



Young Artists Team Wanted For Commission

Curious Minds are seeking a team of young, professional artists to create an experience or event that will bring heritage to life in new and surprising ways.

Do you have the ideas and creative skills to re-present local heritage in a way that would engage a wide range of people?

Your creation might look a bit like a pop-up museum, a digital theatre experience, an online game, an immersive performance, it might take place in a youth centre, on the streets, in a museum or online ... but we hope you'll surprise us with something we've never even thought of.

Hope Happenings Artist Team

Hope Happenings is the working title for the first 'event' in the Hope Streets programme. It will draw on the history of 5 streets across the North West - either a literal or metaphorical 'Hope Street' - and explore and interpret the theme of 'Hope' through heritage. It will be created by a team of professional artists from any discipline, under the age of 25.

5 groups of young people will provide the artist team with stimulus materials to create the event. They will research their local Hope Street and give their findings, thoughts and opinions to the artist team to use as source material.

The artist team will be responsible for turning this into an innovative and exciting experience or 'event' which will demonstrate the ability of young people to inject excitement and innovation into heritage. It will be a single artistic creation, presented, or engaged with in some way across all 5 sites. For example, it could make use of digital technology and be presented online, with local engagement from each area, or be an installation that tours the five sites.

Whatever is created, the groups of young people will facilitate and support their local area to receive or engage with the Hope Happening.

The artist team will:

- Receive research, findings and stories from the groups of young people and turn it into an exciting and innovative artistic response, ready for public presentation
- Self-facilitate their collaboration as a group of (approximately) three artists
- Communicate with the young people about their plans as they emerge and invite their continued input where needed
- Draw on the groups of young people as a resource to support the creation of their work
- Draw on the resources and expertise of the museum staff and sites
- Provide timely information to enable us to promote the Hope Happenings
- Provide practical and timely information to enable the 5 sites to plan and prepare to engage with the Hope Happenings
- Contribute to the evaluation of the project

About Hope Streets:

Hope Streets is a brand new, 5 year project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, which will see young people aged 11 – 25 revolutionise the way museums work with their peers.

It is being led by a consortium of three organisations in the North West; Curious Minds, Youth Focus North West and Museum Development North West.

It's called Hope Streets, because we want museums and heritage organisations to help young people build their hopes for the future by connecting to the past and to the present.

We also want those museums to see young people as their hope for the future – their future visitors and workforce, and the makers, interpreters and guardians of history.



Over 5 years, we'll continue to develop the museum's skills, plans and ambitions through practical youth projects, with the museum staff taking an increasingly active role. Young people will be continually guiding how this work develops, and we expect to create a really wide range of opportunities for young people to get involved.

By the end of 5 years, museums will have permanently changed how they work with young people – we'll be expecting to see young people initiating, leading and guiding projects that are interesting and relevant to their peers, sitting on boards, transforming the way museums communicate with young audiences, regularly involved in making decisions, and challenging how museums are run. We expect the museums to have made permanent changes to their plans and the way they do things and have a staff team who feel confident, skilled and enthusiastic about young people and what they bring to the museum.

We are working with a lead partner museum in each of the 5 sub-regions of the North West.

The lead partners are:

- The Atkinson (Sefton - Merseyside)
- Bolton Museums (Bolton - Greater Manchester)
- Tullie House (Cumbria)
- Clitheroe Castle Museum (Lancashire)
- West Cheshire Museums (Cheshire West and Chester)

Artist Team Role Description

We would like to receive applications from teams of artists regardless of whether you have previously worked together. We are particularly interested in teams which span more than one art form. While this brief has been prepared with a group of three artists in mind, we would consider applications from smaller or slightly larger groups.

Suitable people to be part of the artist team would:

- Be established, innovative artists, with some professional track record of creating original and innovative work and public facing events
- Be excited and inspired by the project!
- Have some experience of working with the input of young people
- Have an interest in heritage
- Have experience of collaboration with artists across different art forms
- Have experience of partnership working with cross-sector organisations
- Be excellent and confident communicators
- Be reliable, well organised and have a track record of delivering projects on time, and to budget
- Have Public Liability Insurance
- Ideally, have an up to date DBS check and have undertaken Safeguarding Training in the last 2 years.

Practical stuff:

- The artist team will meet initially during December and work together intensively during February 2019 and March 2019 to create Hope Happenings. The groups of young people will provide their research into their local 'Hope Streets' to the artist team at the end of January. Hope Happenings public event/s will take place between mid-April and mid-May 2019. (Marketing and local preparation for engagement will be taking place during March and April)
- The total fee for the whole team of artists will be £7,500, which includes a production budget of approximately £1,500.
- To apply, please send a copy of your individual CV's and some examples of your previous artistic work (either individual or collective). Please also provide a brief description of your team's initial thoughts and ideas about how you might collectively approach creating Hope Happenings. This can be provided in any format.
- Should you be shortlisted, you would need to be available to pitch a more developed proposal to a panel of young people (14-25) on **Sunday 9th December** in Preston. It may be possible to conduct pitches remotely using Skype, if necessary.

Please send your application via email to: saul.argent@curiousminds.org.uk by 5pm on the 26th of November 2018.