

CHILDREN IN LOCKDOWN ARTIST COMMISSIONING

Stages Theatre Group
Supported by **KNH Sri Lanka**

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Stages Theatre Group, an artist company set up in 2000 to promote socially and politically challenging original Sri Lankan Theatre, is pleased to invite Sri Lankan artists to contribute artworks that address the challenges faced by Sri Lankan children on account of COVID 19.

CHILDREN IN LOCKDOWN is a commissioning project that supports artists to work with children helping them deal with the challenges of the pandemic, or helping adults understand what children are going through.

CHILDREN IN LOCKDOWN will commission artists to :-

1) **PRODUCE ARTWORKS**

(Eg - plays/ books/ articles/ artworks/ films/music/research)
on issues faced by 'children during the pandemic'

2) **CONDUCT WORKSHOPS**

for children or adults or institutions supporting children (schools/ children's homes/institutions) to help them respond to the challenges of the pandemic.

Important facts of the **CHILDREN IN LOCKDOWN** commissions

- This will be a **curated** project.
- The artworks have to be completed **within 2 – 6 months**.
- The commission amounts are **LKR - 100,000/= 300,000/= 500,000/=**
- **All Sri Lankan artists** are eligible to apply.
- **Child artists** are encouraged to apply.

What are the requirements?

- The project **must be artist-led**.
- **Children** can propose projects.
- Commissions will be given in the areas of **Theatre, Scripts, Film, Web Publishing, Translating, Performance Art, Visual Art, Painting and Sculpture, Fiction and Non-Fiction writing, Artistic Research and Music**.
- Commissions will also be given for the conducting of **Workshops** by artists. Artists are encouraged to take this opportunity to **produce new work**.
- Original work on the theme **already created and not made public** can be submitted.
- Artists will have to attend **one training programme** before the project and **one evaluation meeting** at the end of the project.
- Artists will have their work **documented**
- Artists will have to make their work **publicly available**.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1) **Initial submission of proposal – 5th March 2021**

You send us an initial *concept outline* sharing with us your idea and indicating the grant amount you are requesting (LKR 100,000/= 300,000/= or 500,000/=). This initial application can be in any medium (written word, picture, video etc).

Each application will be carefully reviewed by the curators. We will select you on the strength of your application, its uniqueness, creativity and sensitivity to children's issues during the pandemic.

We will be distributing a mix of big and small grants. You may be selected but you may not receive the amount you requested. You may receive less or you may receive more. You may be asked to expand your idea or limit it. This will be decided by the curators.

2) **Initial selection and zoom meeting (1st – 2nd week of March)**

If we are captured by your idea we will schedule an initial zoom meeting with you before the 12th of March. This will be our chance to understand the vision and passion behind your idea. It will also be your chance to get to know us better.

If you are selected at this point, you will be required to work a bit more on your application.

3) **Detailed submission of proposal (3rd week of March)**

For the second round of selections you will have to submit a more developed and structured concept note; tell us your artistic intention (why you want to do this project); and also identify who you want to work with (target groups), introduce us to your team/collaborators (if there are any); think through the timeline of the art work; and provide us with a rough breakdown of your budget. We will provide you formats for all of this.

This part of the selection process will be mainly determining how capable you are of delivering your idea. So you will be evaluated for your organising skills, your responsibility and your reliability.

4) **Final Commissioning announcement – (1st week of April)**

If we are happy with all this and if you feel you can work with us, we will then confirm you as an artist on the **CHILDREN IN LOCKDOWN** project.

Once you have been selected you will have one more zoom session with the curators to discuss your finalised project in detail, to agree to a timeline, to schedule regular meetings, and agree on the final artwork that will be produced.

Final output: All commissioned artists must provide one clear creative output for the public realm. There has to be a clear, agreed on final product which will be produced within the agreed timeline.

Final showcasing: All commissioned work will be represented in some way at the final showcasing event at the end of the project.

We hope that this opportunity will provide connections between artists and children and society and help us, as a community, to deal more creatively with our common challenges.

If you are an artist who wants to help children through this difficult time, we would very much like to hear from you.

Any questions please contact Piumi at stageslk@gmail.com

For more detailed information on this project please visit www.stages.lk