

Bealach
Lewis and Harris
Creative Place Winners

Open Call to Artists

Responding to the theme of "Bealach - A Gateway to Gaelic Culture and Landscape"

Artist Fee: A maximum of £2,500 including all materials.

Summary: An Lanntair is inviting artists to respond to an open call for artwork to be created and installed or performed in Stornoway to respond to the theme of "Bealach - A Gateway to Gaelic Culture and Landscape".

Background

Stornoway and the Isles of Lewis and Harris have recently been successful in winning the Creative Place Awards 2015. <http://www.creativescotland.com/what-we-do/latest-news/archive/2015/06/2015-creative-place-awards-winners-announced>

The award is both an accolade and a grant to take forward a programme of arts interventions and activities over the next two years. This programme is called 'Bealach'.

'Bealach' will be a transformational project that seeks to represent Stornoway and the Isles of Lewis and Harris as the gateway and passage into the Gaelic culture, creative communities and landscape of the Outer Hebrides.

The project aims to open up a route of Gaelic arts experiences for diverse audiences into, throughout and beyond the town of Stornoway. Together, a dynamic partnership will deliver innovative artist residencies; world class Gaelic music and performing arts in intriguing and unusual places; arts trails; curated exhibitions; walking and Segway tours. The programme will also incorporate bilingual digital storytelling; mentoring support for young emerging artists, and programmes of staff development raising the quality of the visitor experience.

Call for proposals

Individual artists or artist groups or organisations are invited to submit proposals to produce artwork that responds to the theme of "Bealach* - A Gateway to Gaelic Culture and Landscape".

***Bealach** is..... "found throughout the Gaidhealtachd. It signifies a pass for travellers. Indeed its original meaning was way or route. Like other place-name elements associated with the land, bealach can also apply to sea passages ... [where] the name seems to describe the flowing tidal process on the move, rather than a fixed physical entity." **Reading the Gaelic Landscape: Leughadh Aghaidh naTìre John Murray; Whittles Publishing, 2014**

Proposals will be accepted from artists proposing work in a multitude of art forms, including but not exclusively: sculpture; textile; installation; film; performance. One proposal will be selected during this round.

Budget: Maximum available artist fee for this commission, including all materials, will be £2,500. The successful applicant must be able to produce and deliver the artwork by April 2016.

Sites and locations: The completed artwork can be installed, performed or presented in Stornoway town across a number of possible sites and locations throughout the town*. *The proposed site and location for the work will be discussed and agreed with the artist and the land owner at the inception stage.

Submission details: Artists are invited to submit a detailed CV and a short proposal, detailing in no more than two sides of A4:

- Introduction to your practice.
- Proposed artwork, including information on the concept behind the proposal, the artistic medium proposed and all other details related to the artwork proposed.
- Links to previous examples of your work.

Deadline for proposals: 30th October 2015

Announcement of successful application: 1st December 2015

Questions: If you have any questions or would like to discuss this before your submission, please email Bealach Project Coordinator, Catherine Maclean catherine@lanntair.com