent.

As our community resident, KIFF launched FilmBox, a monthly film club for young people aged 16–30 seeking community through film. KIFF also selected a member of their network to join our Young Creatives Panel. As part of their residency, KIFF delivered their Festival, 72 Film Challenges, exhibitions, artist Q&As, industry sessions, and workshops in FUSEBOX.



WHAT'S ON OFFER

The selected community resident will work with Creative Youth to deliver:

- **4 Community Creative Activities in outreach areas across Kingston**
- **1 Final Showcase in FUSEBOX**

As participants, the community resident will receive:

- **Support to apply for £5,000 in seed funding (no prior funding experience required)**
- **Free in-kind use of FUSEBOX from reopening (subject to availability)**
- **Access to FUSEBOX resources**
- **Support to deliver five events across FUSEBOX and in outreach areas**
- **Tailored training in areas such as fundraising, community engagement, producing, safeguarding, evaluation, and technical skills**
- **Access to Creative Youth's network of local partners, including a mentor to support your residency.**
- **Free participation in FUSE International 2027**
- **Discounts on Creative Youth tickets and in BOX Bar & Café**

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PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The Community Residence Programme is a 12-month programme delivered in three stages. Timings are indicative and subject to change.

Fundraising & Development (May – August 2026)

This phase focuses on shaping plans for the Community Creative Activities and Final Showcase, supported by Creative Youth's team. The community resident will select two training sessions and be matched with a mentor. We will also support fundraising applications to enable programme delivery.

Community Creative Activities (August – December 2026)

With partners, spaces, and timelines confirmed, activities will be delivered in defined outreach areas. Creative Youth will provide ongoing support to ensure safe, effective delivery, and activities will inform the development of the Final Showcase.

Final Showcase (January – April 2027)

The Final Showcase will take place in FUSEBOX and may be a single large-scale event or a programme over several weeks. This phase includes reflection and evaluation, with the programme concluding in May 2027.



TERMS OF AGREEMENT

Community Organisations

The programme is open to any creative group, organisation, or collective. We welcome applications from formally constituted organisations as well as informal collectives or groups of creatives. We are particularly keen to support grassroots groups who may struggle to access space, training, and networks, but can demonstrate commitment to engaging a specific local community through creativity.

Community Creative Activities & Outreach Areas

Community Creative Activities are the heart of this programme. They must be free to the public and targeted at a specific, underserved section of Kingston's community. Outreach areas are the community-based spaces or settings outside of FUSEBOX where the Community Creative Activities will take place. By working in these spaces, the community resident brings their creative practice into places where people already meet. Outreach areas could include youth clubs, schools, community centres, housing estates, or partner organisations supporting specific groups (e.g. young carers or refugees). Activities will be developed with Creative Youth and local partners to ensure they are relevant, accessible, and impactful.



Programme Deadlines

The Final Showcase is a free, public-facing event in FUSEBOX that brings together learning from the year. It should reflect the community resident's creative practice, respond to their outreach community, and realise an idea that may not otherwise have been possible due to your limited space or resources. Previous examples include WOM Collective's ROOTED exhibition and KIFF's Film Challenges, culminating in public screenings, exhibitions, and artist Q&As.

Funding

Creative Youth provides the programme primarily through in-kind support. The community resident will work with Creative Youth to apply for up to £5,000 in seed funding. Once secured, the Resident must provide regular updates and submit an Evaluation & Impact Report at the end of the programme.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit:

- An Organisation Summary (max 1 side of A4)
- A Ideas Pitch (max 2 sides of A4)

Applications may also be submitted as video or voice notes:

- Organisation Summary: max 3 minutes
- Ideas Pitch: max 5 minutes

Send applications to Archie at archie@creativeyouthcharity.org by 5pm on Friday 13 March 2026.

The Organisation Summary should outline who you are, what you do, and why. Please include links to websites or social media where possible.

The Ideas Pitch should clearly identify the community you intend to work with and why, alongside initial ideas for Community Creative Activities and the Final Showcase.

Shortlisted organisations will be invited to interview on **Wednesday 18 March 2026**, followed by a public vote online and in FUSEBOX. The programme is currently due to commence in May 2026.



QUESTIONS?

For questions, access support, or alternative application formats, please contact Archie for an informal conversation.

A few things before you apply:

- No prior funding experience is required and we will support you through this process.
- We are interested in your ideas, interest in FUSEBOX and connection to your community, not polished proposals.
- The public vote is just one part of the decision-making process.
- Training & support are built into the programme to help you develop skills as you go.
- We welcome applications regardless of previous funding history or organisational status.





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