

Off-Kilter – Program Description, Application Information

Off-Leash Area is a Minneapolis-based dance and theater company with 23 years of creating original interdisciplinary performance works, including the Ivey Award winning Psst!, and designing unique community programs like the Neighborhood Garage Tour. Off-Leash Area champions independent, diverse, and distinct voices in local performing arts, artist-creators of original works, and conducts its collaborations with integrity, respect, and a commitment to high quality production. Throughout our history, Off-Leash Area has built strong, organic relationships within the disability community. From its collaboration with Blind Inc on its production, Now Eye See You Now Eye Don't, to having created a fully accessible venue with the Off-Leash Art Box, Off-Leash Area has put individuals and organizations among the disability community at the center of its creative and organizational work.

Off-Kilter is Off-Leash Area's new cabaret performance program designed to highlight and support artists with disabilities, and which makes space for and gives voice to artists with disabilities in the design and leadership of the program.

The **Off-Kilter Cabaret** is a 75-minute long cabaret-style production, which in its inaugural year will be presented in the outdoor rail court at the **Mill City Museum**. Locally known as the site of the Mill City Farmers' Market, Off-Leash Area will construct an accessible elevated stage with full lighting, sound, and projection capability, retaining the steampunk vibe of the reclaimed industrial site. We will provide physically distanced seating and require participants to wear masks as able, as per CDC and state guidelines at the time of the performances as the minimum baseline for Covid safety.

Off-Kilter Planning Group

Amy Salloway, Jon Skaalen, Mike Cohn, Sam Jasmine, and the Off-Leash Area co-artistic directors, Jennifer Ilse and Paul Herwig.

Off-Kilter Theme. The inaugural Off-Kilter Cabaret theme is "Organ Recital". To prospective artists submitting proposals, we want you to consider the following:

How are the components of our bodies asking to be heard, seen, felt, or understood. If an organ in your body was the subject of, or impetus to create a performance work, which organ would it be? Why? How does that bodily organ limit or expand your awareness of self, others, and/or the world? Are there components of your body that refuse to work in harmony with each other? With society? With your expectations? How would you describe or characterize the relationship between your internal and external self? Do they work together? Are they at war?

These are just some of the thoughts we suggest for being inspired and provoked by the theme of "Organ Recital". You may have your own – go ahead, surprise and challenge us in your proposal.

Artist Proposals. We are looking for live performances, 5-10 minutes in length, original and unique, challenging and provoking. *In these challenging times, art should rise to the occasion and make itself known.* Your proposal will include:

1. Contact/Biographical Form
2. Project Description
3. Accessibility Questions
4. A Work Sample Form

5. Resume Form

Artists must perform at all 3 performances of Off-Kilter. Before applying, please review the following to make sure you are available for these firm dates and times in the tech and performance schedule:

Wednesday August 18th: Tech Rehearsal 11-6pm (45 min per artist). Dress Rehearsal 7-9pm**

Thursday August 19th: Performance 7:30-9pm**. Artist Call 6:30pm.

Friday August 20th: Performance 7:30-9pm**. Artist Call 6:30pm.

Saturday August 21st: off

Sunday August 22nd: Performance 2pm**, Artist Call 1:00pm. Performance 7:30-9pm **, Artist Call 6:30pm

***Off-Leash Area and its project staff value creating community outside of and within the project, and so we expect all artists to attend the entirety of each performance to support their peers in the performance of their works.*

Compensation for Artists.

Each Artist or Artist Group will be paid \$300 for their participation in Off-Kilter. Contract agreements will be distributed. A **Transportation Subsidy** will be available to participating artists, pending request.

Video Documentation.

Each Artist will be provided with a single stationary camera documentary video of their performance.

Logistic and Technical FAQ answers for the Off-Kilter Project:

- There is Metro Mobility access to the Mill City Rail Court
- The stage will have ADA ramps
- There will be ADA restroom access to performers in the Mill City building
- There will be a greenroom for artists in the Mill City building
- There will be amplified sound (microphones) available to performing artists
- There will be Audio Description and ASL services provided for the performances
- A detailed accessibility map will be made available to artists, and audiences
- The Technical Director will contact each artist to work out your lighting, sound, and projection needs

Off-Kilter - Artist Application Form

1 – Contact Form

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Stage Name (if different) _____

Pronouns _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Indicate the best way to reach you, phone or email: _____



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Are you available for those tech dates and times? Yes _____ No _____

Are you available for all the show dates and times? Yes _____ No _____



Off-Leash Area and its Off-Kilter Advisory Team want to create a diverse line-up of performers and performances. To that end, please indicate to us the following biographical information:

Gender _____ Race/Ethnicity _____ Age _____

My disability can be described as _____

2 – Project Description

Title of piece to be performed (or working title if you have one)?

What is your art form/discipline?

What is your role in this piece? (director/choreographer/writer/performer/composer)

Do you think of yourself as having a disability, being disabled, and/or being part of a disability community?

How has that affected, impacted or shown up in the art that you create?

How does the concept of ability, disability or physical diversity show up in the piece you're submitting?

Please give us a brief 75-word description of the piece you're proposing. What will the audience experience? Be as specific and concrete as possible.

How does the piece you're submitting relate to the theme we described on our introductory page of “Organ Recital?”

Is this piece new? If not, where has it been performed previously?

What are your broader technical needs?

Does your piece include music? If yes, is it pre-recorded or live?

Do you need a microphone(s)?

Number of performers in your piece?

How long do you expect your piece to be? (pieces in this cabaret need to be 5-10 minutes in length)

3 – Accessibility Questions

Off Kilter Cabaret is designed to be an annual performance series focusing on and giving space and voice to artists with disabilities. As noted, the goal of this cabaret is to be accessible and inclusive to as many artists and audience members as possible. Please review program description for full details.

What accommodation would you need as a participant, if any, for this show to be accessible?

What would the space need to be accessible for you and your piece?

Are there things that you have wanted to see in the performing arts as an artist with disabilities?

4. Work Sample Form

Please submit 1 or 2 of the following:

Words

1 Page of Written Script/Text

Video

Web Links and passwords to view 1 or 2 video samples of your work:

1) _____

2) _____

Music/Sound

Web Links and passwords to 1 or 2 music/sound samples of your work:

1) _____

2) _____

Please use the following format for each work sample:

Title of Piece	My Role	Year Performed
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5. Bio/Resume

Please provide a 1 to 2 page Bio/Resume, indicating the location, year, and your role for each credit. Please submit the text in this form, a link to a web page, or submit a pdf file with this proposal.