



Open Position: Now Play This Festival Director

Now Play This is an annual festival of experimental games, game design and playful arts that has taken place in Somerset House for the last eight years. We are looking for a new director or directorial team to lead the festival into its next phase. Now Play This has always taken a broad approach to experimental games, showing work from game designers alongside that of interaction designers, performers, architects, poets – anyone using play and game design at the heart of their work.

Each edition of the festival explores a particular theme, and we have tended to show existing and historical work alongside upcoming and commissioned work. You would be working with our experienced production team, our collaborators at Somerset House, and our funders to bring together an exhibition of games around a focused theme, and a programme of events such as talks and workshops running alongside. We have developed several audiences, serving practitioners; young, culturally engaged gallery-goers; and families. We've always been proud of our mix of both knowledgeable games audiences and visitors who are brand new to the work, and will keep championing this inclusive attitude to games.

Responsibilities

- Leading direction of the festival going forward, planning thematic and formal focus of Now Play This and its public programmes.
- Leading curation of the festival, the commissions programme and written interpretation
- Acting as the public face of the festival, working closely with PR teams at Somerset House, Games London and Ukie to reach new and existing audiences
- Working with our existing funders and developing additional funding streams
- Developing the professional community around the festival - Working closely with Somerset House, Games London and other partners

Practicalities

- This is not a full time, salaried role. January to April is the busy period, plus funding planning from August to October but there is flexibility to fit round other projects
- It will be necessary to be in London during core periods & for meetings
- Remuneration may flex depending on the final funding, and the scale of the festival proposed, but is expected to be £7-9.5k
- We are open to applications from individuals or creative partnerships/small teams, but do not have the flexibility to increase overall funding for this role



How to apply

Email jobs@nowplaythis.net with a CV of relevant experience, a covering letter, plus three examples of pieces you would propose to show, and three examples of artists you would want to commission.

Now Play This supports equal opportunities and welcomes applications regardless of age, gender, race, faith, sexual orientation, social background or disability. If you have any questions regarding the application, please contact Nick: nick@nowplaythis.net

Closing date for applications is 5pm BST on Tuesday 28th February

Interviews will be held over the course of March in two stages:

- An initial conversation, held online
- A follow up interview, held in person as far as possible

We would aim to inform the successful applicant(s) by the end of March so that they could attend the 2023 festival.