

Artes Mundi is seeking experienced artists to help deliver its Community Engagement Programme

Introduction

Artes Mundi is a biennial visual art initiative which is international in scope, recognising artists from across the world – artists who contribute in some way to our understanding of humanity. The initiative comprises a shortlist of artists, a major exhibition of their work at the National Museum Cardiff, an energetic Public Engagement Programme, a publication, and a purchase fund (to buy work by some of the shortlisted artists). This framework of activity aims to generate debate and discussion which reaches well beyond Wales and the UK.

While it supports and celebrates some of the world's most exciting emerging artists, Artes Mundi is also committed to creating new experiences and participation opportunities for individuals and communities across Wales so that they can explore the contemporary visual arts and their own creativity. The Public and Community Engagement Programmes comprise several strands of activity :

- Schools programme, involving primary, secondary, special schools
- Teacher Training programme involving primary, secondary and trainee teachers
- Public events programme, involving events and talks for the general public
- Debate & discussion programme, including a professional symposium
- Community engagement programme working with young people across South Wales in collaboration with Fairbridge De Cymru, Cardiff.

Here we are advertising opportunities for artists to be involved with the Community Engagement Programme. We are looking for:

- an experienced lead artist to devise and facilitate an exciting arts participation programme for young people
- two artists to assist the lead artist in delivering the project

Working with Young People

Artes Mundi is looking to engage three artists who will devise and facilitate two exciting arts participation courses for young people in collaboration with Fairbridge.

Fairbridge works to support 13-25 year olds who are **not** in formal education, employment or training, (NEET individuals) by offering them a long-term personal development programme. This project will specifically be targeting young people in the age range of 13-19. Fairbridge has one centre in Wales, situated in Cardiff, and Artes Mundi will be working with young people from across South Wales at the Fairbridge De Cymru Centre in Cardiff. For further info on Fairbridge see www.fairbridge.org.uk.

The aims of the arts participation project are to:

- Help increase the confidence and motivation of the young people taking part
- Improve the communication skills of the participants and their ability to work together in teams and make decisions
- Help the participants believe that they can set themselves goals and achieve their potential
- Provide young people who either have or are at risk of 'dropping out' with a secure starting point from which they can set out on a journey back into education, training or employment
- Provide strong links to other organisations working with young people that can offer ongoing support to the participants as they continue their journey back into education, training or employment
- Develop existing and new partnerships to provide opportunities for continuing similar work in this field beyond the timescale of this project funding.

There will be two arts participation projects, each 12 days long, running from February – April 2010 and May- July 2010. These courses will be provided as part of the Fairbridge Programme, which consists of four stages.

Stage One - Induction

Fairbridge aims to work with some of the most marginalised young people, who have often struggled to engage with anything positive. Working closely with referral agencies, Fairbridge's Outreach and Development Workers (ODWs) actively engage with organisations to identify young people who would most suit the Fairbridge approach. If a young person is interested they visit the centre and discuss what they would like to achieve with their ODW in a one-to-one meeting. This first *Induction* stage is crucial in helping to make sure that they feel Fairbridge is something new, exciting and - ultimately - right for them.

Stage Two - Access

The second stage is the *Access* course which is designed to develop a range of personal and social skills, the *Access* course is where every young person's unique Fairbridge journey begins in earnest. The course is outdoor focused and includes a number of challenging activities such as climbing, canoeing and caving - all designed to build confidence, develop team work and challenge negative behaviour.

Stage Three – Follow On

Having completed the *Access* course, a young person will sit down with their key worker to produce a Personal Development Plan, tailor-made to each young person, this will map out a series of activities designed to build the skills of each individual. This stage is called *Follow On* and is a range of courses that young people enrol on to improve the young person's life chances. The options for follow on are varied. It includes courses aimed at improving basic skills (literacy and numeracy) , independent living skills (cooking on a budget), confidence

building skills (climbing, caving) to activities that challenge young people in new ways (art/film based projects for example). Arts based projects help develop a very wide range of skills such as such goal setting, working towards deadlines, communication, team work etc, they also learn to express themselves - to talk of aspirations, feelings and ideas which helps in their emotional development. Young people engage in follow on for as long as they think it is required, regular one-to-one review sessions are held with their Outreach Development Worker (ODW) to confirm what goals they want to work towards, what skills they want to learn and what outcomes they want to achieve. For some follow on lasts a matter of weeks, for others a lot longer.

Stage Four -Moving On

Through discussion between ODW and the young people there will come a stage when its time for a young person to move on from Fairbridge. When this point is reached, various exit options are looked into with the young people. This could be back into main stream education (if under 16), going to college, into a work placement scheme or into employment.

(For further info on Fairbridge's programme see www.fairbridge.org.uk.)

Artes Mundi is working in collaboration to deliver two arts participation courses as part of the Fairbridge Programme at Stage Three – *Follow On*. The exact content of each course will have to retain flexibility to meet the needs and situations of individuals within the groups and, importantly, to give them the opportunity to plan their own activities and outcomes. The core structure, however, will be as follows:

4 Days Taster Sessions

The young people will have a chance to try their hand at a variety of art media eg - animation, photography, printmaking, collage, video editing or sculpture. These sessions should be fun and interactive and will be designed to remove any barriers or prejudices that might surround art, appealing to the young people who are NEET and showing them how art can be relevant to their lives. As all Fairbridge courses are about the young person's engagement and their individual decisions, the "taster" sessions will also act as "filters" that will enable the participants to explore if they like the project and want to move on to the next stage.

4 Days Making Sessions

young people creating their own artworks

2 days Preparing for Exhibition Sessions

These will cover how to promote and display their works.

2 days of Exhibition Visits and Talks

Relating to further arts projects and training, These visits will include the Artes Mundi Exhibition at National Museum Cardiff and a possible trip to London in conjunction with Fairbridge.

We are aiming for the young people to create their own exciting finished art, making their own decisions as to what they want to express and setting their own goals to achieve this. Artes Mundi, Fairbridge and the young participants will work towards an exhibition of some kind, to be shown both in the areas where the young people come from and in Cardiff as a parallel to the main Artes Mundi Exhibition, or as a follow on to it.

Lead Artist's Role

The Lead Artist will be responsible for devising the arts course in more detail, leading and facilitating the young people's arts participation, managing the involvement of supporting artists as required and ensuring key elements of evaluation are in place. The Lead Artist will have:

- a proven track record of running successful projects with young people who are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training)
- a genuine interest in engaging young people in contemporary art
- experience in using creative & innovative methods to help build confidence and motivation through arts participation
- experience in using a wide range of art media that will engage young people

The Lead artist will need to deliver the two arts participation programmes during the period January-August 2010 and will work 30 days to include preparation and evaluation days at a rate of £180 per day (total £5,400).

Supporting Artist's Role

Two supporting Artists will be responsible for assisting the Lead Artist in the delivery of the arts programme. The Supporting Artists will have:

- experience in working with young people who are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training)
- a genuine interest in engaging young people in contemporary art
- experience in using creative & innovative methods to help build confidence and motivation through arts participation
- experience in using a wide range of art media that will engage young people

The two supporting artists will assist the Lead Artist in the delivery of one of the arts participation projects, and will either work 8 days during February – April 2010 or May – July 2010 at a rate of £160 a day (total £1,280 each).

How to apply

Applications should be submitted by post to Ffion Rhys, Artes Mundi, A2.10, UWIC, Western Avenue, Cardiff, CF5 2YB or email to info@artemundi.org

Applicants should submit:

- Current CV particularly outlining relevant experience
- Covering letter detailing which opportunity they are interested in and why
- A maximum of 5 images of relevant work (if sent by email please ensure that images are of a medium to small size)

Recruited artists will self-employed and will need to have their own Public Liability insurance.

Artists will be requested to complete an enhanced criminal record check in advance of leading workshops. This is standard practice when working with young people.

Deadline for applications **4th January, 2010 at 12noon**

Shortlisted artists will be interviewed on **11th January 2010** in Cardiff

Artes Mundi is committed to equal opportunities and therefore actively encourages applications from artists of all cultural backgrounds.

This project is made possible through Reach the Heights, a Welsh Assembly Government initiative aimed at reducing the number of young people in Wales aged 11 – 19 years who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), or at risk of being so. The project has been developed to take advantage of the funding opportunities available from the European Social Fund (ESF) programme in Wales.

Artes Mundi is funded by Welsh Assembly Government, Cardiff Council, Arts Council of Wales, and is working in partnership with Fairbridge Cymru.

www.artemundi.org

www.fairbridge.org.uk