



Emerging Artist Bursary – Expecting Something

Open to:	Costume designers, Puppeteers, Theatre makers, DJs, Musicians, Dancers, Spoken word artists, Aerial artists, Visual artists, Film-makers, Illustrators, Animators, Jewellery makers, Graphic designers and more...surprise us!
Working with:	Expecting Something Lead Artist and Coordinator
Period:	10 week placement
Delivery:	One two hour session per week plus preparation & tidy up time
Location & Time:	Lochgelly Centre, Fife Wednesdays from 11.30am-1.30pm
Bursary Rate:	£57.75 per session

Starcatchers is a leading charity that exists to apply the transformational power of the arts to support improved outcomes for our youngest children. Since 2006, we have successfully pioneered methodologies of engaging with and making high quality performances for babies and young children aged 0-5 years and their grown ups in communities in Scotland. We work in partnership with children, families, childcare settings, staff, artists, other Third Sector and arts organisations to deliver an evolving programme of activity that is supported by robust evaluation and research.

Our mission is to inspire performances and creativity for babies, young children and their grown-ups in Scotland. As a young, dynamic organisation, we strive to put the needs of babies, toddlers and young children at the core of everything we do, while engaging with the parents, carers, families, early years' professionals and communities who nurture them.

Starcatchers delivers this vision through a three-stranded programme of work:

- Engagement Programmes: placing artists in communities to work with very young children and their parents and carers as a vehicle to support artistic development and social change
- Creative Skills: programmes of training and development for Early Years practitioners and artists to develop their skills and capacity in using arts and creativity for Early Years
- Producing & Touring: developing high quality productions and installations that can be toured across Scotland, the UK and international

Expecting Something

Expecting Something works with new and expectant parents under 25 and their babies in Wester Hailes, Edinburgh and Lochgelly, Fife, providing a weekly safe space to spend time with their babies and peers whilst engaging in artist-lead creative activities.

These are a recognised group of young people who may be at risk, come from areas of deprivation or have limited life choices. They are often the most disengaged within their communities and live with or experience chaotic lifestyles. They are often the hardest to reach in terms of age and lifestyle and are in greatest need of support. The opportunity to participate in Expecting



Something affords these young people the chance to connect with their peers, express themselves, be creative, build in confidence and wellbeing which improves outcomes for themselves and their children.

Regular and continued contact with arts and creativity supports the development of strong bonds between the babies and their parents and each creative session is planned by the Lead Artist to ensure it engages both baby and parent. Working with a variety of artforms, sessions are varied and responding to the interests of the group.

The Opportunity

We are looking for emerging artists from a variety of disciplines who are interested in collaborating with young parents and their babies (bumps -2 years) on dynamic 5 or 10 week projects.

You may have an idea you would like to explore with this audience to help its development. Your idea could be ambitious or ground breaking, it could be gentle and thoughtful, indoor or outdoor. Whatever the idea, the process - and having an inspiring and interesting time along the way - is the most important thing.

Or you may just be keen to spend some time with babies and their young parents to develop your practice and explore opportunities in working with this audience.

This new honest audience for your work can help challenge, light up and bring to life an idea for exploration. You will work alongside and be supported by visual artist Katy Wilson at WHALE or theatre artist Maria Giergiel in Lochgelly.

Session details

Lochgelly, Fife - Wednesday from 11.30am – 1.30pm

28 September, 5 October, 12 October, 19 October, 26 October

9 November, 16 November, 23 November, 30 November, 7 December

To Apply

Let us hear or see a short selection of the kind of thing you do - an accessible little nutshell of your work. This would ideally be a short video of you (this could be done on a phone as long as we can clearly see the quality), or it could be a visual or sound selection of things that inspire you (possibly including some things you have created). We will watch/read and listen to applications with the participants so they are involved in the selection process.

To apply, along with your work highlights, please also send a CV and a cover letter detailing your ideas and why you want to work with us and return it to:

Claire Gillespie at claire@starcatchers.org.uk by Wednesday 12th October at 12pm.

At this stage we are just looking for emerging artists to join our Lochgelly group and to work over a 10 week period. We may be looking for artists for our Edinburgh group again in the future.

Please note dates cannot be split and the bursary must run over consecutive weeks.



We will contact artists following the participant feedback on the next stage.

Starcatchers is an equal opportunities employer.

STARCATCHERS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY STATEMENT

Starcatchers wholeheartedly supports the principle of equal opportunities and values the individual contribution of people, irrespective of sex, age, marital status, disability, sexuality, race, colour, religion, ethnic, or national origin, history of illness, needs of dependants and/or parenthood.

We believe that it is in the company's best interests, and all those of who work in it, to ensure that the human resources, talents and skills available throughout the community are considered when employment and training opportunities arise. To this end we are committed, within the framework of the law, to achieving and maintaining a workforce who broadly reflect the local community in which we operate. Every possible step will be taken to ensure that individuals are treated equally and fairly and that decisions on recruitment, selection, training, promotion and career management are based solely on objective and job related criteria.

Starcatchers fully supports this policy statement. All employees and those engaged in our activities are responsible for playing their part in achieving these objectives.