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designers from Europe



κBulgaria

ECHO Academies Project is calling for proposals from young fashion designers who are residents in the EU and the Western Balkans to be part of a hybrid academy, 5 – 26 October 2023, held online and in Smolyan town, Bulgaria.

The Academy in Bulgaria is looking for **10 individuals** who will develop artworks and create proposals for their development as pilot projects. Participants of the Academy will be inspired by the **reuse and reinterpretation of the beatiness of Bulgarian folklore costumes of Rhodopes region.**

Artworks will be visual elements such as **sketches of design collections of clothes, shoes, jewellery and/or accessories.** The artworks will be presented in an exhibition in the town of Smolyan, and in an online art-shop.

The Academy will be held between **5–26 October 2023 in a hybrid form:**

- 5–18 October online
- 20–26 October in Smolyan town, Bulgaria

At the end of Academy, there will be an Award Ceremony, where a judging committee will decide upon **3 winners that will be working on their pilot projects afterwards at their home country** in collaboration with Open Space foundation and a local micro-organisation.

The project implementation phase ends in **2024 Autumn with an Open Event in the place of residency of the winners.**

Eligibility

- Legal residents in the countries within the Creative Europe framework and non-EU countries of the Western Balkans
- Those with skills in **fashion design**
- Young and emerging creatives between **18 and 35**
- Good **English** language communication skills

What is provided

The **accommodation and travel expenses, and the per diem costs** of the selected creatives are supported during their stay in Smolyan town.

The 3 winning projects will receive:

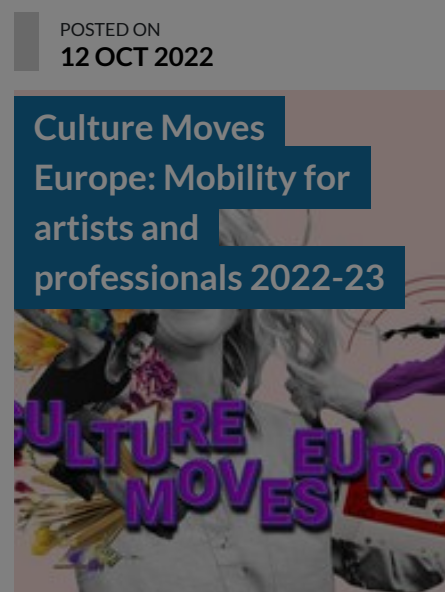
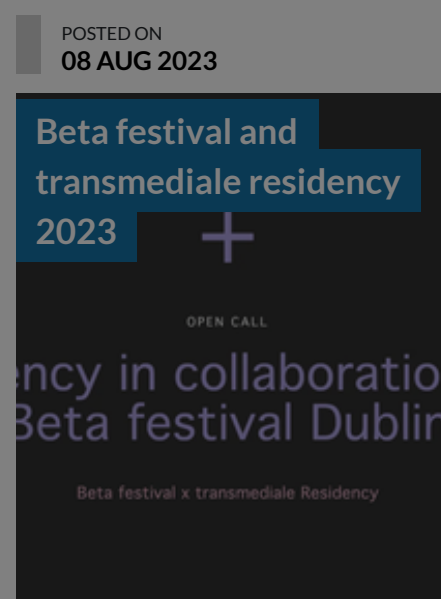
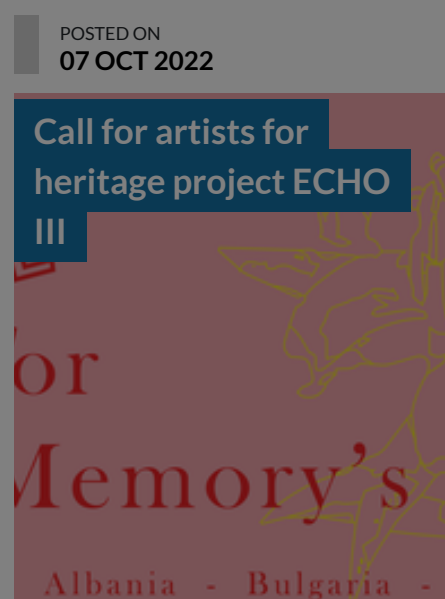
- An **award** (1,000 EUR, 2,000 EUR or 3000 EUR)
- **Project implementation costs** (1,000 EUR for the creative individual and 1,000 EUR for each local micro-organisation).

[ECHO Academies Project application guidelines](#)

Deadline: 8 September 2023

ECHO Academies Project is a Creative Europe project coordinated by Inter Alia and coordinated for Bulgaria by Open Space foundation.

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