

Designer-In-Residence Programme at The Digital Hub
Open Call

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2. Overview – Context

The Digital Hub is offering an exciting and unique residency opportunity to an innovative designer. The residency is to be for **six months commencing in May 2024**. The designer is to be based at The Digital Hub which is located in an historic quarter of Ireland's capital city Dublin and should be available for a regular presence onsite.

The Designer-in-Residence programme presents a one-of-a-kind opportunity for forward-thinking designers to merge their expertise with the extensive Digital Hub ecosystem of enterprise, research, creative and technological organisations and individuals. The theme of this residence call is **health and wellbeing**. This initiative aims to enable designers to engage in real-world projects, ground-breaking research, and interdisciplinary collaborations.

Throughout the residency, the chosen designer will work in close partnership with both [The Digital Hub](#) with the support of the [National College of Art and Design](#) (NCAD), bringing their unique perspective, inventive ideas, and pioneering approaches to challenges in health, wellbeing and wearable technology. The residency offers an immersive experience, complete with access to cutting-edge facilities and networking within The Digital Hub's dynamic ecosystem.

The residency provides an experienced designer with an opportunity to work within an innovative environment and to engage with a community of innovators, creatives and entrepreneurs as well as with the vibrant local community and ecosystem of Dublin.

Closing date for Expressions of Interest is **19th April 2024**.

3. Scope, Nature and deliverables of the Residency

The Designer-in-Residence programme is a unique endeavour that offers a wide-ranging scope and a dynamic nature.

The selected Designer-in-Residence will be an integral part of a transformative collaboration between The Digital Hub and NCAD. His/her/their role will encompass a range of expectations and deliverables that contribute to the programme's success and the advancement of fields such as health, wellbeing, wearable technology, and creative innovation.

The nature of the residency will evolve from the successful applicant's programme proposal, and The Digital Hub takes an open and flexible approach in this regard.

The residency will entail:

- Design Exploration and Innovation:

The selected designer will collaborate with The Digital Hub ecosystem to explore cutting-edge solutions at the intersection of health, wellbeing, and design.

Collaborate with companies, research and partner activities in The Digital Hub with the support of the NCAD design team to initiate, develop, and execute innovative design projects that address real-life challenges in health and wellbeing.

- Events Curation and Community Building:

The selected designer will also have the role of events curator and will orchestrate gatherings, seminars and / or workshops around health and wellbeing. The selected designer will engage with fellow designers, technologists, researchers, and the public to spark discussions, share insights, and foster a sense of community within the health and wellbeing innovation ecosystem.

- Collaborative Research and Learning:

The selected designer will participate in collaborative research projects that challenge traditional boundaries. The designer will work alongside researchers, students, and industry professionals to push the envelope of design, technology, health and wellbeing.

The designer may also play a role in contributing to the range of learning and skills programmes delivered in The Digital Hub by a range of partners.

While there is no set amount of time required from the designer, a regular presence on the campus of at least one day per week or equivalent is expected across the full term of the residency.

4. What are the objectives of the Residency Programme?

The Digital Hub's objectives in offering of this residency are:

- To provide time, space and resources for a designer to develop their practice and skills.
- To explore possibilities arising at the intersections of health, wellbeing, design and technological innovation.
- To offer collaborative and networking opportunities for a designer in the area of health, wellbeing, technology and innovation.
- To broaden the range of residency contexts for artists, technologists and designers.

The Designer-in-Residence programme supported by The Digital Hub Development Agency (DHDA) with the support of the National College of Art and Design (NCAD), is driven by a set of well-defined objectives that encompass collaborative innovation, cocreation with users, and maximising positive societal impact in the short, medium and longer term.

5. Residency Offer, Support and Fees

The residency offers a unique opportunity for the selected designer to work within an innovative startups environment and to engage with a community of technologists, creatives, innovators, academics and entrepreneurs.

The resident designer will receive:

- Office/studio space on The Digital Hub campus.
- Access to The Digital Hub facilities including 24/7 and on-site parking.
- A fee of €13,000.
- A budget of up to €2000 to support project related costs.
- Access to a cutting-edge community in the field of innovation and technologies as well as to the vibrant Dublin 8 community.
- Access to networking opportunities with innovators, creatives and entrepreneurs.
- The support of the DHDA staff to broker introductions with innovative startups and the Dublin 8 ecosystem.

Feedback and communication is important to The Digital Hub and the selected designer will participate in regular meetings with The Digital Hub team to evaluate the residency and how well it meets the objectives of all.

Also, the designer will collaborate with The Digital Hub in the promotion and public dissemination of the residency.

6. Application Process

To apply for the Designer-in-Residence programme, please submit the following documents to info@thedigitalhub.com by 19th April 2024:

- Updated CV highlighting your experience and achievements.
- A portfolio showcasing your most relevant projects.
- A cover letter explaining your interest in the programme, a high-level project plan with deliverables and highlight how you would contribute to The Digital Hub community.

7. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be given priority based on the following:

- Quality of the proposal in response to the residency brief.
- Strength of the proposed process and outline programme.
- Demonstration of a track record that is relevant to the residency opportunity.
- The level of engagement proposed and demonstration that the designer will fully exploit the opportunity and contribute to the dynamic of The Digital Hub.

Following receipt of applications, a shortlist will be compiled for interview.

Interviews will be held at The Digital Hub in late April 2024.

8. Eligibility

We welcome applications from designers who possess:

- A background in health and wellbeing.
- Proven experience in applying design thinking methodologies to real-world challenges.
- Proficiency in relevant design software and emerging technologies.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work in a collaborative environment.
- A passion for pushing the boundaries of creativity and technology.

Resident in Ireland/Europe.

The designer must be available to commence and undertake the residency from May 2024 and to have a regular presence on site at The Digital Hub.

9. General Conditions

Late submissions will not be accepted.

All materials submitted should be clearly labelled with the applicant's name and contact details.

The selection panel, whose decision is final, has the right to clarify any issue which may arise in the course of selection.

Designers may be asked to supply the names and contact details of referees as part of the selection process.

The Digital Hub reserves the right not to award commissions and in this instance reserves the right to pursue other selection processes.

Submissions will not be returned

10. Terms and Conditions

The Digital Hub will not insure equipment belonging to the designer or their associates.

The designer must undertake an induction covering The Digital Hub procedures, events management requirements and adhere The Digital Hub Health & Safety guidelines.

The designer will be responsible for the security of their personal property on The Digital Hub campus.

The appointed designer will have to supply an up-to-date tax clearance certificate prior to signing of contract and for the duration of the commission.

Applicants should note that fees awarded are VAT inclusive, (whether VAT liability lies with the designer or the Commissioner).

Non-resident designers from EU and non-EU countries must be aware of any tax or VAT implications arising from the commission and ensure that any costs arising from this are included in their budget.