

Title of opportunity: Creative Skills Artist Development Bursary
Accountable to: Creative Skills Manager
Hours:
Location: Aberdeen or Dundee
Bursary: £500

Starcatchers is Scotland's National Arts and Early Years organisation specialising in creating performances and exploring creative activity for babies, toddlers and young children aged 0-5 and the adults who care for them.

Starcatchers believes in the transformational power of the arts to inspire Scotland's youngest children and the people who care for them through creativity, performances and engagement projects.

Our vision is delivered through three pillars of activity all rooted in creativity, designed to connect with babies, toddlers, young children, parents, carers and Early Years practitioners in communities across Scotland.

Creative Skills Programme

Funded by the Scottish Government, Creative Skills is Starcatchers' unique artist-facilitated training programme. We give early years practitioners, educators and others who work with babies and young children the confidence and skills to put expressive arts at the heart of practice.

Creative Skills is about more than just the sharing of ideas – it's about investing in

Early Years practitioners as people and recognising that creative responsive adults are the most valuable "open-ended resource" our children need.

The Creative Skills Artist Development Bursary is an opportunity for two individuals to shadow the work of Creative Skills artists as they deliver this groundbreaking programme, either in Aberdeen or in Dundee. This is an ideal opportunity for Early Years artists wishing to gain a better understanding of the Creative Skills approach, or for artists who already work with older participants who wish to learn more about how a child-centred approach can be applied when working with the very young.

Artists living/working anywhere in Scotland may apply, although you must be able to attend all dates of the programme in your chosen location. The bursary is designed to cover any costs associated with taking part in this development opportunity including travel.

Dates and timings:

Aberdeen, Thursdays 6:15pm-8:15pm

- September 26th
- October 10th
- November 7th
- November 21st
- December 5th
- January 16th
- January 30th
- February 13th
- February 27th
- March 12th

Dundee, Thursdays 9:30am-3:15pm

- October 24th
- November 7th
- November 28th
- December 12th
- January 16th

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

- To fully participate in training sessions in either Dundee or Aberdeen
- To positively represent Starcatchers
- To reflect on their learning, including writing a blog entry
- To liaise with Starcatchers Associate Artists who deliver elements of the programme

Essential Skills and Experience:

- Experience of delivering arts workshops
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Excellent interpersonal, organisational and planning skills
- Energy and commitment
- Approachable, empathetic manner
- Ability to develop good working relationships with artists and participants
- An understanding of the role creativity plays within child development and education

Desirable Skills and Experience:

- An awareness of the wider Early Years policy agenda
- A full driving licence and access to own car

To apply: Please send a current CV and covering letter outlining your suitability for the role (no more than 2 sides of A4) to: **Heather Armstrong at heather.armstrong@starcatchers.org.uk by 12pm on Wednesday 11th September**

Interviews to be held on Monday 16th September in Aberdeen. Short-listed candidates must be available for interview on this day.