

## Oaklands School, Birkett House and Ashmount School Artist callouts

Attenborough Arts Centre wants to hear from Artists of any discipline looking to collaborate with young people in SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) settings across Leicestershire through intensive 18 day residencies. We are currently seeking artists for three separate residencies at Oaklands School, Birkett House or Ashmount School.

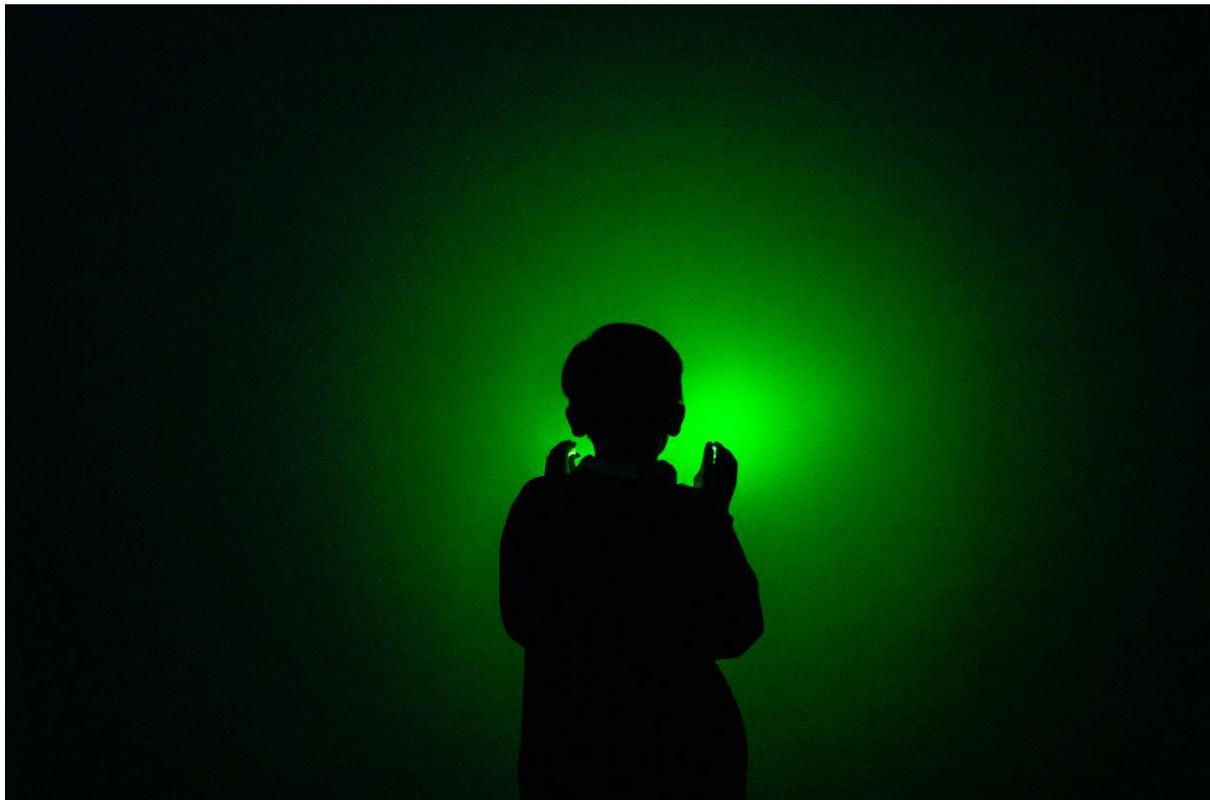


Image credit: Mark Anderson - InfuseDance

### 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** - Each residency consists of 18 days of residency activity - including initial observations, planning, delivery, reflection and evaluation.

**Oaklands School** - The residency at Oaklands School is expected to be a focused period starting in February 2023 at the earliest, and ending in May 2023 at the latest, anticipated to last between 6 to 20 weeks.

**Birkett House** - The residency at Birkett House is expected to be a focused period starting in May 2023 at the earliest, and ending in July 2023 at the latest, anticipated to last between 6 to 20 weeks.

**Ashmount School** - The residency at Ashmount School is expected to be a focused period starting in March 2023 at the earliest, and ending in July 2023 at the latest, anticipated to last between 6 to 20 weeks.

Actual grouping of sessions is negotiable between the needs of the school and successful candidate.

**Fee per school** - £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.

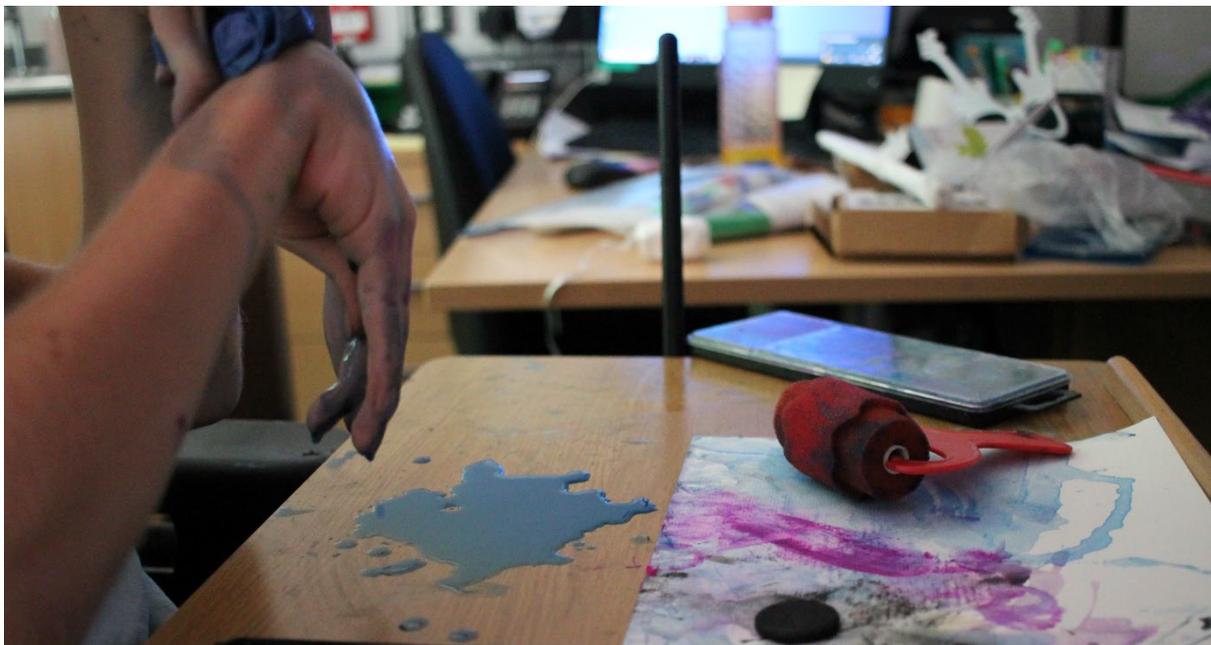


Image credit: Bob Christer (Pasha Kincaid – Ash Field residency)

## The Schools

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

### Oaklands School

Oaklands is a primary school for pupils with Special Educational Needs, situated in the Evington area of Leicester. We are a mixed day school catering for 103 pupils aged from 4 to 11 years. Our pupils at Oaklands have a range of learning difficulties. Most pupils have delayed communication and language skills, and difficulties with social interaction. The majority of pupils have a diagnosis of Autism, and some have Social, Emotional, Mental Health issues and/or medical conditions, in addition to their communication difficulties.

We are open to applications from artists of all disciplines, and for the residency to be led by the interests of our pupils, but we have a particular interest in drama/movement approaches and approaches that can unlock the world of books for our learners, that activate our children's natural capacity for play, exploration, narrative understanding, and augment their reading skills.

### Birkett House

Birkett House School is a special school located in Wigston supporting 240 pupils and their families, all who have special educational needs. The Arts have always held a special place within our work and curriculum as we see this as an area where a young person, irrespective of their ability, could express themselves in a variety of different forms and as an individual.

The residency would have a focus on working with our older age pupils (14 - 19) based at our Seniors Site, which shares a campus with Leysland Countesthorpe School. These learners are working towards a WJEC Qualification in Creative Arts and although this work may complement this, we really want this opportunity to push the boundaries around a media or style that they may never have previously accessed.

### 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.



Image credit: Bob Christer (In the Mix: Remix, Level Centre)

## Application process

Please fill in the form below, or send a short video (5 minutes max) covering the application form's questions. Please also attach a copy of your most recent CV.

We are looking for artists that are collaborative, understand the context of SEND education, are process focused and skilled in supporting the development of young people.

We prefer to receive PDFs of all documents submitted by email, and video can be submitted by WeTransfer, or as links to youtube or vimeo.

## Where to send your application

Your application should be sent to **Caroline Rowland - Schools Learning Assistant** at [caroline.rowland@leicester.ac.uk](mailto:caroline.rowland@leicester.ac.uk)

## Closing dates

**Oaklands School - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm** - Interviews will take place on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January** at Oaklands School.

**Birkett House - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm** - Interviews will take place on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** at Birkett House.

**Ashmount - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm** - Interviews will take place on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February** at Ashmount 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](mailto: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](http://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/](http://www.unlockingtheworldblog.com/nurture-network/)*

Note - [an editable word doc of this form can be downloaded here.](#)

## SENsory Atelier Artist Residency Application form

Company / Individual name:	
Contact number:	
Email:	
Please tell us briefly about your background, including your approach, and why you think this would be relevant for SEND school settings	
How does your approach align with Process focused working (such as the pedagogy of Reggio Emilia)?	
How does your approach develop the creative attributes of young people?	
Which school you are applying to work with, and why do you feel your work would be suitable and relevant to the school? <i>(Note you may apply for more than one school, but we would wish to see separate application information for each school, tailored to the school's context.)</i>	
What inspires or excites you about this opportunity? <i>(Again, this must be tailored to each school you apply for)</i>	

Please return your completed application form and a copy of your CV to **Caroline Rowland - Schools Learning Assistant** at [caroline.rowland@leicester.ac.uk](mailto:caroline.rowland@leicester.ac.uk)