



PiE Advisory Council Call Out

As part of our ACE Emergency Funding received in May 2020, Maketank has embarked on an initiative to facilitate a performance network to help artists face changes afoot. The need for a more robust network in Exeter, and in fact on the Peninsula, has been front and centre in multiple conversations and gatherings we've attended and held over the last few years, since the closure of Bike Shed theatre. We are conceiving the network as a membership platform that will provide connectivity and exchange to develop practice as well as support structures for artist's livelihoods. A network is only as robust as its connections. We, therefore, are seeking advice and support in the form of an Advisory Council to help us shape this network to assure that comprehensive input is embedded into its ecosystem.

An Advisory Council will play a crucial part in advising and supporting PiE Founding Directors, who will be forming an independent CIC entity. Advisory Council will be a group of people who are external to the network, who meet to offer advice on opportunities and issues identified. The Council will consist of qualified, knowledgeable members who are intrinsically motivated by PiE's [mission and vision](#). It will serve as a sounding board, offering ideas and expertise and giving honest advice. Above all, it will be enthusiastic about mentoring and have a genuine interest in seeing PiE grow and develop.

It is a 24 months commitment to meet every third month regularly. The overarching function will be in identifying opportunities, investigating and discussing them, and proposing solutions and recommendations for the directors to take.

Our goal is to create a wider knowledge base to learn from rather than a single industry-specific consortium. We are open to applications from a wide range of sectors besides arts and culture, especially we are interested in health and wellbeing, diversity and inclusion, education, technology, human-led design, community development, social services, city development and planning, environmental sustainability, journalism, publicity and PR, marketing, and more.

We specifically looking for individuals who can:

- advocate for PiE programme locally and nationally and increase its visibility
- provide informed input as we plan new activities or develop policies and procedures
- inform PiE of any upcoming funding opportunities
- identify potential partners and supporters
- recommend mentors, speakers, workshop leaders for programming activities
- assist with local strategies alignment (ECC, local NPOs, LEP, University of Exeter, Exeter College, etc.)
- serve as links between other regional networks (Theatre Bristol, CAMP, etc) to increase cultural awareness and impact
- offer one-to-one mentoring and consultation to PiE directors if needed

The responsibilities of Advisory Council members are to:

- Attend at least two meetings per year, each held on a weekday from 8:00 am to 9:45 am (current proposed time, subject to change based on Council members' preference)
- Contribute your expertise and thinking to the current and future work of PiE
- Be available for three to four one-on-one calls (zoom or phone) each year from one of the directors seeking advice (up to 20 min)
- Allow PiE to publish your name as a member of the Advisory Council

Please note, PiE Advisory Council does not have fiscal oversight and is not ultimately responsible for the health and well-being of the network, but members can take an active role in helping PiE implement its goals and objectives.

In return, PiE promises you:

- A delicious breakfast four times a year (or a special delivery in the mail), and meetings that start and end on time
- A complimentary PiE events access during your term on the Advisory Council
- An appreciation of your time and a commitment not to abuse your time or your generosity
- When you join an advisory board, networking occurs naturally. You'll meet plenty of like-minded individuals with goals and challenges similar to yours who can also help you grow your own organisation or your own practice. It is an opportunity to expand your 'people' base while serving a mission.

How to apply

Please send the following to apply@performanceinexeter.org, with the subject "Advisory Council expression of interest".

- A short email statement or video stating that you would like to be a PiE Advisory Council member, and detailing the ways you would like to actively contribute to PiE and what excites you about the role (max 300 words / 2 minutes if video)
- A CV (up to 2 pages)

NB: If you would like to nominate someone else, and would like us to contact them, please send us through their full name, and whether or not you'd like to be mentioned when we approach them.

We seek applications from people of all backgrounds and experiences, and are actively encouraging applications from Black and Global Majority and/or disabled applicants.

If you would like to use video for your expression of interest, please upload your video to a sharing site such as Vimeo or Youtube, or on your own website. If it is password protected, please send the password. Please don't send the actual video file.

If there is anything we can do to make this role more accessible and meet specific needs, please let us know. And if you would like to have an informal chat about the role with one of our current steering group members before applying, please contact us at apply@performanceinexeter.org.

How will the PiE Advisory Council members be selected?

PiE will set up a video/phone interview (or meet in person if social distancing is eased further) with everyone who sends in an expression of interest. It will be an opportunity to talk through the role and get a sense of how we might be able to work together.

When will I be notified, and how soon would I need to start?

- The deadline for expressions of interest is **August 23rd, 2021 midnight**, and we'll be aiming to talk to you within 1 week of receiving your email.
- Start date - September 20, 2021

Contact Information

If you have any questions about the role, about sending your expression of interest or about PiE, please contact apply@performanceinexeter.org.

BACKGROUND:

WHERE DOES MAKETANK'S IDEA OF A NETWORK STEM FROM?

// We believe that local networks play an important role in learning, exchanging practice and knowledge, sharing opportunities, improving artist retention, strengthening livelihoods, and shaping the local creative ecology and city's identity.

// We believe that the ecology of our performing and live arts sector is a particular habitat in which we imagine, try out, rehearse, devise and share the vital, relevant performance materials filled with emotional meaning, surprise, and candor. This ecology includes makers of all walks of life and their purposeful interactions not only with their audiences, but with their neighborhoods, districts, and with the local and national arts and culture policy makers.

// We think of a healthy ecosystem as an environment in which performance makers interact with each other in effective and creative ways, in which their personal and collective agency is practiced, and their environments are flourishing.

// When we speak of performance makers, we embrace a multitude of forms such as theatre, live art, experimental music, dance, performance writing, playwriting, dramaturgy, performance poetry, scenography, expanded film and video, cabaret, performance with digital systems, game based and immersive events, site responsive and site specific interventions, performance in public spaces, participatory and social practice... and more.

WHAT ARE THE MAKETANK'S AIMS IN RELATION TO PIE?

- < To strengthen CONNECTIVITY and RETENTION of artists in Exeter
- < To bridge the gaps in INFORMATION accessibility

< To foster grassroots CIVIC ENGAGEMENT with current developments in the cultural sector

< To create a platform supporting local artists LIVELIHOOD through paid opportunities

< To cultivate a distinctive body of HIGH QUALITY WORK in Exeter

< To create A SAFE SPACE to ask difficult questions and challenge assumptions