



Open call for BOM Fellows 2020 - 2021 Expressions of Interest

DEADLINE: 5pm Monday 20 April 2020

Background

BOM is inviting proposals for 2020 - 2021 Fellows. With access to an incubator programme of tailored professional development, collaboration and paid opportunities, this is a fantastic opportunity to join a community of exciting creative practitioners working across art, technology and science.

BOM Fellows have a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach. They demonstrate clear commitment to social impact and / or research impact at the intersection of art, technology and science. To see our current Fellows and alumni, please see [here](#).

BOM Fellows contribute to a thriving collaborative culture through peer-to-peer support and skills sharing within a creative community. This happens virtually, through online skills-sharing sessions and group chat over Slack. When our building is open, Fellows have access to co-working and production space as they develop and test new ideas.

We are able to offer an enhanced budget and support to neuro divergent practitioners.

About BOM

BOM is a centre for art, technology and science dedicated to creative innovation with purpose.

Located in central Birmingham, less than one minute's walk from New Street Station and the Bullring, our gallery is free to enter and presents cutting edge digital artworks and exhibitions that spark debate about technology and scientific progress.

BOM is dedicated to positive social impact in all that we do. Our exhibitions and events explore topical issues in digital culture and science which impact on human lives. Our

education work engages excluded children, young people and adults in creative technology programmes, with a particular interest in neurodiversity and technology.

BOM is born from hacker culture. But unlike other hackspaces that are filled with tools and operate on a membership model, our building is publicly accessible with free exhibitions and events.

At the heart of BOM is a community of Fellows, a group of hugely talented artists, scientists and technologists, who use our studios and co-working spaces to develop innovative and impactful work. The BOM Fellows all fuel, and are fuelled by, BOM's ethos and help us achieve our mission.

[Find out more about the BOM Fellows.](#)

[Find out more about our outreach work.](#)

[Details on our public programmes & exhibitions and events.](#)

Fellows Incubator

Fellows work with BOM for a minimum of 12 months with access to an Incubator Programme of mentoring and creative development support. This includes free access to co-working and production space, support with legal, professional and business expertise and a range of paid opportunities.

In contrast to the popular 'tech accelerator' model, the BOM Fellows Incubator is a decelerator, providing opportunities to focus in on a key area of work, playtest and collaborate with a range of communities and through paid opportunities. This enables practitioners to consider the value of their work across education, health and society. Fellows do this at the same time as developing their business model and exploring the commercial potential of their ideas.

Fellowships are a highly personalised experience, and requires each practitioner to approach the year with an open mind and commitment to pushing their practice into new directions. Unlike other business support programmes, the BOM Fellow Incubator has an

onus on practice and participation over product. BOM's approach enables practitioners to develop their work in meaningful ways, stay inspired and develop sustainable practices.

The BOM Fellows Incubator model gives practitioners a tailored package of support and opportunities including:

- Mentoring, curatorial and production support
- R&D materials / travel budget of £250 per practitioner
- Digital skills development
- Paid work (such as exhibitions, engagement and outreach opportunities)
- Business support when developing new business models
- Legal support including contracts negotiation
- Tailored sessions on financial planning and input to funding applications
- Engagement and outreach training, support and DBS checks
- Advocacy and promotion
- 24hr access to BOM's studios and spaces (when the building is open)

In addition to the above, neurodivergent practitioners have access to:

- Autism-led coaching
- Mental health support
- Increased R&D budget of £1,000 per practitioner
- Increased travel budget up to £600 per practitioner
- Childcare costs

Proposals

We would like to hear from you in a way that is suitable to you. We generally accept expressions of interest as written statements but we are happy to learn about you in a way that is more suited to your communication needs.

For example, we will accept:

A written statement (no more than two sides of A4)

A short video

Sound recording

Expressions of interest should include :

- Why you're interested in working with BOM, and what you feel you'll get out of this experience
- An outline of your planned work from April 2020 –March 2021
- Examples (and links to) your previous work
- Any access needs and whether you are interested in the additional support offered to neuro divergent practitioners
- Your phone number and email address

Expressions of interests should be sent to claire@bom.org.uk. If you are sending media other than a written statement, please send it via a file sharing service such as We Transfer, Google Drive or Dropbox.

The deadline for expressions of interests is Monday 20 April 2020, 5pm.

Applicants will be notified by Friday 24 April 2020.

For more information, or if you have any questions please email claire@bom.org.uk