

# Open Call for Arts-based Science Communication Experiments

**We are looking for artists, designers, architects and practitioners within the creative industries who are interested in co-creating arts-based science communication with us.**

In the research programme *Addressing Sustainability with Arts-Based Science Communication* at the Department of Science Education at the University of Copenhagen, we will co-create and carry out a series of science communication experiments about 'wicked problems'. A wicked problem is a complex, multifaceted issue with no clear solution. We are specifically addressing three wicked problems; climate change, the loss of biodiversity and global pandemics. At the same time, we are striving to create formats and practices that are sustainable in themselves.

At the core of the research programme is the idea that **arts-based methods** have a unique potential to engage people in addressing wicked problems. Our experiments will explore this potential, and create insights to support applicable sustainability-related science communication for everyone to use.

## Open Call

To explore these potentials, the programme group is looking for dedicated artists, designers, architects and practitioners within the creative industries who would like to help us co-create science communication experiments. We are conducting three experiment series at the Medical Museion, the Copenhagen Zoo, and the Danish Museum of Science and Technology. We are working with these institutions as they share an ambition to address and discuss issues related to pandemics, biodiversity and climate change.

Each experiment will be co-created by a creative professional, a scientist, a representative from the institutions and researchers from the research group. Each experiment will undergo at least two revisions. You will be paired with one of the participating institutions.

We call for applicants from all areas and levels: upcoming and established artists, designers, writers and poets, filmmakers, architects, designers, facilitators, researchers who see science as a cultural practice, etc. (*please note that there will be a separate call for content scientists*). Applicants with experience working with climate change, biodiversity, pandemics or arts-based methods will have an advantage, but these are not mandatory qualifications.

Each selected participant will receive an honorarium of DKK 50.000 for their participation in the co-creation and implementation of the engagement experiments from October 2024 to October 2025.

Unfortunately, the project cannot cover travel expenses, so ideally applicants reside in the vicinity of Copenhagen or are able to cover their own travel. The call is not for a residency and it is not expected that the outcome of the process is an artwork.

Each participant is expected to contribute in the following way:

- Participate in three full-day workshops during the development period.
- Participate in the co-created experiments carried out at either the Medical Museion, the Copenhagen Zoo, or the Museum of Science and Technology, with local meetings to be decided by the experiment teams.
- Participate in the evaluation of the co-creation process and outcomes.
- Participate in two brief videos about the co-creation process for the research programme's social media.
- Participate in a one-day dissemination event in Copenhagen in 2026.
- Write a 1-2 page final report about their experience participating in the programme.

Your application should include: CV and/or portfolio, and a letter of intent (max. one page) which includes a description of a creative idea that you'd like to bring to the co-creation process, and whether you have any preferences in relation to the three institutions. The letter of intent can be made as a written document or as a video recording.

Please send the application to Marine Duthil-McArthur at [mdm@ind.ku.dk](mailto:mdm@ind.ku.dk), no later than August 4 at 23:59. You will receive confirmation of receipt within 48 hours.

You will be informed by August 19 whether you have been selected for an interview, and interviews will be held on August 28 and 30.

Please direct questions to Marianne Achiam ([achiam@ind.ku.dk](mailto:achiam@ind.ku.dk)).

Please note that there will be three full-day workshops for all participants in the project on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 11<sup>th</sup> December and 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

Read about the research programme here:

<https://www.ind.ku.dk/english/projects/sustain-art-sci/>

### **Participating Institutions**

- The Medical Museion: <https://www.museion.ku.dk>
- The Copenhagen Zoo: <https://www.zoo.dk>
- The Danish Museum of Science and Technology: <https://tekniskmuseum.dk>

### **Research Group**

- Marianne Achiam, principal investigator and associate professor, Department of Science Education, Copenhagen University
- Louise Whitely, co-principal investigator and associate professor, Department of Public Health, Copenhagen University
- Sabrina Vitting-Seerup, assistant professor, Department of Science Education, Copenhagen University
- Martin Grünfeld, assistant professor, Department of Science Education, Copenhagen University
- Jacob Thorek Jensen, PhD student, Department of Science Education, Copenhagen University
- Marine Duthil-McArthur, assistant, Department of Science Education, Copenhagen University