

# Exploring the Metropolis, Inc.

Workspace Solutions for NYC's Performing Arts Communities

## Guidelines

### EtM Choreographer + Composer Residencies

In Partnership with the Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning

2019–20

#### Summary

**Exploring the Metropolis (EtM) is sponsoring the fifth round of Choreographer + Composer Residencies in partnership with the Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning (JCAL)**

This residency will provide four choreographer/composer teams (8 artists total) with use of consistent, suitable rehearsal space over a three-month period starting in October 2019 or January 2020 to develop and create new work. Each choreographer and each composer will receive a stipend of \$1,500. **There is no requirement to complete a piece of work during the residency. Each choreographer/composer team is required to perform one free public program in coordination with the Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning.**

Applicants will be chosen by a panel of dance/music professionals based on the following criteria:

1. Artistic merit
2. Quality of proposal
3. Queens choreographers will be given preference

#### General Information

Each choreographer and each composer will receive a stipend of \$1,500 (\$3,000 for a two-person team) for the three-month residency and public program, an initial \$1,250 upon signing the agreements and the final \$250 upon completion of the required public program. **Additional funds for public programs may be available.**

**A public program component is required**, and must be mutually agreed upon with, and presented by, JCAL. This may be a workshop, master class, free public performance or other community-based activity. **Public programs for this residency must be completed by June 30, 2020. Programs must take place on premises at Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning.** We anticipate that additional funding will be available for the required public programs.

Two residencies will take place from **October 1 to December 31, 2019**. Two residencies will take place from **January 1 to March 30, 2020**.

## Who May Apply

**This is primarily a choreographic residency.** Choreographers may apply individually without a composer. However, composers **MUST** apply with a choreographer and may not apply as individuals. Dance collectives, collaborative choreography groups, or small dance companies are also welcome to apply to this program but will only receive one stipend per application to distribute at their discretion.

This residency is open to choreographers working in all genres of dance, including, but not limited to: experimental/contemporary, modern, ballet, jazz, hip hop, musical theatre, and folk/world.

Applicants (both choreographer and composer) must be at least 18 years old. All applicants (including composer) must be residents of New York City as of the application deadline, Monday April 15, 2019 OR have a significant, documented track record of artistic activity in Queens. Queens residents will be given preference for this residency. Choreographers and composers at any career stage are encouraged to apply.

## Who May Not Apply

- Full-time students enrolled in a degree-granting program at time of application deadline.
- Choreographers and composers who will be participating in another residency or professional development program during the residency period.
- Choreographers and composers who will not be available to take advantage of the workspace opportunities offered during the residency period. If you expect to be traveling extensively during the residency period(s), consider applying for the next round.
- Previous EtM Choreographer + Composer Residencies awardees, employees, family members and board members of the Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning and their spouses and immediate family members. Employees of funders, and those funders' spouses and family members, are also ineligible to apply. (Previous awardees of the EtM Con Edison Composer Residencies and the EtM Ridgewood Bushwick Composer Residency are eligible to apply for this program.)

## Residency Location and Description

Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning (JCAL) is located in the heart of Jamaica, Queens. Founded in 1972, the Center's neo-Renaissance building features a 1,650-square-foot visual arts gallery, a 99-seat proscenium theater, three painting studios, three dance studios, a ceramics studio, a computer lab, and a newly renovated music studio. It is conveniently accessible to the public via LIRR, subway or bus with many parking garages nearby. Programs for children, teens, and adults include a multicultural series of music, theater, and dance performances; film screenings and lectures; contemporary visual arts exhibitions; in-school artist residencies; a series of nearly 50 different arts workshops; and free or low-cost after-school and summer programs.

Studio amenities include fluorescent lighting, fully mirrored, barres, sprung wood, multi-purpose flooring, dressing rooms, wi-fi, and restroom equipped with shower. Each studio is equipped with a stereo system that can connect an MP3/auxiliary input, CD player. Studio sizes range from 450 square feet to 1,240 square feet. Residents are welcome to use the studios Monday through Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM there is drumming rehearsal. There is currently no storage space. This space does not support aerial work. For more information, see [www.jcal.org](http://www.jcal.org).

## Guidelines

### How to Apply

Applicants must submit, via Google Forms, the following four items:

- one completed application submitted through Google Forms.
- one résumé uploaded to Google Forms.
- work samples: two Vimeo links for choreographers (embedded in Google Forms), and one MP3 or SoundCloud link for composers, if applicable.

**All items must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Time on Monday, April 15, 2019.**

## Application Form

[Click here](#) to complete application form in Google Forms.

## Résumé

Your résumé must be in PDF (preferred) or Microsoft Word format. **Please limit résumés to two pages.** If applying as a dance collective, submit one résumé reflecting the work you have done together. Composers do not need to submit résumé.

## Work Samples

**Choreographers:** submit **two** unedited video samples via **Vimeo**. Promo clips/reels or heavily edited “dance film” pieces are not appropriate. **YouTube links will not be accepted.**

**Composers:** submit **one** MP3 audio sample via SoundCloud (details below) or as an email attachment.

Please limit work samples to five minutes each. **The title of each file must include the following:**

- your name
- title of the work
- For choreographers' videos, either a number 1 or number 2 to specify the order in which you would like them to be considered. (Start with your best material.)

**The audio work sample must be an MP3 file** and is to be transmitted to Exploring the Metropolis uploaded to Google Forms OR by providing a private **SoundCloud link** in your application. SoundCloud (<https://soundcloud.com>) is free. To create a SoundCloud account, you only need an email address.

How to upload a track onto SoundCloud and send a private link:

1. Upload your MP3 file
2. Set to 'private'
3. Click on 'permissions' and **click 'enable download'**
4. Click 'save'
5. Go to your track and click on the 'share' icon
6. Copy and paste the secret link into your application

## Helpful Hints for Your Application

- While we ask for a five-minute sample, please keep in mind that first impressions are key and that panelists may not watch the entire selection. If the most interesting part of your work sample takes place four minutes in, use that as your starting point.
- Artistic merit is two-thirds of your total score so choose your work samples wisely.
- Keep proposals concise, clear and concrete.
- When preparing your application, remember the purpose of this residency is to support **new work**.

## Deadline

**All applications must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Time, Monday April 15, 2019.** There are no exceptions for late applications, including those delayed by internet problems. Incomplete application forms or incomplete materials will not be considered. Applicants will receive email confirmation of receipt of materials.

## Selection Process & Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by an independent panel of four dance/music professionals. Panelists have been chosen based on recommendations by professionals in nonprofit arts organizations, professionals in the field and government arts agencies. Exploring the Metropolis staff will act in an administrative capacity. The review process is not anonymous. Materials will be reviewed and evaluated by the panelists. A single panelist cannot ensure an applicant's success or failure. Panelists' names will be kept confidential until results are released.

After review of all materials, the panel will assess and rank all eligible applicants according to the following criteria, in order of priority:

- Artistic merit (two-thirds of total score)
- Quality of proposal (one-third of total score)
- Queens choreographers will be given preference

## Residency Timeline

Award announcements will be made in late spring 2019.

### Residency periods are as follows:

- Beginning on or around October 1, 2019 and finishing on or around December 31, 2019.
- Beginning on or around January 1, 2020 and finishing on or around March 30, 2020.

**All public programs must be completed by June 30, 2020.**

## Obligations and Benefits for the Choreographer and Composer Residents

- Once notified as a recipient, choreographers and composers will need to **verify primary residence** in NYC or Queens specifically by providing a copy of any one of the following: tax forms, phone or utility bills, bank statements, NYS drivers' license, ID NYC, etc. **If the choreographer or composer is NOT a resident of NYC**, he or she must provide documentation of significant artistic activity in the borough of Queens.
- Each resident will sign a letter of agreement with Exploring the Metropolis regarding stipend, public programming requirements and willingness to assist in any public relations or marketing efforts.
- Residents must provide Exploring the Metropolis with a valid Social Security Number or Employer Identification Number (EIN) in order to receive the stipend. **Composers and choreographers will retain sole ownership, including licensing and copyrights, for all work produced during the residency.**
- The residents will sign an agreement that stipulates the time and use of space, development and presentation of a required free public program, and that the resident will abide by the facility's regulations for the term of the residency. Both choreographer and composer must be present at the public program.
- After completion of the residency, the residents will submit a final report to Exploring the Metropolis evaluating the residency experience.

Exploring the Metropolis will send press releases to appropriate media announcing the winners of the EtM Choreographer + Composer Residencies and will publicize the public programming component at the conclusion of the residency.

*We are grateful to the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, the George L. Shields Foundation, The Reed Foundation, AOH Foundation, and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts for their support of the EtM Choreographer + Composer Residencies. This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.*

