

## Selection Process

### Criteria

The selection criteria that would guide the curatorial team are

- Concept / intent (idea, resonance with festival objectives)
- Experiential opportunity (passive, immersive, interactive, participative, investigative -- we're looking to select a mix)
- Learning impact (pedagogy, provoking thought -- this is essential)
- Feasibility of execution (logistics, sustainability, budget constraints -- sometimes we are just restricted)

### Timeline

The selection process will proceed in two stages: an open call for proposals stage followed by an invitation to a more detailed call for shortlisted proposals. Important notes:

*15 September 2016: Open call for proposals*

We're excited to open the call for proposals and look forward to the submissions. Do help spread the word. We encourage you to express your interest early on, so that we can start the conversations sooner and answer any questions.

*15 December 2016: Deadline for open call for proposals*

From the 15th of September up to the 15th of December, we'll review the received applications every fortnight. We'll shortlist projects, initiate dialogue, and cross-pollinate between ideas where able.

*30 December 2016: Shortlisted projects notified for full submission of proposals*

We will notify all projects of the final outcome. Shortlisted projects will be invited to submit a full proposal based on the dialogue and feedback.

*15 January 2017: Deadline for full submission of proposals*

We'll start to review the full submissions and craft the larger story of space.

*15 February 2017: Final projects notified*

Final projects will be notified by this date with possible grant amounts.



*May 2017: Prototyping, feedback, and grant agreements*

Some projects will be required to show prototypes / proof of concepts. Grant agreements will be issued in May.

*October / November 2017: Residency and festival*

We're yet to fix on the exact dates for the festival and will notify you at the earliest. Options for lengths of residency are 30 days, 14 days, 7 days and 3 days.

*December 2017: Festival impact report*

We'll be measuring the impact of the festival vis-a-vis our goals. We'll need your help in collecting the data and your experience.

## Festival Context

THE STORY OF SPACE 2017 is an evolution from **THE STORY OF LIGHT** festival held in Panjim, Goa, from 14 to 18 January 2015. The five day festival was preceded by a month-long residency where the participants came together to prepare for the festival and adapt to the local context. The festival was free and open to public experience. The larger aims of THE STORY OF LIGHT were:

- To present stories of contemporary science in new light, making them accessible to a non-scientific audience
- To connect the paradigms of science, art, philosophy, and culture on a single platform and relate it to the current society.

The participants were selected through an open call and were a mix of artists, designers, educators, scientists, meditators, and coders. We also invited students and staff from institutes like **NID** and **Srishti** to participate with projects. The festival reach extended to an audience of 15,000 people that engaged with it in the capacity of makers, viewers, facilitators and more (of which 5000 were students). It was made possible because of the strong government support; numerous in-kind contributions; corporate sponsorship; the passion, time and effort of a 35 member volunteer team; and the wonderful thoughts and creative energy of all participants involved.

Moving forward, with THE STORY OF SPACE 2017, we focus our attention on creating path-breaking lifelong learning opportunities surrounding the physics, politics, philosophy, and perception of space. The intended outcomes for the festival are:

1. Increase in public understanding of current science and its relation to society
2. Increase in the sensibility to patterns that connect / degrees of interdependence



3. Strengthen the network and platform for science, philosophy, art, and culture practitioners to share ideas through cross- and inter-disciplinary linkages

Based on our long list of learnings, we've made many changes to the format and approach of THE STORY OF SPACE Festival.

1. Month long festival, in the format of 10 days of build, plus 20 days of exhibit and events, peaking on the weekends
2. Curators delving deeper into artistic opportunities, space, audience, and learning impact of projects and events
3. Walking route covering different sites in Panjim city.
4. Satellite locations across the State of Goa and in the major metros of India: Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, and Pune.
5. Online content platform to share inspiring and thought-provoking stories and provide an online experience of the festival.

We're focussed on building communities and would also like to spend some time together to ideate on the future of 'The Story Of' as a participative and collaborative platform for creating learning opportunities, which translate into dialogues that extend to policy makers thus broadening the sphere of impact.

Through the festival and months leading to it, we hope to inspire the public, communities and individuals to reflect on questions about our space in the universe and the space of the universe in us. Our key target population will include:

- Community of inquirers
- Families from the state of Goa
- Domestic and foreign tourists
- Students in and around Goa (from school to university)
- The online realm of inquirers

For THE STORY OF SPACE 2017 we're going to expand on the landscape of Panjim as a city and design a walking route radiating outward from the heart of Panjim. You'll find pictures of possible sites up [here](#). Across categories, we hope for a mix of learning experiences: passive, immersive, interactive, participative, or investigative.

We call for

#### **Panel Discussions**

Engage participants, policy-makers, educators, the team and the public in

#### **Open Format**

Span across various interventions with a running thread through the month.



dwelling about matters of science, philosophy, art, culture in a learning context.

#### **Public Installations**

Play with a variety of formats and engagement levels for general or particular audiences.

#### **Performances**

Engage audiences with staged or spontaneous dance, theatre, performance art, or anything in between.

#### **Workshops**

Share skills and insights through workshops among participants and with particular audiences.

#### **Digital New Media**

Interact with audiences online with digital new media projects that will be showcased on the festival home page.

#### **Films**

Share films that resonate with the festival objectives (submissions via Film Freeway)

We're in the second edition of the festival, and raising funds is always an upward climb, but we're working hard on several proposals to support the production budget (*average* of 75,000 INR budgeted per project), accommodation and meals for the one month stay, and travel (National - train / flight, International - depends on grants) at minimum. We also encourage participants to tap into their own networks to support an ideal budget for what they have in mind.

We hope that this experience will be as life-altering for you as it has been for us. Process is the product. Journey is the destination.

Warm regards,  
Shaira, Jaya, and Deshna  
Co-Directors, THE STORY OF SPACE 2017

