

Partner search form

For Creative Europe project applications

Call	CREA-CULT-2023-COOP-UA
Strand or category	

Cultural operator – who are you?

Name of organisation	BABEL – CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
Country	PORTUGAL
Organisation website	http://babel-cultural-organization.com/programme
Contact person	Margarida Saraiva, babel.culturalorganization@gmail.com
Organisation type	non-governmental organization/non-for-profit cultural organization
Scale of the organization	5-7
PIC number	884454052
Aims and activities of the organisation	<i>BABEL's mission is to generate research and learning opportunities in the fields of contemporary art, architecture and environment. BABEL is conceived as a museum without walls and aims to work between cultures and across disciplines. To achieve its goals, BABEL establishes regional and international partnerships with institutions of recognized educational and cultural merit. Therefore, a spirit of collaboration, and the creation of fruitful synergies, is essential to the fulfillment of BABEL mission.</i>
Role of the organisation in the project	<i>project partner</i>
Previous EU grants received	<i>Never received</i>

Proposed Creative Europe project – to which project are you looking for partners?

Sector or field	<i>performing arts, cultural heritage, visual arts, literature, architecture, arts, new media and environment</i>
4	<i>BABEL has been hosting artists at risk from Ukraine at our Residency in Alcobaça, named Central-Periphery - Centre for Residencies and Artistic Research, in the historic centre of the city. Through conversations and talks with those artists and creatives, BABEL has developed a more profound vision of the needs of Ukrainian cultural organizations, workers and the creative sector in general. BABEL looks forward to expanding its support to Ukrainian organizations, cultural workers, artists, curators, and the creative sector. With that purpose in mind, BABEL established a formal partnership with Armazém das Artes de Alcobaça (A.A.A), a 2000 sqm cultural centre located at the historic centre, aiming to re-open an art space which has been closed for several years with a new regular public program (https://www.armazemdasartes.pt/).</i>

Together, BABEL and A.A.A. aim to:

1 - Create a program that could present itself as cultural, creative and artistic resistance to the war, authoritarian regimes, censorship, violence and against all other forms of devaluation of democratic values, individual rights and freedom in all its expressions;

2 - Create permanent job positions to re-open A.A.A., in particular, ten full-time, permanent job positions, three for Portuguese cultural workers to ensure articulation with the local community, and seven for professional Ukrainian cultural workers);

3 - Offer individual Ukrainian artists the opportunity to store their art collections or art-related archives in Portugal during the war (a process to be conducted through open calls and evaluation of the relevance of the artistic estate or archives, as well as risk assessment);

4 – Research those collections and archives and use them as a starting point for developing exhibitions, talks, publications and other possible public forms of sharing culture to be presented in Portugal and circulated through other European cultural organizations;

5 - Create all possible dialogues between the permanent collection at A.A.A. and the newly stored collections or archives. A.A.A., funded by the Portuguese artist José Aurélio, author of the Monument to Peace and the Monument to Resistance, who has been a voice in defence of freedoms, especially during the Portuguese dictatorship;

6 – Support through curatorial and production grants the work of Ukrainian curators (established and young), including commissions to contemporary artists, to be present at A.A.A and to circulate through other European cities.

7 - Offer residencies opportunities in visual arts, performing arts, cultural heritage, literature, architecture, new media and environment;

8 - Support creative start-up businesses by offering them a workplace and assisting their permanent establishment in Alcobaça, Portugal;

9 – To provide a platform for creatives to sell their products and services, both physically and online;

BABEL has a Residency Space, including accommodation for artists, a shared working space, a small exhibition space, and 1000 sqm of garden. The partnership with A.A.A adds to BABEL's former facilities the following ones: a permanent exhibition space, two temporary exhibition galleries, one music and dance auditorium with a Grand piano, a video and conferences hall,

workshop areas, storage, working spaces, a meeting room, a shop and a beautiful terrace.

Having a whole cultural centre to operate, which is, at the moment, without any cultural workers or programming, is a unique opportunity to transform A.A.A. into a centre of support for Ukrainian cultural workers and organizations while simultaneously re-activating a cultural institution in the periphery of Lisbon. It is also an opportunity for creative and artistic resistance to war, authoritarian regimes, censorship, violence and all other forms of devaluation of democratic values, individual rights and freedom in all its expressions.

We will address five urgencies of our contemporary condition:

- 1) To support cultural workers and organizations from Ukraine;*
- 2) To protect contemporary artworks and archives from destruction;*
- 3) To produce stories that will tell the history of our time subjectively;*
- 4) Decentralizing cultural production by revitalizing an entire cultural centre located in the periphery of major European art cities and the periphery of Lisbon (1h20 minutes away from Lisbon);*
- 5) To fight the progression of authoritarian, imperialistic, anti-democratic world views.*

We are looking forward to partnering with the following kind of organizations:

- 1 - Organizations with proven operational capacity to undertake multiple cascading grants.*
- 2 - Organizations which have funding for projects which had to be canceled due to the war or the pandemic and offered them the opportunity to undertake those projects, be it festivals, concerts, performances or exhibitions in Alcobaça;*
- 3 - Organizations applying for CREA-CULT-2023-COOP-UA which may be lacking a platform for residencies, creations, exhibitions or more extensive cultural programs;*
- 4 - Cultural organizations willing to operate from another country for the safety of their workers, collection or archives;*
- 5 - Media partners who could offer this project maximum visibility in Europe and the world;*
- 6 - European cultural organizations willing to present and exhibit BABEL's research about individual artists or archives saved from the destruction of war, as a way not only to preserve the memory of contemporary art production in Ukraine but also to give voice to an identity and culture which shall not be silent neither in the present nor in the future.*
- 7 - Ukrainian start-ups from the creative sector willing to operate and establish their business in Portugal, or start-ups associations.*

	<p><i>Art tells the history of our time subjectively and, therefore, has a highly relevant role in a world wiped out by propaganda on every side of the conflict. Subjectivity emerges as the only way different truths can be accessed today and perpetuated for future generations.</i></p> <p><i>Join us!</i></p>
Partners currently involved in the project	<i>performing arts, cultural heritage, visual arts, literature, architecture, arts, new media and environment</i>

Partners searched – which type of partner are you looking for?

From country or region	<i>Any creative Europe country</i>
Preferred field of expertise	
Please get in contact no later than	<i>20th of November 2022</i>

Projects searched – are you interested in participating in other EU projects as a partner?

Yes / no	Yes
Which kind of projects are you looking for?	

Publication of partner search

This partner search can be published?*	Yes
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