

# I Am Festival Workshops

## Artist Brief

**Budget:** up to £2,500 including VAT

**Time commitment:** approximately 4 days

**Timescale:** February–June 2022. I Am Festival will take place from 20–24 June 2022

This year A New Direction will be delivering the sixth annual I Am Festival in June 2022. The I Am Festival is a yearly celebration empowering D/deaf, disabled, and neurodivergent young people to explore their creativity. Over the past five years, the festival has provided a platform for hundreds of young people to showcase their talents, leadership, ideas, and opinions.

Last year we worked with schools in our SEND Network to deliver creative in-person sessions in the lead up to the festival. Outcomes of these creative sessions were then showcased via our bespoke digital platform. We also partnered with a number of fantastic disabled-led arts organisations to deliver workshops remotely.

This blended delivery model allowed us to engage many young people who may not have otherwise been able to take part in an in-person festival. This is something we are excited about developing further for this year's festival, as we aim to deliver a hybrid of activity in schools, cultural venues, and online.

The theme this year is **Unity**.

**You can see the highlights from the 2021 festival here:** <https://bit.ly/iam2021highlights>

To curate the I Am Festival 2022, we will be working with our SEND Network and a team of young Cultural Ambassadors.

## About the SEND Network

A New Direction's SEND Network is a free professional development programme for educators working with D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent children and young people in London's schools and specialist settings. The Network meets twice a term over the academic year, working together to improve creative and cultural opportunities for children and young people who are D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent.

SEND Network members are able to share good practice with other teachers working across a huge range of SEND settings in London. The network also provides an

opportunity to meet and share strategies and ideas for bringing the curriculum to life in ways that meet students' needs.

**You can find out more about the SEND Network here:**

<https://www.anewdirection.org.uk/peer-support-networks/send-network>

## Overview

A New Direction are looking for proposals from artists and creative organisations to collaborate, develop, and deliver workshops with two SEND Network schools in Hackney.

We are particularly interested in hearing from those who identify as D/deaf, disabled and/or neurodivergent, or from disabled-led arts organisations and who are **based in or near to Hackney**.

Workshops will be developed with teachers and delivered to students in SEND settings. The outcomes of the workshops will be showcased at 50 Worship Street, London, EC2A 2EA, as part of our hybrid I Am Festival in June 2022.

We are looking for proposals for workshops in any art form, that will explore the theme of **Unity** and are interested in how the commissioned artists can create connections between the two schools.

## Details

- We are looking for two artists and/or cultural organisations
- Each artist and/or organisation will deliver creative workshops in two schools exploring the theme of Unity. Depending on the students, this could be one longer workshop or broken down into a series of shorter workshops
- Each artist and/or organisation will support the sharing of the workshop outcomes during the I Am Festival
  - Those commissioned should consider how the outcome of the workshops could be engaged with during the festival, either in person or digitally. For example, could a piece of artwork be added to by members of the public?
  - Depending on the art form, the commissioned artist may need to consider time needed to collate the work created by students into a finished piece
  - You are also encouraged to consider how students who are not involved in the workshops can also benefit
- Artists/organisations will meet with A New Direction's evaluator to support the overall evaluation of the programme

## Approximate Breakdown of Days

1.5 days	Planning of workshops
1 day	Workshop delivery
1 day	Preparation of outcomes for sharing at festival
0.5 day	Evaluation

## Proposals

Please send proposals with a proposed budget (practitioner fees, materials, and applicable VAT) to [schools@anewdirection.org.uk](mailto:schools@anewdirection.org.uk) **by midnight on Sunday 13 February.**

If you have questions about this brief and would like to have an informal conversation about our work, please email us to arrange a time.

Proposals can be sent in any format, e.g. Word document, video, audio.

**Please note** that the successful candidate for this will be required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Check, must be eligible to work in the UK, and be registered to pay their own taxes.