



Arches Artists' Studios - Application Guidelines

Overview

The **Arches** studios are located in central Southampton and are the base for some of the city's most innovative artists and creative industries. The **Arches** studios are just one of the studio projects managed by '**a space arts**' along with The **Sorting Office** and **Tower House**.

'**a space**' **arts** is a registered charity that provides affordable studio space to local creative's and artists. Our charitable status enables us to pass on financial savings (e.g. business rates) directly to our residents and assists to keep their studios affordable.

Retaining charitable status requires our work to deliver a clear public benefit and therefore '**a space**' studio holders are required to assist in providing this.

To evidence public benefit we ask all residents to complete an annual report detailing the public events you have participated in across the preceding year. You will receive support to help you with this if needed.

Taking your works and practice into the public realm or inviting the community in to your studio, to learn from your practice, assists to deliver public benefit and for us to continue delivering affordable creative space.

Public events could include, but are not limited to; exhibitions, workshops, open studios, talks, educational activities, demonstrations of your practice and performances.

Studios

The **Arches** studios vary in size and are priced according to the Band system: A-E

The studio manager will be able to advise you on current studio vacancies and prices.

In all cases we offer an 'all inclusive rent' with one monthly payment covering all overheads inclusive of rent, rates, heat, light, broadband and site management.

We also provide 'Easy In – Out Agreements' with a one month notice period, 24-7 Access and kitchen / bathroom facilities.

Through discussion with the Studio Manager and at their discretion you can also make use of Arch 04 (at specific times) for one off events. If you would like to use the space for a time limited large-scale project a hire charge will apply, again this can be arranged through the Studio Manager.

Process

You can apply at anytime of the year for a studio and you must send us ALL of the information listed below:

1. A current CV including relevant achievements and career highlights.
2. A covering letter stating how you match the **Criteria** (see below).
3. A completed **Application Form** (see below).
4. Examples of your recent work. Please include this either on a memory stick (if posting your application), via a link to an up to date website or on an email (if you are emailing your application). Do not send actual examples of your work.

N.B. If you wish to have your memory stick returned please enclose a SAE.

5. Professional reference, including name, relationship, telephone number, address and email

Please send your application either by email to ria@aspacearts.org.uk or by post to:

**'a space' arts care of Ria Loveridge
Tower House,
Town Quay Road,
Southampton,
SO14 2NY.**

Your application will be processed and we aim to respond to, if successful or not, within two weeks. If you are successful and spaces are available you will be asked to come for an informal interview.

Waiting Pool

If you are successful and we are currently full you will be offered a place in the waiting pool. We will contact those in the waiting pool when a suitable studio becomes available but you can contact the Studio Manager ria@aspacearts.org.uk at any point to enquire further.

We review all studio residents every twelve months to track progress and monitor levels of engagement and participation, a process that can create spaces and opportunities for new residents to join.

Criteria

All applicants must be able to demonstrate and will be assessed against the following criteria:

- A commitment to your creative practice / business within your defined field.
- A vision for how you intend to develop your practice and build your creative career.
- How a studio space at the **Arches** will benefit your practice.
- Demonstrate your commitment to regularly using your studio space.
- A willingness to make a positive contribution to the **Arches** project and engage with the creative community. This includes attending quarterly resident meetings, taking part in the Bi-annual Open Studio event along with other events and activities as required.
- The ways in which your practice delivers a public benefit. Public events could include, but are not limited to; exhibitions, workshops, open studios, talks, educational activities, demonstrations of your practice and performances.

N.B. The **Arches** only supports committed creative professionals and not hobbyists.