****School Programme: Creative Freedom

**Creative Freedom**

**Artist/Creative Practitioner Call Out**

Creative Freedom is our new creative and cultural offer to schools in Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire which will place 10 artists in residence across schools in the region.  
We are seeking practitioners who will excite and energise young people to enable them to access wider cultural experiences, engage in art activities at a deeper level and aspire to future careers in the cultural sector. We believe strongly in creativity, collaboration and change; we want to work with exciting and dynamic artists who will help teachers embed creative approaches to learning in their classroom.

The activities will be co-planned with teaching staff and will be delivered through 1 session a week with 2 separate fixed classes over a 20-week programme from October 2023 to March 2024 culminating in a joint exhibition sharing event in late Spring 2024.

**Who We Are**

**Partners in Creative Learning: The Stoke and North Staffordshire Cultural Education Partnership**

**Partners in Creative Learning (PiCL)** design and deliver creative learning projects in schools and communities, in classrooms and public spaces, community venues or pop-up shops and online. With 13 years of experience, we design innovative projects and work that use creativity, culture and art to make a positive change and communicate messages.

Our mission is to facilitate learning with all that we work with, using creative tools and techniques and exciting and fresh collaborations.

**Stoke Cultural Education Partnership**

PiCL and Stoke and North Staffordshire Cultural Education Partnership (CEP) have worked together since its inception, supporting the strategic partnership and co-delivering programmes, such as Loving Learning Through Creativity. Stoke CEP was a voluntary collective of creative organisations, artists and educators who worked together to further and improve the creative education offer within the city. Through sector and youth consultation Stoke CEP developed and delivered programmes with multiple partners and stakeholders that focused on youth leadership, creative careers, teacher CPD, and developing a creative passport for young people in the city.

In April 2023 Partners in Creative Learning and Stoke and North Staffordshire Cultural Education partnership merged and joined the Arts Council England National Portfolio, from 2023-2026.

**The Programme**

Creative Freedom will engage children and young people in high quality arts experiences, to develop a greater awareness and uptake of cultural activity in and around the city. Through this artist in residence programme schools can explore an area of the arts to meet a specific need for their students, explore new artforms and improve creative aspirations.

**Artforms**

We are open to applications from any type of artistic or creative practice this could include photography/digital arts, ceramics, music, performing arts, visual arts, sculpture, poetry and creative writing.

We have had particular interest from schools around ceramics, drawing, performing arts, digital arts and large scale-installation work, therefore we would particularly encourage artists with these skills and areas of interest to apply.

**The schools**

We will be working with a group of 10 schools in the Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire area, the schools will be a range of different settings: Primary, Secondary, Special and a Pupil Referral Unit.

**Fee**

£4000 (inclusive of VAT, travel and expenses)   
There will be a separate materials budget available to support the programme activity of £500 per school/artist partnership.

Breakdown of delivery:

20 half day sessions in schools   
(including an organised trip to a relevant cultural venue)

1 day induction  
2.5 days planning/admin  
1 paired observation half day session  
1 day sharing event

Total: 15 days @ £266

**Location:** Schools in Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire – TBC

**Reporting to** PiCL Programme Co-Director

**Summary terms and conditions:**

This is a fixed-term freelance contract. Full freelance contract conditions can be supplied upon request. For further information please contact **iain@picl.uk.com**

**Who you are**

**You will**

• Be experienced in delivery high quality artistic practice and understanding of process

• Be experienced in developing work and projects in partnership with other stakeholders, creative partners and young people

• Have excellent communication, planning and organisational skills

• Have experience of designing engaging workshops to deliver on learning outcomes

• Have experience of working in a school setting, with a good understanding of the current educational context

• Have experience of collecting evaluation data

• Skilled in reflection both individually and in groups

• Be passionate about the role of arts and creativity within education

• Be flexible and adaptable to the needs of partners

* Good knowledge of health and safety, GDPR and safeguarding and experience applying these requirements to a workshop session with children and young people
* Skills and experience of working with children and young people with additional needs and SEND is desirable

All practitioners will need to hold an enhanced DBS check (we can facilitate this check if needed) and £5 million public liability insurance.

**To apply:**

Please send your CV and covering letter (or alternatively a video response no more than 3 minutes long can also be submitted) that details your practice and examples of how you have delivered this in an educational setting (no more than 2 sides of A4) and 4-5 accompanying images that illustrate your work (jpegs no bigger than 2mb) or link to website/social media account. Applications need to be sent to **iain@picl.uk.com** by **5pm** on the 28th August.

Please indicate if your experience relates to primary, secondary or both.

NB. Project activity will start in October (with initial planning session with the school and training day to be undertaken in September) and successful artists will need to commit to a session a week in the school until the end of March 2024.

**Timeline:**

Informal Q&A zoom – 9th August  
Deadline – 28th August  
Interviews – 4th and 5th September   
Induction day – 19th September (TBC)

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