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Artist-in-residence sought for Gillingham Library

Dorset Library Service has secured funding to enable an exciting programme of arts development within Gillingham and Weymouth Libraries. The programme is called *Libraries as Cultural Hubs* and will take place across two years.

This project seeks to deliver an innovative approach to expanding the use of the arts in libraries and with the surrounding communities. This residency is the first of four for Gillingham Library that will take place across two years.

An extensive piece of consultation took place prior to the launch of this programme in which young people said, “*somewhere to show ideas and projects*” was important. A full copy of this research is available by contacting Hannah Baker, The Arts Development Company.

The brief

Dorset Library Service are seeking an experienced and socially engaged artist who can work together with Gillingham Library, specifically to engage with young people aged from 13 upwards from the local area. It is important that this project reaches a diverse range of young people and the artist will work in partnership with an Arts and Cultural Programme Coordinator from the library team to support this. Proposals may include drop-in participatory sessions, displays, regular workshops or other ways to provide opportunities for young people to take part.

The artist will produce new work in response to the library setting and work alongside young people to enable them to produce new work, with the ideas and focus driven by the young people. The time would be split between working independently and facilitating small groups of young people on-site at the library.

We welcome the skills of artists to enhance the libraries offer to local communities, inspire visitors and particularly welcome young people to give them a greater sense of the library space as theirs to enjoy and use.

Art form proposals are not limited and can include more than one discipline, including visual or performing arts, but any proposals must be suitable for the public-access library spaces, taking into account accessibility and health and safety.

The artist will be present while the library is open to the public and we would like the artist to engage with people using the library and other library staff in a positive and creative way!

Whilst the artist will retain intellectual copyright over any works produced, we would like work where possible to be on display/exhibited and we will be using images and coverage of the programme for evaluation, reporting and marketing purposes during and after the residency.

Outcomes of the project are:

- To deliver an artist residency that encourages and forges new connections between the library, the library staff and local communities – specifically young people.
- Test and evaluate a new way of working together with professional artists to enhance the cultural offer for the libraries, knowing that this may inform work beyond the life of the programme and across other libraries.

The artist is required to:

- Use Gillingham Library as a base for up to 12 days work.
- Work closely with the Arts and Cultural Programme Coordinator from Dorset Library Service to deliver the plan.
- Lead sessions with small groups of young people on-site in Gillingham Library and work with them to produce new creative work.
- Participate in discussions about progress and evaluation.
- Implement any appropriate methods to strengthen the evaluation that will be taking place for the programme.
- Subscribe to Dorset Library Service Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Guidelines and undergoing appropriate background checks including a DBS check and providing references.
- Travel to Gillingham, Dorset (have own transport).

Timescale

Deadline for submission of response to brief	6 th June 2018
Interview date	11 th June and 18 th June 2018
Artist residency phase	9 July 2018 – 30 Sept 2018. Flexible days or part-days within this period.

Budget

Total fee for the work is **£3000**, to **include** any materials or resources the artist chooses to use. There is also a limited travel allowance in addition the fee. Payment is in two instalments, the final being upon completion of the brief.

To apply please submit:

- A covering letter explaining why this work is of interest.
- An overview of the approach you would take presented as either written info, a short digital or other visual explanation.
- Budget breakdown of expected time spent and materials.
- A copy of your C.V including reference to any previous relevant work with young people.
- Please state within your application if you have a current DBS (within the last 2 years).

Applications should be sent to: Hannah Baker by 6th June 2018 email:

hannah@theartsdevelopmentcompany.org.uk

We are committed to ensuring that all employees and job applicants are provided with equality of opportunity in employment <https://jobs.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/GenText.aspx?page=page23>

If you would like to discuss this brief please contact: Hannah Baker Tel: 01305 224525

Email: hannah@theartsdevelopmentcompany.org.uk