

Ash Field and Nether Hall 'Atelier Labs' Artist callouts

Attenborough Arts Centre wants to hear from Artists of any discipline to collaborate with young people in SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) settings across Leicestershire. We are currently seeking artists for two intensive 24 day residencies as part of our award winning* Atelier Labs strand, collaborating with the University of Leicester's school of Chemistry to explore science and art at Ash Field Academy and Nether Hall School.

**HEIST Awards Gold - Best Widening Participation Initiative 2023; Falling Walls Engage - Science Engagement Winner 2023*



Image credit: Rachel Scanlon – Atelier Labs pilot at Nether Hall School

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.

The development of our Atelier Labs strand of residencies is funded by Bruce Wake Charitable Trust, Ashley Family Foundation, Rix-Thompson-Rothenberg Foundation and Baily Thomas Charitable Trust.

Fees and commitments

Commitment - Each residency consists of 24 days of residency activity - including initial observations, planning, delivery, reflection and evaluation. We anticipate around 18 days of delivery per residency out of the allocated 24 days.

Ash Field Academy - The residency at Ash Field Academy is expected to be a focused period starting in January 2024 at the earliest, and ending in June 2024 at the latest, anticipated to last between 8 to 18 weeks.

Nether Hall School - The residency at Nether Hall School is expected to be a focused period starting in January 2024 at the earliest, and ending in June 2024 at the latest, anticipated to last between 8 to 18 weeks.

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

Fee per school - £6000 plus additional materials budget (£257.50) - £6257.50 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. Additionally, a background in Science or Chemistry is not essential, however an ability to collaborate with Chemists in content design will be required.



Image credit: Bob Christer – Atelier Labs at The Beacon

The Schools

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

Ash Field Academy

Ash Field is a specialist school located in the Evington area of Leicester serving over 160 pupils between the ages of 4 and 19 with a predominating physical disability and a range of additional needs. Ash Field are a Platinum ArtsMark school and they have a national reputation for being at the forefront of educational approaches within SEND, particularly for pupils with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD).

Nether Hall School

Nether Hall School is located on the East side of Leicester and provides education for 120 pupils aged 4-19 with a range of special educational needs including; pupils with severe, profound and complex learning difficulties.

Nether Hall pupils and staff are delighted to be involved in the SENSory Atelier programme, a perfect fit with our vision of creating a culture and environment where everyone can shine.



Image credit: Bob Christer – Sian Watson Taylor at The Magpie 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 arts-learning@leicester.ac.uk with the subject line 'SENSory Atelier Artist Residency Application'

All applications will receive a short reply email to confirm receipt.

Closing dates

Ash Field Academy - Monday 20th November at 1pm - Interviews will take place on **Thursday 7th December** at Ash Field Academy.

Nether Hall School - Monday 20th November at 1pm - Interviews will take place on **Monday 4th December** at Nether Hall 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 to discuss reasonable adjustments.

*Any questions about the application process should be directed to **Bob Christer - Programme Manager** at bob.christer@leicester.ac.uk or **0116 252 5343** - working days usually Monday to Thursday.*

Successful applicants will be asked to provide two references and will need to undertake an Enhanced DBS check including Children's Barred List 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/

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

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 arts-learning@leicester.ac.uk with the subject line 'SENsory Atelier Artist Residency Application'



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