

Innovation Studio Staff Micro Residency

[Academic Year 2025-26]

A 4-day residency at Hospitalfield for RCS Staff

Monday 27 - Thursday 30 July 2026

Please read through the Guidelines before applying

[Click here to submit a Note of Interest](#)

Innovation Studio empowers the RCS community by supporting creative experimentation, collaboration, and interdisciplinary work.

What is the Innovation Studio Staff Micro Residency?

The Innovation Studio Staff Micro Residency is an opportunity for staff members to step away from their busy schedules and connect with their own creative practice, as well as foster connections with others. It could offer the chance to:

- Explore solo research and experimentation.
- Develop an idea that you don't currently have space for.
- Take time away from your schedule to reflect on your practice and future plans.
- Peer to peer sharing on existing practices at RCS.
- Refresh your teaching practice and find new inspiration.

The staff residency is supported with a light programme to connect and guide you through the residency.

Who can apply?

The residency is open to staff who work at least 1 day a week at the Conservatoire (0.2 FTE or 7 hours per week). All staff are welcome, including teaching, research and professional services staff.

There are 8 places available on the Innovation Studio Staff Micro Residency.

This residency is for individual applicants. While collaborations may emerge during the residency, staff cannot apply to participate through joint applications.

Please note that if you were offered a place on the Innovation Studio Staff Micro Residency in October 2025 you are not eligible to apply for the residency in 2026. This is because there are limited spaces, and we want to ensure that all staff have an opportunity to participate.

RCS Work Commitments

We acknowledge that time constraints may be a barrier to participation. In order to free participant's time and avoid a pileup of work on their return, Innovation Studio will offset the costs for staff cover. This will need to be agreed between the participant and their line manager in advance.

Timeline

- Innovation Studio Staff Micro Residency opens Tuesday 14 April 2026.
- Note of Interest deadline: Monday 11 May 2026 at 17:00.
- Applicants will be notified by Thursday 14 May 2026.
- Successful Applicants will be asked to confirm their place and provide supporting information by Thursday 21 May at 17:00.

How to apply

If you would like to apply for the Staff Micro Residency, [please submit a Note of Interest here](#), before Monday **11 May 2026 at 17:00**.

Please note, as a requirement of our current funding, we report on Innovation Studio impact and engagement activities to the Scottish Government, UK Government and Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). Your submitted data in this Note of Interest is stored securely, compliant to the [RCS Data Protection Policy](#).

The form will ask you for:

- Name, contact info, confirmation that you work at least 7 hours per week at RCS, and confirmation that you can make all the dates of the residency.
- A few questions on your current employment status outwith RCS work.
- There is an option to select if you identify from a historically marginalised background.

At least 4 places will go to applicants who identify as being from a historically marginalised background:

- *People from the global majority and those from the global south.*
- *People from working class backgrounds.*
- *Those who are neurodiverse and/or disabled people.*
- *Members of the LGBTQIA+ community.*
- *Care-experienced people.*
- *Migrants.*
- *People who are or have been unhoused.*
- *Those with lived experience of the criminal justice system.*
- *Those who face barriers to opportunities due to mental health issues, substance misuse, and unpaid caring duties.*
- *Romany/travellers.*

All other data will be anonymised, and the attendees will be selected using random selection software.

Selected participants will be informed by 14 May 2026.

Participants will then be asked to fill out a form by 21 May 2026 to confirm attendance and answer the following:

- What they will focus on during their solo study.
- Areas of inspiration and interest.
- What group or solo activities you would find useful on the residency.
- Access requirements.
- Information for the participant handbook.

These will be followed up by a 1-2-1 meeting with Janine Matheson, the Innovation Studio Producer and a group meetup with all participants prior to the residency.

If you are not selected as a participant, you will be automatically added to a waiting list (ordered using random selection software). Please note that if a participant can no longer attend, you may still be offered a place, even if you are not initially selected.

For those who have been selected, we require successful applicants to confirm their acceptance within 7 days of the offer, otherwise the place will be opened to the waiting list.

Access

Innovation Studio team will work with participants to create a light programme that meets the needs of the group and organise any additional support needed to facilitate engagement with the residency.

For example, access provisions could look like:

- Childcare friendly working hours.
- Financial contribution to childcare costs.
- BSL interpretation.
- Hourly breaks.
- Visual guides to Hospitalfield.
- Breakout spaces.
- Language translation.
- Wearing of masks.
- Covid testing prior to attendance.

Hospitalfield Facilities

- Gender neutral toilet facilities.
- Main building is wheelchair accessible on the ground floor only.
- There are large, shared working spaces in the Music Room, Heritage Rooms (incl. Picture Gallery) situated in the Hospitalfield House, please note the upper floor where the Heritage rooms are situated are not wheelchair accessible.
- Studio spaces in the Digital Studios/ 1901 & PAF Studios are accessible.
- Participants will have opportunities for solo practice and research.

Accommodation

- There is accommodation at Hospitalfield for all attendees on the residency.
- Two rooms are wheelchair accessible.
- Accommodation will be single occupancy rooms with a double/single bed, two rooms with ensuite bathrooms, three separate bathrooms and shared kitchen facilities.

Travel

Travel to and from the Hospitalfield will be provided from RCS Renfrew Street. If preferred participants are also welcome to make their own way, there and travel costs will be reimbursed.

Background

In January 2024 Innovation Studio ran a 3-day staff residency at Cove Park, as part of the pilot programme. The Staff Residency was conceived and developed by our Innovators in Residence Lora Krasteva and Leonie Rae Gasson after a series of interviews with staff and graduates. They explored what innovation means to people and how the Innovation Studio could help them achieve their innovation goals. A consistent thread in these conversations highlighted having dedicated space and time for connection, research and peer exchange. The residency format created a much-needed space between the day-to-day work of staff and their longer-term interests. After overwhelming positive feedback, we are delighted to embed this opportunity as an integral part of Innovation Studio going forward.

About Hospitalfield

Dedicated to contemporary art and ideas, Hospitalfield is a place to work, study, learn, visit and enjoy. The mission of the Patrick Allan Fraser of Hospitalfield Trust is to provide the 'time' for artists to develop their work in the quiet surroundings of the Hospitalfield campus in the coastal town of Arbroath. In the mid-19th century, the vision for Hospitalfield was crystallised by the artist Patrick Allan Fraser and his wife Elizabeth. They were a progressive and radical couple in their time and, as per their bequest, Hospitalfield has been a place of learning for artists since 1902. The art college opening first as a residential academy and then in 1938 becoming a renowned post graduate painting school.

<https://hospitalfield.org.uk/>

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www.rcs.ac.uk/policy/privacy