

**Institute of Bioengineering of Catalonia  
Open Dialogues: Art and Science  
Open call for IBEC's researchers and artists  
2025**

## **1. About the Program**

**The program Open Dialogues: Science and Art**, promoted by the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC) and co-funded by the Barcelona City Council and the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities within the framework of the Severo Ochoa program, aims to foster collaboration between young artists and IBEC scientific research teams. The program promotes collaboration between artists and researchers to co-create hybrid projects with an exchange of ideas, languages, and methodologies.

This program stems from the conviction that both science and art share a vocation for exploration, creativity, and connection with society. We aim to create meeting spaces that foster new ways of conducting scientific and artistic research, as well as understanding and communicating scientific knowledge through artistic expression, with a strong component of critical reflection, sustainability, and social commitment.

## **2. Call for Applications – Criteria and Conditions**

This call is addressed to:

- **Visual artists** from any discipline (drawing, audiovisual, installation, digital arts, illustration) residing in Catalonia. We are looking for artists under the age of 35 with a not-yet fully consolidated professional career, who are interested in incorporating science and/or interdisciplinary practices into their work.
- **IBEC researchers** with an interest in the arts and in different visual languages, who wish to develop an artistic project based on their own research.

## **3. Project Phases**

### **Phase 1. Call for Applications**

In this first phase, a public call is launched for young artists under 35 and IBEC researchers who wish to participate in the *Diàlegs Oberts* program.

We are seeking artists from different disciplines who are interested in collaborating with IBEC research staff in a co-creation process that brings together art and science. Artists must submit a preliminary project idea, with a short description of interests or themes they wish to explore within the scientific context of IBEC, along with a motivation letter and a

portfolio of their most relevant works. A finished proposal is not expected, rather, a demonstration of interest and availability to work in a shared creative process.

IBEC researchers must submit an application including a short motivation letter explaining their interest in exploring how art can influence or contribute to their research.

**Application deadline: October 15, 2025.**

### **Phase 2. Hackathon**

Artists who apply will be evaluated by the selection committee. From all submissions, up to 10 artists will be pre-selected to participate in a co-creation Hackathon alongside 10 IBEC researchers who have expressed interest in the program.

The Hackathon will be an intensive collaborative working session, designed to facilitate idea exchange, establish tandems, and generate with their partners an artistic proposal based on the scientific research of IBEC groups. A finished work is not expected, but rather the definition of a shared approach.

From this process, **two tandems (1 artist + 1 researcher)** will be selected as the winning teams. These teams will receive funding and institutional support to develop a joint project between December 2025 and April 2026, with a public exhibition scheduled for April 2026.

### **Phase 3. Project Development**

- From the Hackathon, the project must be developed within a maximum of five months.
- Each team will work autonomously on their research and development process, but the following convergence points are proposed:
  - **Follow-up sessions** with the mediation expert, who will advise the teams and ensure progress.
  - **Internal meetings** between artist and researcher (in person or online) to align ideas and develop materials that reflect the process and the final piece.
- The artwork must be newly created and linked to IBEC's research activity.

### **Phase 4. Public Presentation**

- The developed artwork will be presented in a **public exhibition in April 2026**, with a planned subsequent tour.

- Non-selected proposals developed during the Hackathon will not receive funding. However, if artists and researchers agree, they may be showcased in the final exhibition to display the various creative processes of the initiative.

### **3. Terms and Conditions of the Call and Participation**

#### **3.1. Artist's Commitment**

- Development of an artistic piece in collaboration with an IBEC researcher: the artist is expected to create a visual, musical, or installation work as a result of a joint process of dialogue and co-creation.
- The artist assumes the leading role in the co-creation process. They will be responsible for guiding the conceptual and formal development of the project, making key creative decisions, and defining how scientific ideas are interpreted or represented through artistic language. Nonetheless, collaboration with IBEC research staff will be close and active, with significant contribution to the ideation and conceptual development phases.
- Active participation in the ideation Hackathon.
- Participation in project follow-up sessions.
- Documentation of the creative process through notebooks, sketches, and notes, which will be used to showcase the research process in the final exhibition.
- Participation in the final exhibition, potential itinerant exhibitions, and public mediation activities such as talks.

#### **3.2. IBEC Researcher's Commitment**

- Together with an artist, develop a visual work or artistic installation resulting from the Hackathon, as a product of a joint process of dialogue and co-creation.
- Act as an active collaborator, contributing scientific knowledge and participating actively in both the development phases and the final result.
- Active participation in the ideation Hackathon and follow-up sessions.
- Work on a scientific article documenting the research and the experience of this art-science collaboration.

- Participation in the final exhibition, potential itinerant exhibitions, and public mediation activities such as talks.

### **3.3. Institution's Commitment**

#### **3.3.1. Fees and Payments**

- Due to the different roles of the participants, financial contributions will differ. The institution will cover participants' fees: the artist will receive a total fee of **€1,500 gross**, while the IBEC researcher will receive a supplement to their salary of **€1,000 gross**.

Payments will be made in two installments:

- 60% at the start of the residency.
- 40% in June 2026, after delivery of the final project.
- The project will have a **production budget of up to €800**, covering project-related expenses (materials, transport, installation, exhibition, etc.). This amount will be managed by IBEC according to the specific needs of each project and budget availability.
- Travel and accommodation expenses for artists will not be covered.

#### **3.3.2. Logistics and Operational Support**

- If project spaces are needed, IBEC commits to providing them when required. These spaces are not permanent but will be available depending on project needs and IBEC's availability.
- IBEC commits to recording the project development phase, including short interviews with participants, recordings of follow-up sessions, and audiovisual documentation reflecting the collaboration process, with the aim of providing visibility and creating outreach content for the exhibition and other communication platforms.
- IBEC will offer guidance and support throughout the process, including follow-up meetings with the mediation expert, who will advise teams and ensure progress.

### **4. Copyright and Exploitation Rights**

- The resulting work will be considered a collaborative work, in accordance with Article 7 of Royal Legislative Decree 1/1996, developed jointly by the artist and the IBEC researcher. Given the different levels of involvement, both moral and economic

rights to the work will be shared: **60% for the artist and 40% for the researcher**. This distribution does not affect the inalienable moral rights established by the Intellectual Property Law.

- Without prejudice to the above, IBEC will have a **non-exclusive, non-transferable, royalty-free right of use** to exhibit, reproduce, and publicly communicate the work within the framework of its institutional and non-profit activities. This right includes the ability to translate and adapt the work, provided its integrity and original meaning are preserved, and may be extended to IBEC's institutional collaborators (e.g., universities, research centers), always within the same institutional, non-profit scope. Proper credit must always be given, including the authors' names. The rights granted to IBEC will last for as long as the legal term of the author's economic rights, provided they are used for the authorized purposes. These usage rights apply worldwide within IBEC's institutional activities.
- Exploitation rights of the creative process and results obtained during the collaboration are subject to the following conditions:
  - Any **commercial exploitation** of the resulting work by third parties requires the express written consent of both the artist and the IBEC researcher, and must be governed by a specific agreement detailing the financial conditions.
  - Provided that Intellectual Property Rights are not infringed, the artist and researcher have the right to **publish, disseminate, and disclose** the creative process and results of the collaboration. This includes sharing content on websites, social media, and other digital platforms. Any such use must always acknowledge the joint authorship of the artist and the IBEC researcher, and mention the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia.
  - If the work or published content incorporates materials, data, images, texts, or other pre-existing elements generated by IBEC or within its research activities, their use will be subject to prior express authorization by IBEC. In such cases, these materials must be properly credited in the final work or publication, and their use will not imply any automatic transfer of IBEC's moral or economic rights.

## 5. Expected Results

The program aims to generate significant impact in both the scientific and artistic fields, as well as in society in general. The expected results include:

- Creation of hybrid art-science projects, with at least two projects selected for development and public exhibition.
- Generation of spaces for dialogue and interdisciplinary collaboration, fostering the exchange of knowledge, methodologies, and languages between artists and researchers.
- Social and cultural impact, offering new ways to approach scientific research through artistic expression, and contributing to the visibility of science and emerging artistic practice in Catalonia.
- Tangible results, including a public exhibition of the final works and the creation of documentation and dissemination materials (audiovisuals, texts, interviews, etc.) to ensure visibility.
- Potential academic or scientific publications arising from the co-creation process.
- Professional development of participants, with artists gaining new tools and perspectives, and researchers accessing new communication pathways and critical reflection.

## **6. Application and Proposal Submission**

Artists must apply via the online form with the following documents:

- Contact details
- CV or artistic biography (max. 2 pages)
- Digital portfolio (max. 5 recent projects)
- Motivation letter (max. 1 page)
- Preliminary project idea: short description of interests or themes to explore within IBEC's scientific context.

IBEC researchers must apply via the online form with the following documents:

- Contact details
- Research Group
- Brief explanation of the topics they would like to explore within their research and how art could fit in or contribute (max. 900 characters including spaces).

If you are an IBEC researcher and know an artist you wish to team up with, you may apply jointly. However, each must submit their own application separately via the corresponding form. It is important to indicate this in the section *“What would you like to experiment with?”*.

Participants will be selected by an **expert committee** formed by professionals from the cultural, artistic, and scientific fields, who will evaluate the applications and select the ten artists to participate in the Hackathon, as well as the two winning proposals for further development.

## 7. Selection Committee

The selection committee will consist of a multidisciplinary team with diverse backgrounds and expertise, bringing an interdisciplinary perspective to the evaluation process. Members: Sergi Camacho, Pilar Jiménez, Laia Manera, Anna Solé, and Pep Vidal.

## 8. Key Dates

- Application deadline: **October 15, 2025, 23:59 CEST**.
- Online *Ask me anything* session: **September, 29 2025, 10:30 AM**.
- Notification of Hackathon participants: **October 31, 2025**.
- Hackathon: **November 19, 2025**.
- Selection Committee meeting and final decision: same day as the Hackathon, with announcement of the two winning teams.
- Project development period: **five months, from December 2025 to June 30, 2026**.

## 9. Contact and Information

- Website: [ibecbarcelona.eu/society-and-science/science-art/](https://ibecbarcelona.eu/society-and-science/science-art/)
- Email: [ibeccomunications@ibecbarcelona.eu](mailto:ibeccomunications@ibecbarcelona.eu)

*Participation in this call implies full compliance with and acceptance of these terms and conditions.*