



Harmony Associates Northern Bridge Collaborative Doctoral Awards

We are looking for outstanding candidates interested in fully-funded doctoral projects in collaboration with artists' co-operative Harmony Associates, based in the far North of England.

[Harmony Associates](#) is an artists' co-operative consisting of independent artist practitioners working together to bring about the vision of a society where creativity is a key part of everyone's everyday experience. Founded by a *capella* quartet [Mouthful](#) (Bex Mather, Dave Camlin, Katherine Zeserson, Sharon Durant), its members include UK and international artists, teachers and cultural managers from across the international performing arts and cultural sector.

Harmony Associates is a practice-led organisation, and its current members specialise in music, theatre, arts education, advocacy and consultation. Current projects include group singing in many guises, musician training, music education, Community Music.

Harmony Associates is a research-active organisation, with current projects including AHRC- and ACE-funded research, as well as recent publications by individual members featuring in UK and Irish policy initiatives, OUP Handbooks, academic journals and numerous international conferences.

To take advantage of this opportunity you will:

- be a resident of UK or EU
- be seeking to begin a PhD in October 2019
- have an outstanding academic record, including (in most cases) a master's degree either in hand or shortly to be completed or relevant professional experience
- have an interest in working on a doctoral project in collaboration with Harmony Associates, in one or more of the areas listed below.

We welcome applications for a Collaborative Doctoral Award from individuals with practical experience in the field of cultural production - as practitioners, producers and / or managers - in the following research areas:

Participatory Arts / Cultural Democracy:

We invite applications for PhD studies which explore aspects of cultural participation, especially approaches which champion Cultural Democracy, Everyday Creativity and / or Artistic Citizenship, and which challenge or question assumptions about the way that public funds are used to support cultural participation.

Interdisciplinary Arts:

We invite applications for PhD studies which explore the boundaries of arts disciplines within the broad sphere of cultural participation, including music, theatre and other performing arts as well as other forms of socially-engaged arts practice e.g. visual arts.

Creative Practice:

We invite applications for PhD studies via creative practice in any art form, using the wider activity of the Harmony Associates artists' co-operative as a basis for the research dimension of the project. There may also be the potential to present a creative output as part of Harmony Associates regular programme of events, or conduct artistic workshops to enhance your practice or extend your research.

Artist Networks

We invite applications for PhD studies which seek to understand the role that 'grass roots' networks of artists like Harmony Associates can play within a broader ecology of cultural participation, and how the tensions which exist between individual practice-based knowledge and institutionalised forms of knowledge inter-relate and co-exist within the field of cultural production.

How to register interest in a Partnership Award with us:

Potential applicants are asked to select one they would like to pursue, and **contact Dr Annie Tindley** (Annie.Tindley@newcastle.ac.uk), to discuss ideas. They will then submit a project summary which will undergo an initial assessment in November 2018. Projects selected at that point will be supported into the main competition.

We welcome interest from all Arts & Humanities disciplines and those with interdisciplinary ideas. Within the broad outlines of these projects, potential applicants are encouraged to develop their own emphasis and approach.