



**CASSANDRA**  
SOCIALLY ENGAGED STORYTELLING

# CASSANDRA STORYTELLERS INFORMATION SHEET

## The Cassandra project introduction

The Cassandra Project aims to support Storytellers aged 18 - 30 to become 'socially engaged performers' ready for international stages. 5 European countries will be part of the project: Poland, Belgium, Netherlands, Sweden and Norway. The project will also help international storytelling festivals reach new audiences, champion art for social good and build platforms for the next generation of tellers. Based on the techniques and approaches used in The Cassandra Project, a public training resource will be created for anyone who wishes to expand and support the impact of youth storytelling. The Cassandra Project secured funding through Creative Europe with the Federation for European Storytelling (FEST) as the primary partner.

## What is socially engaged storytelling?

Socially engaged storytelling is telling stories that matter to you on topics that matter on a global level; it's telling stories that address and promote awareness of social issues and encourage conversation and positive change. It goes beyond entertainment, aiming to inspire action and create a more inclusive and just society.

## What will the Cassandra storytellers do?

You'll **create a 20-minute solo storytelling performance**, which could stand alone or combine with others to form a 1-hour show featuring other YS. You'll **attend two 4-day laboratories in Alden Biesen, Belgium and Amsterdam, Netherlands**, to learn creative and business skills, develop your performance, and prepare for international platforms. The themes of your performance should matter to you and have global importance. Some examples of the topics you may choose are land justice, climate emergency, gender identity, or impact of conflict. During your research, you will engage with communities aligned with your theme (e.g., climate activists, LGBT+ communities, refugee support groups).

You are the lead artist for your piece, but **you will be supported by an experienced local Mentor** who may offer artistic, organisational, or dramaturgical suggestions.

You will **perform your work at;**

- Three 'tryouts' in your home country.
- An international showcase in Amsterdam
- A Showcase at the FEST Conference in Rome
- The International Storytelling Festival of your home country

## Journaling and evaluation

You will keep a journal to support your creative process and the project evaluation. You can do this in the way that works for you, i.e., written, visuals, scrapbook, film diary, or podcast. The project's organisers will also invite you to film interviews and podcast chats and to have photos taken. Please let us know if you have any concerns about this.

KEY DATES	TIME	LOCATION	ACTIVITY
<b>2024</b>			
March 7	17.00 - 18.30 (CET)	Online	Kick-off meeting for all project members (YS, festivals, mentors and FEST )
April 17 - 20	Full Days	Alden Biessen, Belgium	Training Laboratory #1
May - December 1st Wednesday of every Month	19.00 (CET)	Online	Storytellers Informal creative session and catch-up with Shona
June - October	TBC	Home Country	3 'try-outs' of your performances
November 1 - 3	Full days	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Training Laboratory #2
November 4+5	Full days	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Performance Showcase
<b>2025</b>			
TBC	TBC	Home Country	International Storytelling Festival in your home country
June	TBC	Rome, Italy	FEST Conference Performance Showcase



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