



## Arts and Technology Pilot Programme - Expression of Interest

### Organisation details

What is the name of your organisation?

Makerversity

What is your full address?

We will use this address if we need to write to you. This should be your main trading address.

Full postcode

WC2R 1LA

Address name or number

Somerset House

Street

Strand

Locality

Town / city

LONDON

County

Non UK Address

☐

Which Arts Council region are you based in?

London

Organisation's email address

### Main contact details

As you are completing this form for an organisation, give the following details for the main contact person:

First name

Ursula

Middle name

Last name

Davies

Position

Managing Director

Phone number, including area code

Mobile number

Email address

xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Textphone

Fax number

## Tell us about your idea

Describe your idea in no more than 300 words using the following prompts:

1. **Readiness to operate a new support programme working across arts and technology.**
2. **Evidence of potential cohort of people and businesses.**
3. **Evidence of particular need or context, which will add value in the testing of the model.**
4. **Track record of working across arts and technology over the last 2-3 years.**
5. **The capacity of agencies to have systems and processes in place to both receive grant funds, and also to act as grant administrators.**

Makerversity is a pioneering community of over 60 emerging creative, technology-led businesses (150 individuals) based at Somerset House in London. We offer affordable studio, event and fabrication spaces and prototyping tools to our members as well as programming and creating our own creative content. Our partners include Autodesk, Pearson, Princes Trust, Nesta, V and A, Barbican and British Council.

We have three objectives:

- Supporting the best emerging maker businesses at the intersection of design, technology and art.
- Inspiring next generation of creative, practical minds.
- Bringing making and creative output back into the city

Our goals align strongly with those of this pilot programme. Our initial focus has been on providing the right space/facilities to our members and building our community. We are now focusing on building the right support ecosystem for our unique community who combine great technical/creative abilities with business ambition, but who often lack the skills/experience to fulfil their potential. We have developed a strong understanding of the challenges/business journeys of early stage maker businesses with experimental practices, which we could contribute to this programme. Our biggest challenge is in the front-end funding required for iterative development to develop genuinely impactful support initiatives to encourage pioneering creative and technological practice within this emerging economic context.

We are a start up ourselves, set up in 2013, with a team of 6 FTE and are an independently sustainable business. We recently ran a £20k prize fund to support a crowdfunding campaign for our members. Our MD has previously run incubator and grant funding programmes with value of £2 million for Design Council & TSB.

Somerset House are a key strategic partner and we are aware that they have also applied for this programme. We would collaborate closely with them should we be successful.

If you have not given us all of the information we need, we will take you back to the relevant pages and ask you to amend or add information.