

CONCEPT FOR MENTORING PROGRAM

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1. Introduction

RogLab is the first Slovene FabLab operating since 2012 and is situated in a 28m2 container building. It was built as a pilot project at the end of Central European project Second Chance dealing with revitalisation of former factories in 5 European cities. RogLab is a small scale living prototype of the new Centre Rog - a factory of the future which would start to operate in the former Rog factory in Ljubljana city centre. Owned by the Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana, RogLab is directly connected to Ljubljana strategy of cultural and urban development and focused on promotion of creative and cultural sector. As publicly financed lab, RogLab is encouraging creative and responsible use of new technologies, tackling burning societal issues, supporting local creative community and connecting different organizations from NGOs, public cultural institutions, to technological companies, universities and schools in a multidisciplinary partnership network sharing different resources - from machines, to mentors and spaces.

Main goals of the mentoring programme will therefore be the following:

- to reinforce RogLab local partnership and to test the collaboration models which could be useful for FabLab Network,
- to tackle societal issues,
- to attract an interdisciplinary community of users,
- to promote creative use of digital fabrication technologies.

2. Mentoring Program

The mentoring programme will be divided in two parts and dedicated to different target groups.

The first part of the programme will be a contest **City for Everyone**, dedicated to the target group of professional designers or makers who already have a project concept. Different selection criteria will be set such as: innovation, creativity, quality of design, feasibility, sustainability,

It will have the following timetable:

- an open call for project ideas in July 2017
- selection of project ideas in September 2017
- selection of mentors in September 2017
- mentorship programme from October 2017 to 23 January 2018

The mentoring programme will consist of:

- training in the field of digital fabrication technologies in RogLab,
- different personalized mentorships based on the needs of each project.

The second part, **Creathon** creative meet up, will be promoted as an open call for participation. In order to tackle grass root creativity, there will be no selection criteria for this call. Anyone will be able to apply while the selection will follow the rule *First come First served*.

It will have the following timetable:

- selection of Mentors in November 2017
- an open call for participants in November 2017





- a 36 hour Creathon intense mentorship programme in December 2017

The mentoring programme will consist of

- Individual 36 hours mentoring of Creathon teams in development of their project.

Main goals:

- To train participants for creative use of digital fabrication tools.
- To create an interdisciplinary environment and show the importance of interdisciplinary approach in product/project development.
- To develop and prepare products for Pilot 2.

Mentoring Program phases:

- Brainstorming/ Conception/ Ideation
- Prototyping
- Pitching / Presentation
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3. Mentors

Mentors for the winning projects of the **City for Everyone** project will be selected on the basis of the project development needs. First we will identify the needs, than we will identify relevant mentors and organize meetings with them in order to explain them the goals of the project and our expectations. Based on this information, identified external experts will send us their financial offers which will be, along their experience and expertise, one of the criteria for final selection of the mentors. We will also take care of gender balance in selection process.

Regarding the **Creathon** project, the mentors will be identified in connection to the project concept and the project goal which is to offer interdisciplinary mentorship to creative teams participating to the 2 day Creathon. We have identified the following expertise needs: 3D fabrication, 3D modelling, Art, Architecture, Internet of Things, Biotechnologies. The mentors will participate at the Creathon preparations and will be mentoring the creative teams during the 36 hours Creathon.

4. Practical informations & materials

The wining projects of City for Everyone will receive:

- Mentorship: 1 or 2 times per week (3 hours per session) in RogLab or local partner labs depending on the project needs.
- Materials: up to 1000 eur per project
- **Use of Equipment:** Several 3D printers, CNC milling machines, Soldering stations and basic electronics, Microcontrollers (Arduino), Laser cutters, 3D scanner, digital embroidery machine, Sewing machine, biological laboratory, metal workshop, Pantone color mixer, paint shop.





The mentoring programme will last till 23rd of january 2018, the intensity will be defined together with selected participants and mentors.

Mentors' fee will be defined on he basis of prices found in the market research. We will first identify a pool of possible mentors needed for individual project and than select them regarding their price and expertise. We expect the hourly fee will be between 18 an 30 euros depending on the expertise.

The selected Creathon participants and teams will receive:

- Mentorship: 36 hours of intense mentorship programme
- Materials: 3D printing filaments, wood, Plexiglas, wood, Styrofoam, fabrics, rubber, plants, soil and more.
- Use of Equipment: 6 3D printers, 1 laser cutter, 1 vinyl cutter, 1 heat press, 1 embroidery machine, 1 sewing machine, many Arduino microcontroller boards, basic electronic components and sensors, manual tools, glue, colors and more.

The mentoring programme will take place one weekend in December or November 2017. Since RogLab is too small, a bigger space will be rented for the occasion.

We will invite the mentors from the field of architecture, design, 3D modelling and 3D fabrication, art and biotechnologies.

The participants of both parts of the Mentoring Program will have the complete access to the RogLab and additionally to local partners' labs and facilities: Makerlab Ljubljana, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering Lab, RPS company workshop and Biotehna Lab.

5. Participants

City for Everyone contest

In July 2017 RogLab will publish the contest City for Everyone. The aim of the competition will be to develop products, accessories, spatial interventions and artworks addressing the challenges facing societies today and the concrete needs of end users.

Target group: creators and makers who already have a good project idea which they wish to develop.

Selection criteria and process: The participants will we be selected by a selection panel composed of experts representing RogLab partner institutions and organizations: MakerLab Ljubljana, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Ljubljana RampaLab and Biotehna at Kersnikova Institute Department of Textiles, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, University of Ljubljana Forum Ljubljana RogLab, Muzej in galerije mesta Ljubljane

The members of the selection panel will participate to the selection process for free. For further development they will select three to four project ideas which respond best to the contest criteria.

Creathon

In November we will publish an open call for individual participants and teams who wish to participate to a 36 hours Creathon. The aim oft he Creathon will be to create an interdisciplinary contest situaion where teams will develop their projects from the scratch focusing on the theme of Urban Den.

Target group: wannabe makers without any project ideas or previous experience.





Selection criteria and process: The selection criteria for **Creathon** will be different since we wish to test really low entrance criteria for "wannabe" makers. The participants will be selected following the principle *first came first served*. We will accept around 30 participants. The individual applicants will be connected to other individuals in interdisciplinary teams.

6. Organisations cooperating with RogLab supporting the mentoring program:

a) **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

- Department of Textiles, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, University of Ljubljana

b) CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Museum of Architecture and Design of the Republic of Slovenia
- Stripburger Forum Ljubljana

c) MAKERLABS AND OTHER LABS

- MakerLab Ljubljana, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Ljubljana
- RampaLab and Biotehna at Kersnikova Institute

d) **COMPANIES**

- RPS d.o.o. (Prototyping and manufacturing company)
- INTRI d.o.o. (3D technologies and production)

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