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**Reach Out Project**

**Artist Brief**

**The Victoria Hall**

The Victoria Hall is a newly refurbished arts venue in the centre of Radstock. The building is owned by Bath & North East Somerset Council and Sue Hill Dance Ltd is the anchor tenant. The venue has four studios/performance spaces, and a gallery/coffee bar.

We provide local residents with access to a range of high quality arts events and experiences to engage, entertain and inspire them. Six hundred people visit the venue each week during term time for dance classes, other arts workshops and events. The events programme includes music, dance, theatre, comedy, cinema and a monthly craft market. Visit [www.victoriahallradstock.co.uk](http://www.victoriahallradstock.co.uk) for more information.

**Reach Out**

Reach Out is an 18 month programme of audience development activities (May 2015 to September 2016) funded by Bath & North East Somerset Council and Arts Council England. It is designed to develop our artistic programme and increase and extend our family audience base through:

* Programming more family focused events within our core programme
* Providing more opportunities for local residents to meet and interact with visiting artists and performers
* Extending our existing pilot work with five local primary schools to deliver a year round programme of gallery visits, performing and visual arts workshops, exhibitions and theatre performances

As part of this project we want to work with experienced professional visual artists who will:

* Exhibit in our gallery and
* Offer gallery talks to local schools and the wider community
* Run workshops with local primary schools producing work to exhibit in the gallery.

Through this activity we want to break down barriers to engaging with the arts and for local children and families to:

* See and be inspired by the work of professional artists
* Understand more about the creative process
* Discover new art techniques and develop their creativity through participating in professionally led workshops
* Develop a positive relationship with this new venue

We want to extend and enrich local schools’ curriculum activities and offer them the opportunity to showcase children’s art work in a professional gallery setting.

**Reach Out Artists**

We want to work with a pool of 3 - 4 artists who will each hang an exhibition of their own work in the Victoria Hall gallery between September 2015 and May 2016 and offer a gallery talk open to the general public. They will also offer workshops to local schools linked to their exhibitions. The number of workshops run by each artist will depend on interest from participating schools.

**Artist Specification**

We are looking to work with experienced professional visual artists who:

* Can mount a high quality exhibition and talk about their work to people of all ages in an engaging way
* Have experience running workshops particularly for primary aged children.
* Can deliver workshops that facilitate children’s creativity, enable them to learn new art skills and produce art works to hang in an exhibition.
* Are flexible and adaptable
* Have strong interpersonal skills, patience, empathy and a positive approach
* Are well organised and reliable
* Have good communication skills and are able to relate to children, teachers and other arts professionals
* Are aware of health and safety and safeguarding issues (artists should be prepared to be DBS checked if schools require this)

We do not have any display cases in our gallery so are primarily looking for 2D artists. However, we will be landscaping our courtyard garden during 2015 so we are also interested in submissions from 3D artists whose work is suitable for exhibiting outdoors.

**Fees**

Gallery talks £20 - £40 depending on experience and length of talk

Schools gallery talks plus workshops £100 - £125 per half day/£200- £250 per full day depending on experience

One free exhibition week in our gallery. Additional weeks available at £30 per week.

**To Apply**

If you are interested in joining our pool of Reach Out artists please send the following:

CV to include two relevant referees

3 images of your own work

2 images of work produced by participants (ideally children) in workshops you have led

A statement (500 words max) on why you are interested in this work and why you believe you are suitable

**Deadline: 12 noon Monday 1st June 2015**

**Send to:** Caroline Green (Community Programme Co-ordinator) The Victoria Hall, Radstock, BA3 3QG email:cgreenvictoriahallradstock@gmail.com

**For more information** contact Caroline on 01761 438885 or email as above.

  