



# **City to City: Human Responsibility, Call for Artists**

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# Call Summary

The cities of Austin (United States), Braga (Portugal), Calí (Colombia), Changsha (China), Guadalajara (México), Karlsruhe (Germany), Kosice (Slovakia), Sapporo (Japan), Viborg (Denmark) and York (United Kingdom), members of the Media Arts Cluster of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network are launching an open call to mark their commitment with the importance of cooperation and support to art and creativity as a major force for the sustainable development in these times of uncertainty.

The call is for artists from the participating cities to develop a project relying on an online artistic collaboration that is aligned to Kosice's key media art event- the Art & Tech Days 2020 festival theme "Human Responsibility".

The artwork will be showcased during Kosice's Art & Tech Days and through the participating cities platforms.

## About the UCCN Media Arts Cluster

As UNESCO Creative Cities we are committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals especially the role of creativity and culture in building sustainable urban communities. As Cities of Media Arts we aim to 1. Promote excellence of practice in media arts 2. Share our knowledge and skills 3. Encourage the engagement of the public and other professions in creativity 4. Foster sector development and 5. Raise the profile of the work of UNESCO Creative Cities.

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# Artwork Theme

Since the industrial revolution, there is an ongoing debate on how technology and constant progress influence the way we live as a society. How it defines our relationship with the environment and our planet. In the last hundred years, we as humans have experienced exponential progress in economic and social development which represents an unprecedented leap in the whole history of our species. This comes with great achievements such as the increase in our lifespan and literacy, poverty decrease, improved global interconnectedness, urbanization, internet, nanotechnologies, AI, VR, you can name it.

But at the same time, constant growth in limited conditions on Earth has led to many negative consequences. We exploit more resources than we can sustain, there is a rise in inequalities, many living species got extinct, climate change, fake news, the rise of surveillance, and so on.

It is our role as humans to take responsibility for all the domains we have intervened with and conquered to find a sustainable and resilient way to live fulfilled and prosperous lives as a global society while sharing our precious planet and protecting all the life and beauty it accommodates.

## **Critical questions:**

- Does technology have the ability to solve all the problems in the future?
  - Do we need more arts and empathy to be able to use technology in better and more responsible ways?
  - Are we allowed to make decisions on behalf of the planet?
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# Artwork characteristics & Budget

- Budget per city (1,000 Euros)
- Equipment available at Art & Tech Days exhibition: Kosice can provide VR headset, kinect, computer, camera if needed.
- Media Arts field

## **Piece to be co-produced:**

- 1 Digital piece per team (made up by two artists from two cities)
- Making-of video about the processes
- Online collaboration \*Artists should be aware that they might be in contact in different time zones
- Characteristics to be able to share in digital platforms of all UCCN cities
- Self sustainable, as simple as possible

## Eligibility

Artists/groups/creative artists from eligible cities: (Austin (United States), Braga (Portugal), Calí (Colombia), Changsha (China), Guadalajara (México), Karlsruhe (Germany), Kosice (Slovakia), Sapporo (Japan), Viborg (Denmark) and York (United Kingdom)).

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# Evaluation Criteria and Selection Process

The selection of an artist, or artist team, shall be based on their qualifications and ability to meet the requirements as determined and approved by the focal points of the participating Media Arts cities.

The team of international media arts professionals will review and consider the following evaluation criteria:

- Artistic merit and technical expertise with artwork that incorporates media arts;
  - Demonstrated innovative, and effective approach to art projects of a similar scope;
  - Ability to create artwork within the stated constraints; and
  - Ability to respond to the theme/prompt
  - Ability and interest in developing a collaborative digital art work (as illustrated through the letter of interest)
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# Submission requirements

- Application format (GOOGLE FORM)
- Portfolio, CV, website/online presence, if applicable
- Letter of interest:
  - Describe interest in co-creation with an artist from another Media Arts city
  - Describe any potential visions for a collaborative digital artwork you are interested in creating with the reference to the call's theme HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY
  - List a specific city/artist/medium they are interested in collaborating with (i.e. if you work primarily Augmented Reality and are curious about collaborating with someone who works in Sound Art)

## Schedule / Important dates

Launch: 2 September

Deadline for reception of proposals: 25 September, 14:00 CEST

Evaluation/Selection: 28 September to 2 October

Announcement of selections: 5 October

Artists acceptance: 7 October

Presentation of teams: 8 October

Development of piece: 15 October - 15 November

Presentation of the piece: November 24th-29th

## Contact

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