

HKB

Hochschule der Künste Bern
Haute école des arts de Berne
Bern University of the Arts

Call for Participation «CLIMATE & THE CITY»: Atelier and Open Lab

24.-29. August, 2020, Bern and Zurich

A project of the **ECO ART LAB – A transdisciplinary do and think tank on arts and climate change** at the Bern University of the Arts (BFH), Institute for Practices and Theories in the Arts in collaboration with the [The Crowther Lab](#) – Global Ecosystem Ecology, ETH Zurich

The Eco Art Lab is a transdisciplinary think and do tank at the Bern University of the Arts, which aims to initiate a sustainable dialogue between climate researchers, artists and the public and to develop new formats of knowledge production through artistic research. It builds a bridge between universities and the public and intensifies the cooperation between arts and the natural sciences. With regard to Sustainable Development Goals 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and 13 (Climate Action), the Lab's goal is to initiate a broader and committed debate on climate change and to develop and test innovative methodological approaches and mediation formats at the interface between art and science that promote environmentally conscious action.

The **Atelier & Open Lab "Climate&theCity"** under the umbrella of the Eco Art Lab started as an exchange between HKB students of all artistic disciplines and scientists from the Crowther Lab. In the context of a toolbox in April, the students started to develop project ideas in the field of arts and climate change. These and additional project ideas by artists, scientist or teams on the topic of the city and climate change can be further developed in tandems or small interdisciplinary groups in the context of the [NEA Summer School](#) in August 2020 in Frau Gerolds Garten in Zurich (if COVID-19-related restrictions are lifted) or presented digitally (if restrictions are still in place in August).

For this purpose, we are looking for arts students/artists, science students/scientists or teams, based in Switzerland, from all disciplines who would like to collaborate in transdisciplinary teams in order to develop **artistic research projects** on the theme «Climate & the City». What can individuals do to act in an environmentally conscious way? How can a wider public be reached for ecological topics? We are looking for projects which, through artistic methods and ways of thinking, enable different perspectives on climate change, involve the audience of the NEA Summer School and initiate innovative solutions for climate change in cooperation with natural scientists. The projects should be developed in an environmentally conscious way, using few resources. The process will be documented and subsequently made available to a broad public in the form of a digital toolkit.

Participants will have the opportunity to become part of a growing network of artists and climate researchers. In addition to a subsidy for travel costs between Berne and Zurich, a share of the catering costs and a small production budget, they will receive mentoring from the Eco Art Lab team and other peers. The students from HKB receive 2 ETCS points from Y Institute/HKB for their participation in the summer school.

How to apply

Artists, scientists or teams are invited to send a short motivation letter (1-2 pages), your availability during the week of the summer school, along with a short CV (1 page) till **5th June** to yvonne.schmidt@hkb.bfh.ch. If you already have a project idea, feel free to attach a description.

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Timeline:

Dates & venue: 24-29 August 2020 (24-26 August in Bern at HKB, 27-29 August in Zurich, Frau Gerolds Garten)

Deadline for proposals: 5th June 2020

Notification & building teams: by end of June

Team:

Lead: Yvonne Schmidt (Head of Eco Art Lab, HKB), artistic-scientific collaboration: Benjamin Sunarjo (environmental scientist & dancer), partner: Tara Lasrado (Head of Arts and Culture, Crowther Lab, ETH)

Contact & submissions:

Dr. Yvonne Schmidt, yvonne.schmidt[at] hkb.bfh.ch

"Climate & the City" takes place in collaboration with the **Swiss Society for Theatre Studies (SGTK)** and the **MLab of the Institute of Geography the University of Bern** and is supported by the **Swiss Academy for Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW)**. The project is also supported by the **Federal Office for the Environment FOEN**.

Partner:



Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Theaterkultur
Société suisse du théâtre
Società Svizzera di Studi Teatrali
Societad svizra per cultura da teater



CROWTHER LAB



SAGW
ASSH

mLAB