# Artist’s Project Brief for Fresh Art@ working with Adults with mental health difficulties on ward and in the community

## Fresh Art @, a partnership project supported by Creativity Works, Avon & Wiltshire NHS Mental Health Partnership Trust (AWP), The Holburne Museum, No1 Royal Crescent, The American Museum in Britain and Virgin Care, creates new artwork to enliven NHS communities, created by people with experience of mental health, enabling them to explore, develop and grow through creativity and contribute to community projects.

This year **Fresh Art @** will be focusing on providing creative engagement for people affected by or caring for those who have experience of mental health challenges.

There will be 4 sessions delivered on an acute inpatient ward t Ward 4 St. Martins, and 12 sessions delivered in the community within The Holburne Museum, No1 Royal Crescent, The American Museum in Britain.

The project offers participants an opportunity to learn new creative skills in a friendly, supportive environment. It provides a chance to make new friends, share experiences, promote wellbeing and have fun. The museums provide inspirational environments and collections that can be used to stimulate creativity and engage participants. The artist will provide a range of inclusive creativity activities. Some of the artwork made by participants and staff will be donated to the Fresh Art@ Project and will be displayed in AWP NHS environments. There will also be an opportunity to exhibit work as part of the Bath Fringe Festival end of May – June 2018 and other community events throughout the year.

Fresh Arts@ project has two artist opportunities commencing February 2018

1. To deliver a series of 12 weekly creative sessions within The Holburne Museum, No1 Royal Crescent, The American Museum in Britain on Thursday afternoons from 8th February 2018. This community project will be for people affected by or caring for those who have experience of mental health challenges.
2. To provide a series of 4 creative sessions on an acute Dementia inpatient ward, St. Martins Hospital, Bath.

If you are interested in either or both of the above opportunities please provide a project vision for delivering a series of creative sessions identifying which post you are applying for.

Please keep your plan to no more than 2 sides of A4. Include any relevant experience of working in the community or in a ward environment with adults affected by or caring for those who have experience of mental health and how you have addressed some of the potential challenges.

## BRIEF:

To provide the Fresh Art @ steering group with a vision of how you would deliver a creative engagement programme for the project you are interested in:

1. 4 sessions for adults and staff in a ward environment and how you can address some of the potential challenges of working with this audience.
2. 12 sessions for people affected by or caring for those who have experience of mental health in a community setting within museums and how you can address some of the potential challenges of working with this audience. 15 participant places will be available on this 12 week project.

All sessions will be supported by a mental health worker, the Fresh Arts worker and a volunteer.

Participants will be encouraged to donate some of the artwork made during the project to enliven the environment for residents and staff in AWP NHS environments, to promote conversation, be thought provoking and inspirational. There will be also opportunities for all artwork to be exhibited at public venues and B&NES events and festivals.

## Project Context

## Fresh Arts @ is a partnership project supported by Creativity Works, Avon & Wiltshire NHS Mental Health Partnership Trust (AWP), The Holburne Museum, No1 Royal Crescent, The American Museum in Britain and Virgin Care.

Building on the success of the Fresh Art @ projects planned and delivered in 2013 - 2017 for Hillview Lodge psychiatric Ward, Bath NHS House and Ward 4 Dementia Assessment Ward, St. Martins Hospital and The Swallows therapy rooms at Paulton Hospital the steering group aims to further develop the project drawing on the experience and learning from the four previous years.

Creativity Works will manage the socially engaged artists and volunteers. Creativity Works is an arts organisation that delivers high quality socially engaged art and participatory arts projects that make a real difference to people’s lives. The guiding principle of our work is that creativity inspires and empowers people to explore, develop and grow. Creativity Works is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, based in Radstock, N.E. Somerset.

## Project Design

The artist/s will work alongside the Fresh Art @ steering group, Creativity Works, Fresh Arts worker, volunteers, museum, AWP and Virgin Care staff to deliver a high quality project which gives people on the ward and participants living in the community experiencing mental health challenges and their carers a new and positive experience.

## Artist’s Responsibilities

* Work alongside the Fresh Art @ steering group to devise and create a suitable programme of quality creative engagement, introducing a range of new skills and opportunities for participants to develop their own ideas
* Consult with The Holburne Museum, No1 Royal Crescent, The American Museum in Britainabout their collections to develop an inspiring programme of engagement and activity
* Have clear and consistent communications between the Fresh Art @ project steering group, artist/s, volunteers and supporting staff.
* Carry out risk assessments prior to any of the activities and adhere to all relevant policies
* Make or identify connections with the museums collections and wider community events and activity that might support further progression
* Contribute to an exhibition event during Bath Fringe Festival and other public events
* Liaise with Fresh Art @ steering group about how the project is to be evaluated and monitored

## Context of AWP NHS environments

**This year Fresh Art @ project will donate the artwork to the AWP headquarters based in Bath. This environment is used by staff, service users, carers, involvees and the public. Staff are very receptive and enthusiastic about changing the artwork in the therapy rooms on a regular basis and how it will contribute to a positive experience.**

## ****Approach:****

* **To create high quality artworks/outcomes through creativity, conversation, relationships and place**
* **Work in a flexible and emergent way allowing the outcomes to be determined through conversation and dialogue with all participants**
* **Devise frameworks allowing people to be part of the process in different ways (from casual engagement to decision making)**
* **Start the process from where people are at, their current experiences, activities ideas and feelings, involving people in decision making**
* **Consider good ways to communicate with wider audiences using the unexpected, humour and surprise.**
* **Be open to new people coming to the group once it has started**

**Budget**

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| Artists Fees per session | £75 |
| Material costs per session | £25 |
| Meetings | £50 |

**Dates for the on ward sessions**

To be arranged with the steering group and Nat Burgess Fresh Art @ Key Worker and The Holburne Museum, No1 Royal Crescent, The American Museum in Britain.

If you would like further information about the on ward sessions please contact Nat Burgess Fresh Art @ Key Worker

**Dates for the Community group sessions held within Bath Museums**

Thursdays 2 – 5pm tbc

8, 15, 22 February and 1 March - No. 1 Royal Crescent

8, 15, 22, 29 March – Holburne Museum

5, 12, 19, 26 April - The American Museum

Participants will be able to access the free bus service to and from the American Museum from central Bath

Please read the attached Artists Project Brief and return your application to Philippa Forsey by midnight Sunday 10th December 2017

Applications can be emailed to [philppa@creativityworks.org.uk](mailto:philppa@creativityworks.org.uk) or posted to: Creativity Works, 1 Wells Road, Radstock, Bath BA3 3RN

**Project timeline**

Wednesday 22nd Nov 2017 Artists Call out

Sunday 10th Dec 2017 by midnight - Closing date for applications

Monday 11th Dec 2017 - Application Selection

Monday 18th Dec – Artist Interviews tbc

Thursday 8th Feb 2018 – start of 12 week community art sessions at The Holburne Museum, No1 Royal Crescent, The American Museum in Britain

February – April 2018 – on ward sessions – dates tbc

End May – June 2018 – Bath Fringe festival exhibition