Artist callout

Attenborough Arts Centre wants to hear from Artists 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, are working 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. This residency is expected to be a focused period starting in October 2022 at the earliest, and ending in December 2022 at the latest, anticipated to last between 6 to 11 weeks.

Fee - £4500 plus additional materials budget (£150) - £4650 total

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 School
We are currently looking for artists to collaborate with the following school:

Millgate School

Millgate is a special school for students whose main SEN type is Social Emotional and Mental Health. Our culture is built on the school motto “Transforming lives and inspiring futures”. Often our students come from diverse and deprived backgrounds which give them additional barriers to learning.

Although our students face additional difficulties, The Arts provide a creative outlet where students are able to express themselves and achieve where they often struggle elsewhere, particularly in academic areas.
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 (such as the pedagogy of Reggio Emilia)
  - Developing creative learning attributes of the young people
- Why you feel your work would be suitable and relevant to the school.
- What inspires or excites you about this opportunity?

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 12th September 5.00pm

Interviews will take place between 19th and 30th September at the school.

Interviews will consist of a question and answer session, as well as some practical delivery with young people. 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 or 0116 252 5343

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.

For more information on the wider SENsory Atelier programme visit www.unlockingtheworldblog.com where you will also find information on Nurture Network, our support network for freelance artists working in inclusive ways www.unlockingtheworldblog.com/nurture-network/