

Artist callout

Attenborough Arts Centre wants to hear from Artists in any creative discipline looking to collaborate with young people in SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) settings across Leicestershire through intensive 18 day residencies.



Context

As part of the 4 year SENSory Atelier programme funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, a partnership of 9 special schools across Leicester and Leicestershire, and Attenborough Arts Centre, will work with young people, families, a network of artists and teachers, and local businesses to explore arts-based residencies, and creative learning through gallery visits and performance.

Our approach is inspired by social pedagogies including the practice of Reggio Children, Sightlines Initiative and House of Imagination. In short, we seek to develop creative learning behaviours with young people in SEND settings, to develop teacher's and artist's abilities to scaffold this work, and to facilitate meaningful sharing of learning through practical and reflective networks.

Fees and commitments

Commitment - 18 days of residency activity - including initial observations, planning, delivery, reflection and evaluation. Residencies are expected to be a focused period starting in January 2022 at the earliest, and ending in July 2022 at the latest, usually lasting between 6 to 18 weeks.

Fee - £4500 plus additional materials budget (£150)

Approach

We are seeking artists that are open and collaborative, able to design process focused activity with multiple entry points to ensure equitable access for all participants.

Experience of school working is not essential, but we are seeking artists with an understanding of the professional requirements of this work, including planning for multiple and complex access and communication needs.

The Schools

We are currently looking for artists to collaborate with the following 2 schools:

Ashmount School

Ashmount is a special school located in Loughborough serving over 170 pupils between the ages of 4 and 19 with a range of special educational needs including pupils with profound and multiple learning difficulties, severe and additional learning difficulties, autism spectrum disorder and visual impairment.

Ashmount is a platinum ArtsMark school, and have a national reputation for high quality and leading educational approaches within SEND.

Ellesmere College

The college is located south of Leicester, and caters for students aged 4-19 with a range of special educational needs ranging from moderate to severe and complex needs, autism spectrum disorders, additional sensory or speech, language and communication needs. A small proportion of students have hearing or visual impairments.

Ellesmere were one of the two pilot schools in the SENSory Atelier programme, and as such are taking a leadership role within the current programme, sharing their learning and approaches across the 9 partner schools.

Application process

Send us a copy of your CV, and a cover letter (2 sides A4 max) or short video (5 minutes max) covering the following key pieces of information.

- Your background, including your approach, and why you think this would be relevant for SEND school settings in relation to:
 - Process focused working
 - Developing creative learning attributes of the young people
- Which school you are applying to work with, and why you feel your work would be suitable and relevant to the school. (Note you may apply for more than one school, but we would wish to see separate application information for each school to cover this bullet point, tailored to the school's context. This information can be submitted as additional pages, or video clips)
- What inspires or excites you about this opportunity? (Again, this can be tailored to each school you apply for)

Documents can be submitted by email, and video can be submitted by WeTransfer, or as links to youtube or vimeo.

The above should all be sent to **Caroline Rowland – Schools Learning Assistant** at caroline.rowland@leicester.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is **Monday 6th December 12.00pm noon**

Interviews will take place **on 13th or 14th December** at either Attenborough Arts Centre, or one of the two schools independently (note if applying for more than one school, each school's shortlisting and interview process will be held independently of each other, and you may be invited to interviews for each school applied for.)

Interviews will consist of a question and answer session, as well as some practical delivery with young people which may take place in person, or over video call depending upon covid restrictions at the time of interview. We positively encourage applications from disabled artists and artists under-represented within the sector. We will gather any access requirements at the point of an offer of interview.

Any questions about the application process should be directed to **Bob Christer – Programme Manager** at bob.christer@leicester.ac.uk

Successful applicants will be asked to provide two references and will need to undertake an Enhanced DBS check to cover the time period of the residency in line with our Safer Recruitment processes.