Bristol Beacon Industry Consultancy

Application Guidance and FAQs

About Bristol Beacon

Bristol Beacon is a music charity, renowned venue and award-winning music education hub.

Our purpose

We're here to help make space for music every day, with everyone, with you! We do this through a remarkable programme of live music performance, participation and education.

We believe that by connecting people through incredible live music experiences, we will create a more united and joyful society.

How we work

We value the contribution that every one of us makes to achieving our purpose, and we commit to the following values and behaviours to make it happen.

- We collaborate with each other
- We are open and honest
- We always rise to a challenge
- We care for each other and ourselves
- We are proud of our work
- We are committed to inclusion
- We believe music can make a difference in the world

Music is at the heart of what we do, but we also host and co-create many other types of events from community group meetings to awards ceremonies, conferences, talks, stand-up comedy and lots more.

Bristol Beacon was originally built in 1867, and we have a long and fascinating heritage as a public space for the people of Bristol, including a rich social and music history.

We have also announced our sustainability commitment to become the first net zero concert venue in the UK by 2030.

About our Talent Development programme

We're making space for the scene. For the artists, producers, and music industry professionals of the future to create, collaborate, grow and glow. Through a programme designed to support creative ambition, we provide access to resources, mentoring, industry workshops, performance opportunities, and professional connections.

Bristol Beacon delivers a range of activities designed to support people's creative development throughout their lives. We recognise that equality of opportunity is only possible when support is given equitably. To meet this need, each year we invest in the pursuits of emerging creatives at all stages of development, who are aged 18+, and either under-represented or face challenges gaining experience within the music industry.

We are committed to providing a platform for emerging talent, as well as working with established artists, and partner organisations, to provide a balanced programme of events and participatory activity which represents the demographics of city today.

Who is the Industry Consultancy opportunity for? (Essential Criteria)

- Artists creating their own original music e.g.:
  - Songwriters
  - Composers
  - Producers
  - Bands/Duos - individual members of groups are eligible to apply if they are the main music creator within their group and can act responsible for coordinating any group activity
- Aged over 18
- Bristol based
- Not under any business, employment, educational, or other contractual obligations that would compromise or restrict participation in the project
- Working entirely independently, without any managers or record label contracts or deals agreed for this project
- Not in receipt of any record label or distribution advance, grant funding or private investment of over £3,000 for this project
- Artists who are either underrepresented in the music sector or face barriers/challenges to progression within the industry

What are the commitments and expectations?

- Able to commit to regular consultation sessions
- Able to work independently and express and receive feedback when necessary
- Able to maintain regular communication for scheduling and progress updates

How are selections made?

- Every application that meets the essential criteria will be fairly considered by both Bristol Beacon's Artistic team and an independent inclusion advisor
- Shortlisted applications will then be assessed by a further panel of independent industry professionals who represent a balance of identities and lived experience
- Top applicants will then be contacted with decisions and final acceptance to the project subject to confirmation of ability to participate

When would I need to be available to attend the activity?

- Thu 3 Dec, 6pm-8pm for Artist Welcome Day
- 1hr meeting in January for Personal Development Plan
- 10x 2hr consultation sessions across Jan – Jul 2027
- Group session at the end of the project – Jul 2027
- Occasional ad-hoc time for project admin tasks and correspondence

Where will it happen?

- Bristol Beacon, Trenchard Street, Bristol, BS1 5AR
  - Cellars – Sound Studios & Weston Stage

What are we allowed to spend the budget on?

- Collaborator fees for producers, session musicians, etc.
- Mastering costs
- Marketing and promotional purposes
- Content creation
- Costs relating to releasing records such as distribution, etc.
- Developing live performance

Who are the other people involved in the project?

- Bank of external industry professionals
- You can also utilise the development grants to pay your own contacts to collaborate with or provide services
- The studios will often be used by other local artists, project participants or staff

What if I have access requirements or additional needs?

- Additional support and financial resources will be allocated to enable participation
- Reasonable adjustments will be made for applicants if required
- Our venue and studio facilities are all fully accessible with a Changing Places accessible toilet

How do I apply?

Please pay attention to the details provided, we recommend you take the time to read the full information relating to this opportunity, including the webpage and the guidance in this document. For applications to effectively be considered, our assessors will require you to directly answer each question in the form, therefore please read each question before answering any of them to ensure your answers are concise and avoid duplication.

You are able to choose how you prefer to answer the application questions, in the form you are provided with options of typing text or recording video or audio.

Bristol Beacon is committed to being more representative, making space for a wider range of voices and lived experience within our organisation and the wider music industry by working collaboratively as we seek to make our organisation more inclusive.

Ensuring that we reflect the diversity of the communities within which we operate is a key part of our work, and so we're particularly keen to hear from people from a culturally and ethnically diverse background, from d/Deaf and Disabled people and from all of those who are under-represented in the cultural sector or face barriers to progression within the music industry.

We are keen to hear from a diverse range of candidates; if you have any questions or need to receive this application pack in a different format, please contact: supportforcreatives@bristolbeacon.org