



## **Here are some commonly asked questions and answers about our You Make It programme. Please take a look before submitting your application**

### **Q1. What is You Make It?**

It is a very effective 6-month long empowerment programme that aimed at unemployed or underemployed young women who want to gain the confidence, professional networks, experiences and knowledge needed to make a living in London.

### **Q2. Do I need to be unemployed to apply?**

We give priority to applicants who are unemployed, but in some cases do consider young women who have low paid, casual work. We would encourage you to apply and we can decide whether this is the right opportunity for you.

### **Q3. How do I win a place on You Make It?**

We will review your application once we receive a copy and book you in to meet a member of our team for an interview. Don't worry, this won't be formal – but it will be a chance for us to get to know you a bit more and talk about what You Make It could do for you.

### **Q4. What do I get access to if I get a place on the programme?**

- 3 months of weekly sessions (Fridays, 10am-2pm) that unlock your confidence, self-awareness and knowledge of what it takes to set up your own business or gain paid work. Sessions include workshops and guest speaker slots which are led by creative, diverse and inspiring people who you'll love meeting and getting to know. The sessions are also based at amazing creative and cultural organisations around the city that will get you thinking about all the opportunities that lie on your doorstep!

- 6 months of 1-1 mentoring (you'll meet with your mentor every 3-4 weeks) with an established professional who is able to support you to identify and achieve goals related to earning a living.
- Trading Places project – setting up stalls in Old Spitalfields Market as a way of testing the new skills and knowledge gained through the weekly workshops programme e.g. team-working, communication and negotiation skills. If you're someone who designs and makes their own products, you can actually put them up for sale as part of 'Trading Places'.
- An expenses paid, short work placement in one of London's leading cultural, creative or other places of work – excellent experience for your CV. These will be best-matched to your areas of interest and agreed on by you and our team. Previous placements have offered experience in graphics design, business consulting, music management, set design, digital marketing, admin and fashion design.
- Ladies' Den – a business pitch competition if you do have an idea for a venture, which could see you walk away with a cash prize of £1,000 towards your start-up costs, and especially important, 12 months of business coaching. You can also access co-working space and PR support.
- Over 100 incredible people at the prestigious You Make It awards party, when you'll take to the stage, accept your certificate for completion and make a speech to make your mark!

**Q5. When does the programme start and what happens if I get paid work during it and have to give my place up?**

We aim to run our programme twice yearly and will complete within 6 months. Our next start date is listed on our 'Apply Now' page on our website. It's great if you get paid work during it – that's a good reason to give up your place! If this happens, there may be some parts of the programme that we agree you can continue with and we'll talk to you about that if the situation arises.

**Q6. What are the costs to join?**

Costs of running this programme per person come to £5000, but **IT'S FREE FOR YOU**. We award places to women who we know will make the most of

this opportunity. We also provide lunches and travel expenses for our weekly sessions meaning that you're supported throughout the process.

**Q7. If I'm someone with a business idea and I win cash investment and coaching as part of the business pitch competition mentioned in Q4, do I need to pay anything back?**

You Make It is a charity that relies on funding, grants, donations and sponsorship. It would be brilliant if budding entrepreneurs on the programme who end up running profitable businesses were able to put something back into help future women taking part in You Make It. We'll discuss/ agree ideas around this with award winners of the Ladies' Den competition.

**Q8. What has happened to other young women who've completed the programme?**

Amazing things! Based on the 130 women that we've worked with to date, over 92% of women who are selected to take part stuck with it and 82% have gone on to gain paid work, into formal education, or even taken steps to set up their own business. Let's not forget that 95% report feeling happier after completing the programme!

**Q9. That sounds amazing! How do I apply?**

The deadline for applications is typically one month before the start date, so please check our website for current dates. You can find this information and apply now at: <http://www.you-make-it.org/apply-now>

We invite in selected applicants for an interview. In the meantime, you can contact Roxi at [roxi@you-make-it.org](mailto:roxi@you-make-it.org) or tweet us [@\\_youmakeit](https://twitter.com/_youmakeit).

**Stay in touch! Follow us, like us and share us!**

