

**NEXT THINGS 2012 / CALL FOR IDEAS**  
**Global Art & Technology Challenge. The Open Hardware Fellowship**

**Gijón, November 21st, 2011**

*Telefonica*

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Telefónica I+D (R&D) is the research and development company of the Telefónica Group.

Founded in 1988, its mission is to contribute to the Group's competitiveness and modernity through technological innovation. To achieve this aim, the company applies new ideas, concepts and practices in addition to developing products and advanced services. It is one of the first private I+D centres in Spain as regards activity and resources, and is the first company on the continent by number of European research projects in which it participates. The main asset of Telefónica I+D is its staff, which is 97% composed of university graduates from 18 different nationalities.

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Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial ([www.laboralcentrodearte.org](http://www.laboralcentrodearte.org)) is a multidisciplinary space that supports artistic exchange and fosters relations among society, art, science, technology and creative industries. It is an open and dynamic project aimed at all audiences, which brings together the most contemporary artistic expressions and provides educational and training activities. Inaugurated the 30th March 2007, the Centre is located in Gijón (Principality of Asturias), within the framework of Universidad Laboral - today, Ciudad de la Cultura [City of Culture]. Plataforma Cero is the area of production, research and resources at LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial. It is constituted by a modular and flexible structure, intended for its functioning, and adapted to different programmes for work groups, individual creators and educators operating in the intersections between science, art, technology, creative industries and society.

**NEXT THINGS 2012 / CALL FOR IDEAS**

Telefónica I+D and LABoral are proud to organize NEXT THINGS 2012, the First Global Art & Technology Challenge. The goal of the challenge is to bring together art and technology, artists with technologies, and to unleash the huge potential of mixing the creativity and perspective of artists with the nowadays powerful open hardware technologies.

**OBJECTIVE**

NEXT THINGS 2012 is looking for innovative and disruptive ideas on the Internet of Things in the interplay of art and technology: art that uses connected / smart objects / spaces as medium, or art that reframes, rethinks and reflects on what the role of the Internet of Things could be(come).

- -What can an object transform to if you endow it with wireless connectivity?
- - How could we interface with spaces and their underlying infrastructure? And what for?
- - What does it mean when not only people are connected to one another but people to objects and objects to each other?

It is about reflecting on questions like these and exploring how the Internet of Things, machine-to-machine interactions (M2M) or Smart Spaces can have an impact on people's lives from an individual scale to entire societies. So it could have to do with familiar objects, clothes, transport, intermachine communication, resolving social problems, or almost anything!

It will be appreciated in the proposals:

- That may be converted in manufactured objects, employed by people and societies.
- Connected wirelessly to the Internet.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A six (6) month artist fellowship, split between Telefónica I+D (Telefonica's technology research and development arm) in Barcelona and LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial (through Plataforma Cero, its Research, Production and Resource Centre) in Gijón. The goal of the fellowship is to enable the fellow to bring the chosen idea to life.

Telefónica I&D will provide a work space in its location, equipment as well as access to technological knowledge and Telefonica's technology platform.

LABoral will provide lab space, equipment and technical support as well as access and exchange with other artists and creators at the centre. LABoral also provides accommodation in Gijón.

The artist will receive twelve thousand euros (12.000 e) gross to cover all costs derived from the fellowship - production, travel, fees, and any other general costs.

#### SUBMISSION OF IDEAS

- - The call is open to all creators in the space between art and technology.
- - Basic ability to build the project on your own, with occasional support from Telefónica I+D and LABoral, is required: knowledge of open hardware platforms such as Arduino and general programming skills.
- - NEXT THINGS 2012 is looking for ideas that can be prototyped and built based on open hardware platforms such as Arduino connected to the Internet within the course of six (6) months.

#### PRESENTATION

Please send a one page idea proposal, a one page visual description and a CV. The proposal should outline the project and describe -on a high level- the building blocks required to make it.

Please send the document in PDF format to [po@laboralcentrodearte.org](mailto:po@laboralcentrodearte.org) before January 5th 2012, 2 pm.

#### TIMELINE

- The limited period for receiving applications will close at 2 pm on Thursday, 5th January 2012 at [po@laboralcentrodearte.org](mailto:po@laboralcentrodearte.org)
- The decision will be announced before January 16th, 2012.
- The fellowship will start on March 12, 2012.

#### SELECTED IDEA

The author of the selected proposal will be asked to sign a contract with LABoral and Telefónica I+D which regulates the terms, revision of fulfilment dates and payment.

#### THE JURY

The assessment of proposals will correspond to the following experts committee, whose verdict will be final:

Pablo Rodríguez (Telefónica I+D)

Oriol Llobet (Telefónica I+D)

Ramon Sangüesa (Citilab)

Benjamin Weil (LABoral)

David Pello (LABoral, Plataforma Cero)

El Último Grito (Roberto Feo & Rosario Hurtado)

Representative from Cluster TIC

#### INFORMATION AND QUERIES

For any additional information or queries on the proposal call:

[po@laboralcentrodearte.org](mailto:po@laboralcentrodearte.org)

Participation in this call entails the acceptance of the present requirements.