

Call for artists -

AI4future is searching for 4 artists to work at an AI-based artwork in collaboration with young European activists to foster new urban community awareness.

Sineglossa (Italy), Lemongrass - Espronceda (Spain), V2_Lab for the unstable Media (Netherlands), MEET (Italy), Sardegna Teatro (Italy), co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of The European Union, launch a call for artists in behalf of “Artificial Intelligence for Future”, an international network of Urban Labs that aims to connect artists, young activists, cultural organizations, public administrations, and research centers in order to explore how digital creativity can contribute to relevant social challenges.

Mobility is the topic of this very first series of Urban Labs.

Mobility is a polysemic word. In 1969 two major events occurred, the first moon landing gateway for extraterrestrial mobility and the first exchange of data between two long-distance computers. From then on the web became a relevant seed for globalization and a new way of understanding mobility. But mobility in a globalized world and in the way we experience it now, carries some undesirable implications and many failures in understanding our ecosystem, as the Covid pandemic has shown us. AI4FUTURE wants to redefine the way we understand mobility through the collaboration with the younger generation involved in the shaping of our collective future.

AI4Future Partners share an interest in boosting arts towards social challenges. For their part, artists need a medium to reach policymakers, both at the local and global level. This medium can be represented by new technologies, in particular artificial intelligence.

In recent years, Artificial Intelligence has been implemented in a number of fields functional to daily life: from those that simulate the cognitive abilities of the human being (image recognition, language automation, etc.) to the management of civil and social life (home automation, banking, self-driving vehicles, etc.) up to the economic and political organization (remote surveillance, privacy, impact on the world of work 4.0, health management, disinformation techniques, control over fundamental rights, etc.).

AI4Future intends to show how artificial intelligence, which allows the collection, interpretation and display of large amounts of data, can be a tool at the service of artists and activists to address the cultural and social changes of our time.

For this reason, we have involved young activists from each city, in order to define with them the range of mobility that will be the stimulus for presenting residency projects.

The challenges

Each residency tackles a specific challenge.

Please, discover the themes, the cultural centers and the challenges by clicking on the following links:

- [AI and Gender Inequality issues \(Rotterdam\)](#)
- [AI and community mobilization in public spaces \(Sardinia\)](#)
- [AI and the future of physical and social mobility \(Milan\)](#)
- [AI, phygital worlds and digital barriers \(Barcelona\)](#)

Who can apply and how

Individual or collective artists from Europe. Entry is free for artists, no fees needed to apply. To apply click here docs.google.com

What we expect

Artists working with AI technologies, interested in working, during an artistic residency, with young activists at a tangible artwork **that the local communities can then adopt to advocate their vision of mobility.**

The artwork must consider both the theme and the context that will host it.

In the application, it is necessary to specify only one city and the related cultural center / group of activists the artist wants to work with.

There are no limits about the medium/material chosen to present the works, even published works are accepted.

Recovery and usage of data

Selected artworks will make use of data that could be either already existing or produced by the artworks.

To demonstrate the viability of your project, it is highly recommended to have a clear outline of the data you will require, including feasible strategies to access existing data, both technically and legally, if necessary for the artwork.

The open-source publication of the data sets used or of the program code is not a requirement but projects stressing on fairness, accountability, and transparency in the machine learning models will be preferred.

What we offer

Selected artists will receive a grant of 10.000 € (including fee, materials, travel and subsistence costs) to create or develop an AI-based artwork during a residency in one of the 4 cities involved in the project (Barcelona, Rotterdam, Milan, Cagliari), from February to June 2022. In the same period, partners will organize for the artists travels to the other 3 European cities, to meet and share their work with communities, activists and artists engaged in the AI4Future network.

Jury and selection process

Given the ecosystemic nature of the project, the jury in charge of the artists' selection will be made of experts from different fields and young activists.

The scientific committee will make the first selection, identifying a shortlist of best projects, which will be presented during an online session to the jury and the activists.

Each cultural center together with the activists will choose the projects that will be granted.

The judgment of the committee is unquestionable.

Additional information material and available works could be required for the finalists who want to attend the artistic residency and the exhibition.

The scientific committee is made of: Federico Bomba, Boris Debackere, Alejandro Martín, Maria Grazia Mattei, Massimo Mancini.

Dates

Application: 27th September - 15th November 2021

Deadline: 15th November 2021

Finalists' announcement: 20th December 2021

Residencies: February - June 2022

Final exhibition: September 2022

Artistic residencies and exhibition

The selected artists will attend a residency at one of the partner cultural centers. During this period, they will meet with local activists, stakeholders and the other artists working in the other cities involved, in order to co-design and present a tangible artwork that responds to the locally defined meaning of mobility and to foster knowledge and practice exchanges.

In addition, there will be a presentation taking place in the same city of the artistic residency (each cultural center will define the schedule and duration with the artists).

In September 2022, within the final event of AI4FUTURE, the artists will participate in an exhibition showing all the works created..

Registration and materials

Registration and materials uploading takes place via google form. Each artist will have to provide a CV and portfolio (in a unique .pdf max 50 MB), a short bio, and a 3 minutes video explaining their idea and how to achieve it.

Video must be uploaded to YouTube and the link must be sent through the application form.

The applications that do not comply with the described requirements will not be accepted.

Intellectual Property

The artwork will remain property of artist.

AI4Futures (Cultural organizations and activists) can present the artwork.

Further developments and iterations must be discussed first with AI4Future partners and the authors.

The artist will own the intellectual property of the produced work and will grant AI4Future free and unconditional use, in the ways that AI4Future deems appropriate.

Each participant in the Competition grants free AI4Future and its legal representatives the rights of reproduction of the works and texts issued to the Call, images, and videos. All these materials can be used to draft a catalog, for the publication on the web channels of the Call and other forms of communication, promotion, as well as activities of the Organizations.

The organizers have complete decision power over the final selection and everything else not specified in this announcement. Adhering and participating in the Call implies the unconditional acceptance of all the articles of this announcement.

Publication of results

The results of the selected and finalist artists will be published on ai4future.eu and each artist will be informed by email.

Learn more

ai4future.eu

email

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