**Applying for British Council Unlimited International Awards - Applications 2022**

If you need this **document in any other format, or need funding for access support to apply; please contact Isabella Tulloch Gallego –** **Isabella@weareunlimited.org.uk**or on 07506 679968.

**Unlimited – What we do**

We are the world’s largest disabled arts commissioner. We back disabled artists and have done since we got started in 2013. This year, we became an independent organisation with a mission to commission extraordinary work from disabled artists until the whole of the cultural sector does. We want to open doors for our artists to work with other organisations, too. Which is why we are doing things a little differently…

This year our commissioning awards are all partner awards. Meaning each commission will be linked to a partner organisation that will provide in kind support, a clear brief and who has put in at least 50% of the money.

 **We have two strands this year:**

* **13 Partner awards** with a range of partner organisations across the UK
* **7 International awards** in partnership with British Council

You can apply for one **UK partner** commission and one **international** commission. This document is all about our **international commissions**, so read on to find out if this year’s offer is right for you.

**The British Council – What do they do?**

The British Council is our only partner for these international commissions. They are looking to fund new ways of connecting with and understanding each other through the arts, building creative and collaborative global communities that inspire innovation, knowledge, prosperity, and peace. Both our organisations believe that the connections we build through arts and culture transform lives and create positive change. That is why the British Council are collaborating with us to fund up to seven **international commissions** with up to **£50,000 per award**.

**Who Can Apply?**

Are you a disabled artist or artistic company creating disabled-led work based in the UK: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, or Wales? If yes, then you can apply. It doesn’t matter what stage you are at in your development, we welcome applications from anyone with a professional practice.

However, we do have some key eligibility criteria:

* The work must be led by a disabled artist/company.
* You and/or your company must be based in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, or Wales.
* The work must facilitate a meaningful collaboration with a disabled. artist/collective based in one of the following ODA countries:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Turkey, Ukraine\*, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

\* British Council have temporarily suspended activities in Ukraine for the safety and well-being of all. You can still collaborate with a Ukrainian artist working outside of Ukraine. However, we reserve the right to suspend activities in any of the countries listed above if a national safety concern arises.

**What Does ODA Stand for?**

**ODA (Official Development Assistance) i**s a term coined by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to measure aid. The list above is not all ODA countries, instead, for this year, it is made up of eligible countries where the British Council have a legacy of Disability Arts work to build upon.

**What else do I need to know?**

* It is your responsibility to find an international collaborator. To stay impartial, we cannot match UK artists with international collaborators.
* You need to have permission from your international collaborator before putting in an application.
* The list of countries above has been finalised after extensive conversation between Unlimited and British Council. We will not be adding additional countries to this list.
* Our definition of disability is based on the social model: read more on our [**FAQs.**](https://weareunlimited.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Frequently-Asked-Questions-LARGE-Print.docx)Anyone who has experienced access barriers or identifies as disabled is encouraged to apply.

**What kind of work are we looking for?**

For our international commissions this year, we are looking for work that creates genuine international collaboration that creates real social and/or economic impact. It can be created in any of the following art forms:

* Combined arts
* Visual art
* Literature
* Music
* Theatre
* Dance
* Film
* Fashion
* Architecture

 **Key criteria** that we’ll assess against and are looking for the work to achieve are as follows:

* High quality
* Disabled led
* Innovative and ambitious
* Genuine collaboration - an exchange of skills and knowledge
* Improved networks as a result of this collaboration
* Developed artistic practice for all involved

Our aim is to support a range of ideas – in relation to artform, diversity, scale, and location.

We understand that not all ODA-eligible countries will have disabled-led organisations, and that many are still led by non-disabled people. Our selection panels will take this into account, aiming to support those focusing on the direct benefit to disabled artists.

**How do I apply?**

We have a two-stage application process aimed at protecting artists’ time and energy:

* **Stage 1** – Expression of interest
* **Stage 2** - Full application: only completed by those shortlisted

Apply online at: [**https://weareunlimited.org.uk/opportunities/apply/parter-awards/**](https://weareunlimited.org.uk/opportunities/apply/parter-awards/)

**What is the process and timeline?**

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| **Stage 1: Expression of Interest Applications open** | Tuesday 4 October 2022 |
| Deadline for your Expression of Interest | Monday 31 October 2022, midday |
| Shortlisted artist announced | Friday 2nd December 2022 |
| **Stage 2: Full Applications open** | Wednesday 6 December 2022, 9am |
| Deadline for full applications | Monday 20 February 2023, midday  |
| Decisions announced | March 2023 |
| All commissions begin | May 2023 |
| Smaller awards (under 25k) completed by | March 2024 |
| Large awards (over 25k) completed by | September 2024 |

**Stage 1: Expression of Interest**

This stage is all about establishing if your ideas are eligible.

 We will ask you to tell us:

* Name of your project
* Where you/ your company are based
* Is your project disabled led
* Key contact information for you as the lead artist and your collaborators
* How much roughly you think it will cost – we don’t ask for a budget at this stage it’s to give us a ballpark idea
* What art form you are using
* A brief overview of the project – we will use this as copy for communications, if you are shortlisted (80 words)
* 400 words on what you want to do
* How developed the idea is – have you done any Research & Development?
* Info on you as lead artist and your collaborators – these can be links or up to 100 words
* A completed Equal Opportunities monitoring form
* Examples of previous work – these could be links to what you have done in the past that will give us an idea of your work

**What happens next?**

Once you have submitted your stage 1 – Expression of Interest you will receive an email confirmation. Please check your inbox for this confirmation, if **you do not receive a confirmation email, please contact us** on info@weareunlimited.org.uk or phoning/texting **07506 679968**, at the latest within 24 hours of the deadline so that we can ensure your application has been received.

**Stage 2: Full Application**

If you have been shortlisted, you will be invited to submit a full application. We will give you additional tailored guidance from us and the partner you are applying to. At this second stage, you will need to supply:

* Name of your project
* Summary of the project - 200 words

* Detailed proposal of the idea – 1000 words
* Detailed budget including access for you and your team, visa costs and contingency (budget template available)
* Details of your plans around accessibility for audience and artists - 200 words
* CVs or detailed biographies for lead artist and collaborators
* Letter of recommendation and/or press reviews of your work
* Additional examples of your work – images, videos, audio, websites

**Selection Process**

Your application is assessed by a panel of both independent artists, arts workers and representatives from all the partner organisations. The panel will be disability-led, meaning the majority (more than 50%) of the panellists will be disabled.

**Any questions?**

**Please see our** [FAQ document for more info.](https://weareunlimited.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Frequently-Asked-Questions-LARGE-Print.docx) If you can’t find the answer to your question, please contact us at info@weareunlimited.org.uk or on text / call on 07506 679968

**Data Protection info:**

In order to process your application, we require you to send us some personal information about you. Unlimited is committed to best practice in the handling of personal and sensitive data, and careful compliance with requirements of GDPR. Our full Data Protection policy is available on [our website](https://weareunlimited.org.uk/) and may be requested in a format accessible to you.