

## Creative Practitioners Needed

Meadow Arts is seeking to appoint a number of creative practitioners to join their network of freelancers who undertake work relating to the Education and Engagement Programme.

We welcome applications from people who identify as being in one or more of the following groups, who we have identified as under-represented within our network:

- Those who identify as black, Asian, minority ethnic or from migrant communities
- Those who identify as disabled
- Practitioners who are aged between 18 and 30 years
- Those who identify as LGBTQIA+

Increasing the diversity of the artists we collaborate with will ensure that our work reflects all the groups and communities who share a passion for contemporary visual arts with us, both now and in the future. We believe that a wider representation of backgrounds in our Creative Practitioner Network will allow us to work more closely with communities and help make our artistic and education programmes feel more current, representative and alive.

We want to have a greater understanding of the issues that marginalised groups face and believe that first-hand experience is the best way to learn. In support of our Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation status, we strive to be at the forefront of creative education and engagement work, reflecting the need and interests of diverse groups across the region.

### About our Education and Engagement programme

*Meadow Arts Inspires* incorporates three main areas of work:

#### 1) Education

Work in schools across Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin. Our school projects typically last from 2-4 days and are run in conjunction with teachers and pupils. Subjects are broad and have included China, the Middle East, resilience, the outdoors, science and technology. Projects are created through initial contacts from schools and a school visit before tender documents are offered out: We work across primary, secondary and F.E./H.E. settings.

We have run a number of projects in Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) settings and are presently leading a project funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation that explores the way in which children who are neuro-diverse respond to contemporary visual art. We have also run projects with Looked After Children Networks and those who do not attend mainstream school.

We are an Arts Award Centre and attend regular meetings with different Local Cultural Education Partnerships across the region.

#### 2) Engagement

Our engagement work responds to our Exhibitions and Meadow Projects programmes. This has included:

- Workshops with community groups including older people and those with disabilities
- Stand alone family workshops which often include a walking tour /guide to our exhibition

- School visits to our exhibitions and accompanying workshops.

We wish to extend the focus of our engagement work, running specific programmes with local communities on issues that matter to them. We are seeking deeper engagement over longer periods of time, where we can have a lasting impact, providing communities with support and leaving a legacy of creative change.

### 3) Support and Networking

The Meadow Arts Creative Practitioner Network meets approximately every two months. These meet-ups are a combination of peer advice and support, information and training. In 2019 Meadow Arts received funding from The Elmley Foundation to help support the network and this has enabled us to fund a training package, which has included workshops from peer organisations Take A Part and Creativity Works. It has also helped us create a Young Meadow Arts Company, which will be supported in the future by practitioners aged 16-30.

### About Meadow Arts

Meadow Arts produces unique contemporary art projects in unusual places, curating large-scale exhibitions and commissioning new artworks and events.

Born in a meadow in 2004, Meadow Arts has evolved to become an important part of the creative landscape, working with a variety of significant partners and host locations. We work with highly regarded heritage buildings, historic sites and landscapes and public spaces to bring new audiences to the contemporary visual arts, in areas where few other opportunities exist.

Our values:

- to be creative, inspirational, collaborative, responsive and curious
- to use excellent contemporary art to encourage new ideas and expand horizons
- to work with people to push boundaries, challenge, inspire and create

### Employment Conditions

Meadow Arts pay a daily rate artistic fee of £250 + travel and expenses.

We require practitioners to hold personal Public Liability Insurance and hold an up to date DBS certificate to enable access to school /education settings.

Being part of the network does not guarantee any paid work with us, but there will be regular job opportunities, invitations to network meetings and inclusion in our Creative Practitioner Facebook Group, which is a good place to share other news and current opportunities.

### Your skills

We are looking for the following:

- Knowledge, Experience and Interest of work in school and /or college settings
- Experience, interest and empathy with working in community settings

- Experience of running visual art workshops in person and online
- Experience and interest in being part of an arts network

### **How to apply**

Please send in your CV and a supporting letter (max 2 sides A4) outlining why you would make a great addition to the Meadow Arts Creative Practitioner Network, supported by examples of your own work including at least two images. For further information and to submit your application and receive the equal ops form please contact Steve Wilson [steve@meadowarts.org](mailto:steve@meadowarts.org)

Deadline: 5<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm