



Scientist in Residence - an Open Call (rolling)

1. Are you a scientist finishing up writing your PhD, working on an MA or in science industry as a freelancer?
2. Are you a professional scientist looking to expand your perception of what it means to be a scientist?
3. Are you a professional scientist interested struggling to find your tribe beyond your fellow scientists?
4. Are you a professional scientist keen to test out how to connect your ideas within a safe, creative and professional environment?

If any of these are you, or something similar:

Become a resident in one of the UK's most innovative theatre companies.

Introduction to curious directive – www.curiousdirective.com

Since 2008, curious directive has explored life through the lens of science. Our 'devised' process sees us create theatre productions collaboratively. Our work has been seen in over 100 venues across UK and the world, playing to over 150,000 audience members. We are an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (2018-2022). In 2019, we moved into 49 Elm Hill, a 573-year-old Grade I listed church in the heart of Norwich. From here, we create layered, emotionally charged science-led theatre. We forge sustained relationships between science communities, theatre-goers and technology partners. All our work is created here, touring the UK and the world. A church has always been a place where a community comes together. Therefore, in 2019 we created [The Nave](#), an affordable creative co-working space for Norwich-based freelancers to tackle isolation. We also launched [The Loft](#), a multi-dimensional rehearsal laboratory. In 2020, we will pilot 'Science Club', evening courses for 18+ bringing together the curious, local businesses and specialist scientists, sharing skills from dark room photography to establishing an apiary in our garden. We will also launch a pop-up theatre bar in our garden and chancel, a collaboration with The John Innes Centre and Norfolk-based micro-breweries.

As stewards of digital innovation in theatre, we were the first theatre company to use the 'Periscope' app for live streaming (2014), the first 'Resident Theatre Company' at a UK Science Festival (Cambridge, 2015) and have created Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality synchronising software for live theatre (2017-20). We have also created ground-breaking captioning in VR (2018). Critically acclaimed, with 15 prestigious arts-science nominations and awards, we've been published six times with Bloomsbury/Methuen. We regularly partner across the UK, with Warwick Arts Centre, Theatre Royal Plymouth and Shoreditch Town Hall. We've been commissioned by LIFT, NNF and have worked with world-leading science institutes/charities such as The Wellcome Trust, CRUK and IOP. We have delivered multiple workshops at the National Theatre and in 2018-19 collaborated with a Royal Society Fellow on the role of theatre and narrative in science policy-making.

Internationally, we have toured to South Africa (2017), China, Australia and Indonesia (2018), Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia (2019) and South Korea and USA (2020). We've co-produced



internationally with Brisbane Power House and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Australia (2017). curious directive strives to become culturally significant in linking theatre and science.

Why a Scientist in Residence?

We've been lucky enough to work with some incredible scientists over the years, from a diverse range of research topics in a number of different contexts.

We've enjoyed conversations and practical sessions in laboratories, ride-outs in ambulances, all the way to a scientist playing a central role on stage. These collaborations, knowledge and skills exchanges have been vital to forming genuinely new ideas in our productions.

Unlike large theatres, currently, due to funding restrictions, we are only able to make one new production new show every 12-18 months – not enough time to be spending with scientists on a regular basis. This is how our idea of an ever-growing family of 'Scientists in Residence' was born. We are not necessarily looking for scientists to collaborate on future productions. We are looking for scientists who would like to work and exist in a different context.

In this way, both our processes and experiences can naturally affect our process rather than a particular product.

2020 – core themes

In 2020, we are keen to hear from all scientists, but particularly keen to hear from scientists working to explore **Climate Science, AI and Oceanography**.

What we can offer?

Our residencies are based at 49 Elm Hill, Norwich and offer 12 key benefits to our Scientist in Residence.

1. A FREE laboratory office/workshop in a 3m x 3m space, away from your organisation/institution, for you to use in our home in the heart of Norwich with a desk, chair, lamp and technical support.
2. Your office/workshop/residency space is in the heart of our building, situated right next to **The Nave**, our thriving creative co-working space (not tucked away, but in the heart of things). The Nave residents include photographers, illustrators, web-designers, NGOs and other theatre companies.
3. Access to all the amenities offered to **The Nave** residents – kitchen, superfast WiFi and reading area.
4. Anywhere between 2 weeks to 3 months' residency (with your own key to the building) with access Monday – Friday 10am-6pm.
5. Involvement in all creative community activities in the building, providing an opportunity to spend time alongside people from a completely different intellectual background to your own.
6. The potential to see your work in a new light through the perspective of our creative residents.



7. Develop new networks.
8. Access to our garden for working outside (in the Spring/Summer!)
9. An hour per month residency working on your public speaking with our professional team.
10. The opportunity to share your research and practice your sci-comm skills in an environment of artists.
11. The opportunity to observe how a 'devising' theatre rehearsal room works.
12. Further continued professional development opportunities as mutually discussed.

What's the catch? No catch. Just curiosity.

Why might this be useful?

1. Maybe you work a lot from home and need an office space to write up your PhD?
2. Maybe you'd like to carry out some reading in a quiet, central Norwich space which isn't a library?
3. Maybe you'd like to be able to relax in between intense periods of work during the day?
4. Maybe you're interested to be amongst 'artists' and always felt like an artist yourself but never had the chance to identify as such?
5. Maybe you have reasons we may not have thought of yet?

What would we like in return?

1. A Scientist in Residence will help us continue to grow our vision of working side-by-side with scientists to create not just (very tangible) theatre productions which tour the world, but an exciting, ever evolving family who believe science and theatre can generally make a positive impact on all our lived experiences.
2. An insight into your research at the start and end of your residency (a formal session), to our community here at 49 Elm Hill. We find this is useful, so everyone knows who you are and what you do.
3. A Scientist who makes themselves at home. In **The Nave** we actively encourage our residents to bring in a little bit of home to make their space as comfortable as possible.
4. We'd like our residents ideally to be able to carry out some form of practical, hands-on science whilst working at our space during their residency – but not essential.
5. Some basic evaluation to feed back to our funders and stakeholders.
6. Form an informal working group with our Artistic Director (a coffee one day/week of your residency) about how to bring your area of science into a theatre workshop environment in the future.

That's it.

How to apply?

1. Please complete the [application form](#) at your earliest convenience.
2. We accept 'Scientist in Residence' applications on a rolling basis, gradually building an alumnus.
3. We aim to get back to you within 3 weeks of your application.
4. We aim interview all prospective Residency candidates in person, so please be aware we may ask you to come to Norwich if you are not based here.