

# **BLAST THEORY**

Unit 5, 20 Wellington Road, Portslade, Brighton BN41 1DN tel & fax: 00 44(0)1273 413 455 info@blasttheory.co.uk www.blasttheory.co.uk

## Brief for Trusts and Foundations Coordinator

Blast Theory has undertaken a strategic review of our fundraising in order to diversify our sources of income and develop our portfolio of funding. This work is supported by the Arts Council England Catalyst scheme and is being carried out in partnership with Fabrica with shared objectives in exploring ways to diversify our income streams.

We have established areas in our programme of activity that we believe could be supported through funding from Trusts and Foundations. These are:

- Developing our volunteer scheme into a pioneering internship programme
- Support for our research and development
- Support for our technical development

We are seeking assistance to identify and build relationships with partners and Trusts and Foundations alike. You will play an integral part in developing Blast Theory's fundraising expertise as well as contributing to a significant development in the organisation and its offering to our audience.

The Trusts and Foundations Coordinator will work closely with, and report to, the Business Director. Focusing on Trusts and Foundations, (UK, US, European and other foundations, charity trusts, lotteries and others) the selected candidate will:

- Develop a plan and establish funding which will enable us to turn our volunteer scheme into a paid internship programme
- Conduct in-depth research on potential trusts and foundations and match to projects we are seeking funding for
- Build relationships between Blast Theory and appropriate grant-makers
- Prepare and submit applications to grant-makers to support selected activities and projects

Knowledge, experience and skills required:

- Demonstrable track record of successful fundraising, proposal writing and contract negotiations
- Proven experience with and in-depth understanding of donor funding procedures, rules and regulations
- Capable of working under pressure and against deadlines
- Excellent communication skills, strong networking skills
- Fluency in written and spoken English

### Application Details

Please send a proposal of how you would work with us in the areas specified above giving examples and providing details of relevant experience you have had with other organisations in the past. We are looking to appoint a consultant to start working with us from April 2014 on a part-time basis. If you have any questions about the brief or alternative proposals, please do call Kirsty Jennings on the number below ahead of submitting your proposal.

The budget for this brief is £2,000 including expenses, plus VAT if applicable.

Application deadline is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014, 5pm

Successful candidates will be informed by Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Interviews will be held Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 in Brighton

Please email proposals to:

Kirsty Jennings - Business Director, Blast Theory

[kirsty@blasttheory.co.uk](mailto:kirsty@blasttheory.co.uk)

01273 413 455

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## About Blast Theory

### Who we are

Blast Theory is renowned internationally as one of the most adventurous artists' groups using interactive media, creating groundbreaking new forms of performance and interactive art that mixes audiences across the internet, live performance and digital broadcasting. Led by Matt Adams (Director and Artist), Ju Row Farr (Artist) and Nick Tandavanitj (Artist), the group's work explores interactivity and the social and political aspects of technology.

Blast Theory was established in 1991 and is based in Portslade in a renovated Victorian icehouse overlooking Shoreham Harbour. Blast Theory's studio has been developed for use by artists, researchers, emerging businesses and small companies working in creative, digital and media industries.

Four times BAFTA Award nominated, Blast Theory has shown work at Tate Britain, ICC in Tokyo, Sundance Film Festival, the Venice Biennale and the Royal Opera House. The group has also won the Golden Nica for Interactive Art at Prix Ars Electronica and the Maverick Award at the Game Developers Choice Awards in the USA.

Blast Theory formed not to make works that use technology but to make works that engage with audiences in interesting ways, outside of traditional settings. Our most recent work includes [My Neck Of The Woods](#), [I'd Hide You](#) and [The Thing I'll Be Doing For The Rest Of My Life](#)

### Volunteer Programme

Blast Theory runs a volunteer programme that invites young people to work with Blast Theory for up to three months at a time; they are mentored throughout the post and are very much seen as an essential part of the team. An important aspect of the programme for the volunteers is developing networks and new contacts – something that Blast Theory team are always keen to assist with.

### Residency Programme

Blast Theory also runs an annual residency programme. The residency programme is an opportunity for artists, researchers and/or designers to have their own studio in the Blast Theory building for up to 3 months to research and develop new work in a supportive and collaborative environment. Previous residents include [Invisible Flock](#), [Chroma Collective](#), [Me And The Machine](#) and [Andy Field](#).

### Education and Industry Partnerships

The dialogue between scientific and artistic research forms a core thread of Blast Theory's practice. Blast Theory has collaborated with the University of Nottingham for over 13 years, developing technological platforms as well as ethnographic and academic research. This relationship has yielded four BAFTA nominations, a Prix Ars Electronica and academic papers of international significance. We also have a fantastic ongoing relationship with the University of Brighton.

Our education work takes many forms including teaching students at Central School of Speech and Drama; one-to-one mentoring sessions; leading talks and workshops nationally and internationally as well as providing opportunities for local practitioners to get involved in projects when touring.

### Online

Our work encourages audience participation across different platforms and Blast Theory embraces the importance of social media and online presence. As a result of this, we have recently redeveloped our website and have employed a Marketing and Office Coordinator to help grow and develop this online audience.

### Funding

Blast Theory is one of Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation's (NPO), through which we are typically funded over a three-year period. We receive commissions for new work from museums, galleries and art institutes. We also have a repertoire of touring works shown nationally and internationally, more often funded by festivals and arts organisations. We have recently had two projects funded by the EU Culture Fund and are looking to increase our number of proposals to trusts and foundations.