



Frequently Asked Questions

2027 Catapult + Adelaide Fringe Mentorship

How will I be supported in the mentorship?

Guildhouse and Adelaide Fringe provide \$8,000 for the mentorship. Guildhouse acts as an administrator and advisory support for both the mentee and mentor.

Guildhouse will issue mid and end reports for participant feedback and connect throughout the mentorship. The mentorship is self-directed. However, Guildhouse will support the mentee and mentor where needed. Adelaide Fringe will support the identification and connection of suitable venues for the delivery of the artist talk.

What might my mentorship aims look like?

- Reflect on your current practice and where you want to be positioned within the industry. What goals need to be reached to attain that position?
- Be prepared and welcoming of critical dialogue around your practice. Will your mentor's expertise support your creative growth?
- Ensure you have time to dedicate to your mentorship goals. Can these goals be attained? Are they feasible within the mentorship scope and timeline?

Is an outcome required?

This opportunity will culminate in an artist talk as part of the 2027 Adelaide Fringe, where the mentee will discuss learnings from the mentorship – arranged through negotiation with Guildhouse.

'You' are your Catapult mentorship. The primary outcome is the growth and development to specific areas of your practice, as identified through goals. Both mentee and mentor will co-identify goals specific to the mentee's intentions and experience.

How do I choose my mentor?

As Catapult is an artist-led mentorship, your mentor will be an experienced and trusted advisor who offers support and constructive feedback.

Consider the following when selecting a mentor:

- What experience can the mentor bring to my practice?
- What qualities within the artist or their work would my practice benefit from?
- What are my goals and how do they align with my proposed mentor?
- Does the mentor have capacity and time to participate?
- Choose someone who is not only supportive but challenging.

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years



How do I approach my mentor?

If you're familiar with the mentor, present a short but concise plan for the mentorship. Outline your objectives, aspirations and what you hope their role will contribute and provide to your practice. From the outset, establish the structure (i.e. contact time) and their fee.

If you do not personally know your mentor, opt for an introductory email that outlines your experience, practice, the proposed mentorship structure and what is expected from both parties. If needed, Guildhouse can assist with introductions.

Advice for being a great mentee

Be clear in your needs but be flexible with outcomes. There may be some unexpected results as your mentorship runs its course, so remain open to the process. Respect your mentor and remain committed. Demonstrate that the mentor's time is valued and that you're thoughtfully engaging. The mentor will critique your practice and methodology, so be open to feedback. You will need to prepare for critical dialogue and constructive criticism. It is reasonable to not agree with all the advice a mentor provides. Discuss such areas openly and remain receptive to each other's perspectives.

Advice for being a great mentor

Be genuine and generous. Provide advice that supports and challenges the mentee. Research the mentee and check that their goals are in line with your expertise. Be clear in your expectations, potential deliverables and the project timeline. Be forthcoming about the trials and tribulations in your practice, including your own mistakes. Providing a realistic picture of your work will allow the mentee to glean insight into the multifaceted nature of creative practice.



What does a mentorship timeline and budget look like?

Timelines and budgets often work together.

The timeline is a key aspect of the application and should highlight important dates. Your timeline needs to be realistic and convince assessors that you can deliver goals. Make sure the timeline is practical rather than aspirational. Set out a plan and then identify what is feasible. In case travel cannot occur, outline a contingency (e.g. Zoom calls), as assessors need to know that outcomes can be achieved regardless. Adjust your goals where necessary and format your timeline in a succinct list or table.

The budget should include balanced income and expenditure. When listing expenditure, consider the number of hours worked by mentee and mentor, travel, accommodation or material costs. Guildhouse suggests NAVA contractor rates as a guide, with the potential to be negotiated between parties – mentee \$50-\$60 per hour, mentor \$120 per hour. Although the budget does not cover equipment, it extends to equipment hire and resource subscriptions. Income will include the \$8,000 Catapult mentorship fee, plus any additional income streams (grants or personal monies).

Guildhouse believes in the payment of artists' time and expertise. Budgets that do not allocate payment to both mentee and mentor will not be considered by the Selection Panel.

See our budget [toolkit](#) for more advice.

Developing support material

Mentor Statement: A 200-word statement from the confirmed mentor that speaks to the proposed arrangement, their capacity to guide professional development and support the mentee in reaching their goals. This statement must be signed by the mentor.

Images: Include high quality images of your work. Often, images are the first way that people connect with an artist's practice. Guidance on taking photographs of your work can be found [here](#), as images needn't be professional quality to support an application.

Support Letter: Select someone with a good understanding of your practice who can speak positively about your capacity to deliver your goals. Ask well in advance and provide dot points to guide their letter, ensuring to make it relevant to the opportunity.



If my mentorship is not going to plan, how do I navigate this?

Always keep an open line of communication and discuss any issues as soon as they arise. Be clear about the difference between opposing opinions on subjective or creative matters, and the issues that might be preventing your mentorship from progressing. Set milestone dates to ensure you're collectively achieving goals. Formalise an end date at the outset of your mentorship so there are clear parameters to work toward.

Although Catapult is self-directed, we are here to support. If needed, reach out to your key Guildhouse contact throughout the mentorship.

Will my mentorship be documented?

Guildhouse may engage a photographer or filmmaker to document the project outcomes. Participation in this process is a condition of undertaking the opportunity. You are also required to submit visual documentation throughout the mentorship experience. Guildhouse collects information from the program to attract potential project partners for reporting requirements and marketing purposes.

Can I apply as a regional artist?

Yes, regional artists are encouraged to apply. Any necessary travel costs must be included in your budget. To check if you are regionally based, click [here](#).

I've previously been a recipient of a Catapult mentorship, can I apply?

Previous Catapult recipients are ineligible for the Catapult + Adelaide Fringe opportunity. If you previously participated in Catapult as a mentee, you are eligible to be a mentor.

Still have questions?

For further support, contact Guildhouse's Membership and Programs Coordinator via guildhouse@guildhouse.org.au or (08) 8410 1822.