
Science in the City 2019 - Call for Proposals

Introduction

Science in the City, [European Researchers' Night](#), has established itself as one of Malta's largest national festivals and only science and arts festival hosted in Valletta. With over 30,000 visitors last year alone, it is a fantastic opportunity for scientists and artists to collaborate and get creative. We are a platform for art installations, exhibitions, music, comedy, theatre and the performing arts, which engage citizens with science. We're looking forward to your participation.

Our theme this year is, The Science of YOU. Proposals and participation outside this theme will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please get in touch BEFORE submission.

Important Dates

Deadline for proposal submission is by midnight 18 December 2018.

Applicants will be notified by end January 2019.

A Networking & Info session about the call, will be held on the 22 November at 6:30pm:

The Events Room,
Centre for Entrepreneurship and Business Incubation (CEBI),
Level 2, Dar Guzeppi Zahra,
University of Malta.

The festival will take place on the night of the 27th September, 2019. The events should preferably also be available for Notte Bianca 2019, the following week. The possibility of other locations on different dates can also be requested.

Project Proposals

In 2019, Science in the City will focus most of its activities on the theme The Science of YOU, celebrating each and every one of us. We want to use various art forms to engage new audiences with scientific research projects.

On the night of the 27 September, Valletta will be transformed into a space celebrating research around the Science of YOU theme. We are interested in performances, music, theatre, plays, stand-up comedy, exhibitions and art installations that are interactive, captivate the public's imagination and challenge their perspective of science. We are also

on the lookout for creative ways for researchers and students to communicate science to the public through innovative demonstrations, workshops, busking, quizzes, competitions, treasure hunts, tours, and possibly more.

Our Theme Explained

The Science of YOU theme is one that probes the science of human development. This theme aims to unveil how every scientific field is geared towards the advancement of the individual. Science creates knowledge and solves problems, it gives us the power to take decisions and shapes our daily actions. It defines who we are by giving us options, affecting the way we think about ourselves, others and the environment.

This edition of Science in the City (SITC), will engage with people on genetics, medicine, communication, linguistics, cognitive science, transport, arts, food, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, cloud computing, nanotechnology, synthetic biology and a host of other topics that sustain you today and shape YOU tomorrow.

The reverse is also true. We are living in an age, when scientists try to solve the repercussions of human activity. Scientific and technical innovation have caused a number of effects we are dealing with today. We are looking for projects that help us inquire how personal demographics or the "WHO", effects every phenomena of interest such as marketing, the environment, culture, industrialisation, warfare, terrorism, migration, material sciences, market failure, and decision science, which are just a few examples.

Below are some ideas on possible concepts to base science and arts interactive artworks and activities:

- Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain and other digital technologies towards secure and effective personalised healthcare
- How humanity uses language and the future of language. Language reflects and shapes who we are. It can also help us become who we want to be.
- A exploratory investigation on what makes you YOU from genetics to cognitive neuroscience, from social influences to the things you consume.
- Your own ideas (SITC prefers if you contact us with the core idea beforehand).

Who can apply?

This fund is open to individuals, artists, curators, musicians, performers, groups, organisations and NGOS.

It focuses on the production of an artistic project which has innovation, interactivity, quality and the creative communication of a scientific research concept from the Science of YOU theme, through the arts. This fund encourages projects which are experimental, innovative, interactive and those which attract new, as well as established audiences to the Science and Arts Festival.

The following are not eligible to apply for a budget from the fund, however they can still submit proposals to be part of the festival:

- Organisations/Activities receiving public funds through established line-votes,
- Projects of an intrinsically self-sustainable nature,
- Projects submitted without the collaboration of a scientist,
- Activities which are not related to culture, arts, science and the creative industries,
- Activities whose objective is fundraising or political propaganda,
- Operational costs required for the day-to-day running of an organisation,
- Projects submitted by public entities with or without a line vote,
- Companies with a significant turnover.

Getting in touch

If you are interested in further details please get in touch.

Proposal applications can be filled in on <http://scienceinthecity.org.mt/apply-now/> or directly at <https://goo.gl/forms/hfgkiG1RBWOIGSI83>

Applications should be filled in by midnight 22 December 2018.

For more information contact:

Edward Duca (edward.duca@um.edu.mt; Mob: 9923 9974)

Karen Fiorini (karen.fiorini@um.edu.mt; Mob: 9986 8348)

For more information about the festival please check: <http://scienceinthecity.org.mt/>

Networking & Information session

If you have a good idea but are not sure who to collaborate with, the SITC consortium is organising a Networking & Info session on the 22 November at 6:30pm at the events room, level 2, TAKEOFF Business Incubator, University of Malta, Msida Campus.

You can also come to the session to learn more about the festival, ask us questions directly or submit an appeal to collaborate with others even if you don't have an idea.

Appendix - GUIDELINES

Applications can be downloaded here: <http://scienceinthecity.org.mt/apply-now/>

Aims of the festival

1. To show how science is part of everyday life and that researchers are human beings with an extraordinary job. Researchers in Malta are having a positive effect on daily life.
2. Science can be fun, interesting and exciting, and can lead to a rewarding career for both genders
3. To develop art inspired by a scientific concept or idea, especially local research. Researchers should be consulted, preferably having an active role in the project. The consortium will help with contacts and networking. For networking please attend our info session on: the 22 Novemeber (6:30pm) at University or contact us directly.
4. To develop interactive science-inspired art which engages with citizens.

Selection Criteria

Proposals that are in line with the theme are given preference.

- **Scientific value (25 points):** the extent to which the artwork is well grounded in, or inspired by science. Scientists must be involved in the proposal. Applicants will score well only if they include both the artist and the scientist at proposal stage;
- **Innovation and creativity (20 points):** must involve a novel concept and a creative way of engaging the audience and communicating the concept;
- **External sources of funding (10):** preference will be given to those applicants who have sought other sources of funding to compliment the Science in the City fund, or who show;
- **Cost efficiency (20):** how cost-effective is the proposal? Are costs complete? Are quotes provided? Administrative costs will not be covered by the fund. Project management costs cannot exceed 10% of requested fund;
- **Reach (15):** how many people will the artwork be able to engage with?
- **Engagement (20):** Is the artwork interactive for participants?
- **Venue (5):** is the venue of the activity or area the artwork can be placed already been identified? Is it within or close to the festival area (streets and buildings from Triton Fountain to St George's Square).

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- **Transportability (5):** How easy is the artwork to transport to Valletta and other places? Has a plan how to do so been thought out?
 - **Permanence (5):** Can the artwork be reused or placed permanently afterwards in another location?

Budget

For installation artworks, the maximum budget allocation will be of €3,000, including VAT. Performances and other activities will be allocated a maximum budget of €1,500 including VAT.

Should a larger budget be required for your ideas, the Science in the City team will assist in the sourcing of outside funding to help support the project. This will only apply to proposals which have been successful during evaluation.

Values of Science in the City

Science, art, creativity, technology, education, entertainment, quality and excellence, interactive, engagement with the people.

Target audiences

Children, teenagers, families, adults, pensioners.

Location

Located in Valletta, preferably in the streets and buildings between Triton Fountain/Castille Square to St George's square.