



CULTURE
CONSORTIUM
SHROPSHIRE



ACTIO AND CULTURE CONSORTIUM SHROPSHIRE (CCS)

CALL OUT FOR SHROPSHIRE ARTISTS

Delivery of arts workshops for Children and Young People and their families with SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities)

Fee - £1,250 (plus FREE mentoring support and access to training)

Duration of Contract – April 2021 to April 2022 (session dates to be confirmed in collaboration with artist and organisation)

Proposal Closing Date: Thursday 18 March 2021 – 12 noon

Actio in partnership with CCS (Culture Consortium Shropshire), a Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP), are seeking four Shropshire Based artists to deliver an exciting programme of arts workshops for children and young people and their families with SEND as part of 'All In'.

This is open to artists who are experienced at delivering sessions for the SEND community and those who are skilled arts facilitators but would like to further develop their skills and experience in working with this cohort.

This is a really exciting opportunity to use your practice to influence and enhance opportunities for children and young people with SEND in the arts and be part of an exemplar research and development programme.

We welcome applications from artists who identify as disabled themselves.

The Actio Consortium has been commissioned by Shropshire Council to manage the 'All In' Short Breaks activity programme on its behalf. 'All In' Short Breaks are leisure activities, specifically commissioned for children (0-18) with disabilities (or additional needs that could be linked to a disability) funded by Shropshire Council and are part of the Council's Early Help offer. More information on page 3 of this document.

THE 4 COMMISSIONED ARTISTS WILL:

- Each run 10 sessions of arts activity in partnership with 1 identified 'All In' organisation (10 x sessions per organisation) - *(these organisations are running activities as part of the 'All In' programme and will be multi-use venues/youth centres, selected by Actio).*
- Work in partnership with Actio and one 'All In' organisation to design an exciting and inclusive workshop programme, suitable for the cohort of young people.
- Produce written workshop plans, including expected outcomes
- Chose an area of their practice that they would like to develop when working with SEND groups. This will then be explored and supported through mentoring, peer mentoring and skills-based training.

- Feed into a programme of research by collaborating with their mentor to capture practice findings.
- Capture digitally (filmmakers will be provided for this), the children and young people's final sharing session/performance for families and carers. This will be shared with partners and used in the evaluation.

ARTISTS WILL BENEFIT FROM:

- One to one mentoring sessions with professional practitioners/artists (5 hours).
- Peer to peer group sessions for the four artists (2 sessions).
- 2 x skills-based training sessions, based around artists needs / areas of development.
- Inclusion of your practice in the research programme 'best practice' toolkit (written and digital).

PARTICIPATING 'ALL IN' ORGANISATIONS WILL BENEFIT FROM:

- Arts based skills training for staff at the organisations to enable positive partnership working with their 'artist in residence'
- Opportunity for staff to collaborate with the artists on site and learn new skills that can be used outside of the artists sessions.
- Opportunity for using arts-based techniques to enable better inclusion and bring new participants to their setting.

BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:

- 40 sessions of high-quality arts activity for children and young people with SEND.
- Sharing of work for families in the 10th session.
- Digital capture of all 4 organisations work to be shared online.
- Capture of Children and Young People's views on the activities that will inform future funding for arts activity within the 'All In' menu.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF ARTISTS:

- The commissioned artists will manage their own workload and priorities.
- The commissioned artists will be freelance and will be responsible for their own tax and national insurance contributions or part of an arts/cultural organisation.
- Be ICT literate, be flexible, approachable and self-sufficient.
- The roles subject to Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) check and two satisfactory references.

The artists will be managed by Hannah Prior (Ignition CIC) and report to Actio and CCS (Culture Consortium Shropshire).

TO APPLY PLEASE SEND by Thursday 18 March 2021 – 12 noon:

- Max 2 x sides A4 - outlining what you would deliver over the 10 x sessions; your approach to the work, age range sessions aimed at, main art form and what participating children and young people would get out of the sessions.
- Paragraph outlining what the final family sharing session would contain.
- Highlight 3 x areas of your own practice you would like to develop in working with children and young people with SEND (*This could be around specific skills of working with children and young people with SEND or how you may adapt your practice to meet the needs of the cohort*).
- Examples of your work with children and young people – illustrations, photos, film etc.
- 2 x references who can provide a reference support your work with children and young people.

- Information about whether or not you have a current enhanced portable DBS.

Please send all the above documents electronically to:

Please email your proposal to Hannah Prior (Artistic Director Ignition Create, member of Actio and CCS): hannah@i-ignition.co.uk

Please mark your email with the subject heading "Artist Commission 'All In' Programme".

TIMESCALES:

- Deadline for applications: **Thursday 18 March 2021 – 12 noon**
- You will be notified if shortlisted for an informal conversation by: **Tuesday 23 March 2021**
- Shortlisted artists will be invited to attend an informal conversation via Zoom on: **Tuesday 30 March 2021** (please pencil this date in your diary)

For further information or to arrange an informal conversation about the commission please contact: Hannah Prior by email, hannah@i-ignition.co.uk

More information about 'All In', Actio and CCS are available below on page 3.

Please let us know if you have any access requirements in completing your application.

If you are invited to an informal conversation, please let us know if you have any access requirements for this.

Actio and CCS are committed to delivering the recruitment and selection of staff in a professional, timely and responsive manner. All candidates will be treated fairly, equitably and efficiently, with respect and courtesy, aiming to ensure that the candidate experience is positive, irrespective of the outcome.

These Artist Commissions are funded by Arts Connect, Shropshire Council and administered by Ignition CIC on the behalf of Actio and Culture Consortium Shropshire (CCS).

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Actio - positive inclusion for everyone:

Actio is a partnership of three organisations, Energize, PACC (Parent & Carers Council) and Ignition CIC.

As a consortium Actio aim to improve the lives of families with children and young people aged 0-25 (with diagnosed or suspected SEN and Disabilities) across Shropshire by supporting organisations to provide activities to offer ongoing physical and mental development, the chance to try something new, and to make friends. Actio want to support families to access activities that meet the needs of their child/young person, our priority will always be good quality services provided by qualified and capable staff and volunteers.

For more information on Actio go [here](#)

Culture Consortium Shropshire (CCS):

The Culture Consortium Shropshire is a Local Cultural Education Partnership. The consortium, is supported by Arts Connect (the Arts Council England funded Bridge organisation for the West Midlands).

It's a network of organisations, from; arts, culture and heritage organisations, festivals, education sector, Music Service and Music Hub; libraries; museums; local authority and other relevant organisations.

We believe that by working together collectively, we can improve the cultural offer for children and young people living in Shropshire and ensure there are more opportunities for children and young people to access high quality arts and culture.

For more information on CCS go [here](#)

Impact Partnership Project:

CCS (Culture Consortium Shropshire), in partnership with the Actio Consortium, are running a four year programme for children and young people with SEND. This programme has been developed from research, commissioned by Shropshire Council, showing that children and young people currently accessing activity through the 'All In' programme would like opportunities to participate in a broader range of activity particularly in arts and culture. CCS and Actio secured funding from Arts Connect, matched by a range of other partners.

The programme helps enable children and young people aged 0 to 19 with SEND and their families to take part in more and better quality Arts and Cultural activities. The programme looks at barriers to engagement and addresses these, ensuring the activities on offer are accessible, relevant and delivered by people with the right skills and training.

Research and development is fundamental to the programme, looking at 'what works well and why' in providing arts and cultural opportunities for this group and their families.

Key strands of work include –

- Development days for Professionals (across all disciplines) using arts and cultural techniques for training and upskilling
- Research based 'toolkit' for practitioners and organisations to use
- Best practice for working with children and young people with disabilities
- Seminars and sharing findings
- A series of cultural journeys /case studies tracking the child or young person's experience of taking part
- Direct investment into the cultural sector

The programme supports partnerships across the cultural sectors and wider, with learnings being applicable to a number of disciplines such as sports and leisure. The aim of the work is to bring about a culture change, repositioning Shropshire as leaders in the field of developing high quality, meaningful and inclusive cultural opportunities for this cohort of children and young people.

BENEFIT OF ARTIST COMMISSIONS ON IMPACT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME:

These artist commissions are part of the Impact Partnership Investment Programme.

The commissions will support / feed into the programme by:

- Capturing the cultural journeys for the Children and Young People taking part in sessions
- Build an evidence base for a toolkit (which will be used by the independent researcher for the programme)
- Cascading learning from the commissioned artists to other artists
- Opportunities to seek funding for this to be a larger and more sustainable programme