

Winchburgh Artist/Craft Maker Residency Programme Brief 2020

The residency project is part of the wider 'Big W- Winchburgh Public Art Plan'

1. Aim:

This opportunity is a community practice based artist / craft maker residency in which a creative practitioner spends a sustained period of time in Winchburgh. The purpose of the residency is multifaceted; to develop their work, create an arts/craft based skills transfer programme with local people to develop a start-up craft enterprise based on local heritage, local sites, design and or where possible, the use of locally available materials.

2. Objectives:

- To create a lasting art/craft based design legacy for Winchburgh through the support of artistic work by an artist/craft maker who can transfer both skills and creativity to participants from the community.
- To enable an artist whose practice is concerned with socially engaged practice to develop new work in Winchburgh based on both personal and public facing practices for a sustained period of time.
- To develop and respond to ideas and themes that were researched and presented in the current 'Big W- Winchburgh Public Art Plan'.
- To enable local people to participate and shape in the future programme of arts and/ crafts based activities based on the previous community engagement carried out by Dallas-Pierce-Quintero on behalf of the developer and the council.

3. Background Context:

There has been a settlement in Winchburgh for over one thousand years. The village's fascinating history encompasses the 12th century chapel of Auldathie and later Niddry Castle which Mary, Queen of Scots stayed at on her escape from Loch Leven Castle. During the 17th Century John Reid, the gardener at Niddry Castle, wrote the first book on Scottish gardening. During the 1870s the first of two shale oil works opened in Winchburgh, radically transforming the village with new housing, facilities and the iconic shale bings. The latter part of the 20th century saw the closure of the oil works, brickworks, railway station and canal. 2013 saw the start of a major £1bn fifteen-year expansion with new housing and community facilities.

West Lothian has the fastest growing population in Scotland. West Lothian Council supports community arts engagement in new development areas through its public art plan and the aligned supplementary planning guidance for public art for developers. These

policies enable new commissions for public art to be tied to the development areas for the benefit and support of local cultural heritage. The village of Winchburgh is considered to be within one of West Lothian's Core Development Areas and has attracted substantial development.

In 2005 extensive research and community consultation was carried out as part of the master planning process for the extensive development that would change the landscape of Winchburgh. One of the overall aims at that time was to both inspire and empower the current residents of the area to embrace the change and the arrival of new communities who would become part of their future neighbourhood. Since that time the housing development itself has progressed with new residents taking occupancy of over 550 new homes on site with a rising population and changing demographic profile.

In 2014 art and architecture studio Dallas-Pierce-Quintero was commissioned to carry out creative work with local residents to inform the writing of the Public Art Plan for the development site as a whole. The commission also included the design and installation of the first 'trailblazer' public art work which was to mark the beginning of the biggest public art commitment in the West Lothian region.

This residency project is one of five projects over the next seven years that are described within the Public Art Plan that seek to reflect a sense of place, the changing nature of the community as well as the local heritage and the aspirations of the residents for the future. Please see the full 'Big W' Public art Plan here:

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3Aab78e79a-d72b-45d8-9e78-aa176f266505>

For more about the community of Winchburgh please see the community council website:

<https://www.winchburghcc.org.uk/>

4. Artist's Role:

- To enable and engage other people in the production of visual arts and crafts based on the skills of the selected artist; such as ceramics, painting, enamel work and textiles and if possible combine these practices with some digital outreach, such as photography, blogging or design or product design, dependant on the selected artist's abilities and preferences.
- To consider developing their own personal art/craft practice to engage with creative themes around communication, well-being, heritage and community self-development in relation to a unifying concept of 'people, place and pattern'.

- To work with an overall/ underlying approach based on resonance and finding harmony while allowing for an emergent original creative response to the context of historical and contemporary growth of the town of Winchburgh.
- To work with and respond to research presented within 'The Big W- Public Art Plan' as a starting point for developing a clear proposal for skills sharing and public engagement craft based project.
- To provide a monthly participation plan, making reference to the budget allocations below, which outline the approach and associated activities which could be developed to offer creative opportunities and encouraging creative dialogue between artists and environment/place and people.
- To create a unique opportunity for the local community to witness and participate in the artistic/creative process
- To develop and produce a public outreach engagement plan in consultation with local people to be approved by the commissioning group on behalf of the community and delivered by the artist
- To deliver a series of regular artist-led workshops with local children and adults, which will include clear outcomes for example but not limited to collaborative exhibitions, limited edition prints, prototypes or textile works.
- To provide an opportunity for local people to have a dialogue with a creative practitioner about the place they live and the change it is undergoing, to include digital communications through social media such as a blog or facebook page for the life of the project
- To produce new work art/designs/craft works that resonate with local heritage such as in response to historic Winchburgh sites including Auld Cathie church ruins, Niddry Castle, Oil Works, brick works and the clay quarry as exemplars of local themes.
- To produce an end of project booklet/leaflet, to be printed and used as a digital copy pdf. for use on a community web platform and a limited print run of 500 copies for use at the end of the project
- To help activate and animate areas of Winchburgh by undertaking public-facing activities and advocate for public art events connected with the project.
- To consider how the project can leave behind a sustainable creative/ visual arts legacy for the people of the community through the development of a creative start up enterprise as a potential example.

5. Project Team/ Partners:

Project partners come together to meet as a commissioning group for the support of the development of the public art project. The commissioning group will be the main point of reference for the

progress of the project and for the support of the artist for the life of the project. The commissioning group is made up of representatives from West Lothian Council planning and community arts services, Winchburgh Development Ltd. and Winchburgh Community Development Trust.

6. Proposed site/ Location of Project work:

This opportunity is available within the town of Winchburgh. The artist will be invited to be based in a local space on the Main Street of Winchburgh as a workable studio for their own practice as well as for working with participants. The artist will also be invited to use alternative local spaces for working with groups as may be appropriate to the event/session planned. For example some sessions can be hosted at alternative venues such as the local community centre, local church halls, the bowling club and or local primary schools. The aspiration is to have a visible and creative presence in the town for a sustained period of time.

7. Community Participation:

Community involvement is key to this artist/ craft maker residency. While it is important for the artist to focus on the development of their work, artistic style and new ideas, the basis for this residency is to share these creative practices and processes with the community where practical and with the aim of making plans for a creative start up enterprise. The artist/craft maker residency is to be a catalyst for the creative process with other people.

The artist/craft maker would be asked to work with special interests groups who meet in Winchburgh at the community centre to either develop taster sessions for them or to involve them in artistic project/s which would encourage people to learn and share insights into and have hands on involvement of artistic processes.

For example some partner organisations such as the Winchburgh Community Development Trust could be invited to participate in any creative endeavour whereas pupils and teachers of Winchburgh Primary and Holy Family Primary could have a short series of arts based workshops lead by the artist.

Groups who access community facilities like Winchburgh Community Centre, the churches and the bowling club such as, the canal society, the various art classes, dance groups, the senior citizens club and the children's club could be involved in other creative sessions that the artist can design to suit their project aims.

8. Project Timescales:

The residency is for a period of one year, however it is expected that the artist will be on site for at least 12 weeks/48 full days as a visible presence in the village by delivering sessions in the community and working with local people to develop a craft based creative enterprise.

For the continuity of the project there is a preference if the selected artist could commit to at least once a month schedule over the period of a year, with flexibility around how the remaining days are planned for being in the village in order to suit local events or more focused time frames around workshops etc. This is to provide a consistence presence of the artist and also so they experience the changes that Winchburgh will be undergoing within that timeframe in terms of seasons, development and population growth.

The timing of the 12 week period can be negotiated flexibly to suit the successful applicant, however the project must be completed in the period of one full year starting from the date of the signed project contract.

9. **Total budget:**

The overall project budget is £35,000.00 excluding VAT and is non-negotiable and must include all fees, arts materials and equipment, all expenses, exhibition display, all project design, writing, printing and any other costs associated with the project, for example, if the artist designs a final site specific work as part of their residency work, which will require planning permission, all such costs, fabrication installation and launch event must be borne by the project budget given.

The anticipated budget breakdown is projected below, there will be some flexibility regarding allocation of funding pending proposed changes suggested by the artist and subsequent approvals from the commission group:

Artists fees: Artists will be paid £280.00 per day for days spent in Winchburgh.

A retainer of £750.00 will be paid to the artist to cover project meetings with partners for the life of the project.

For the duration of the project the artist will be in Winchburgh their time will be paid for a series of 4 day weeks for a period of 12 weeks = £13,440.00

The expectation is that 2 days of the 4 days will be spent on personal art practices in the manner of a traditional artist residency and the other 2 days will be spent working directly with the community on creative sessions/projects within the village.

This division of time is a requirement of the residency, the time dedication is very clear so that the artist can make this type of commitment. The requirement is 48 full days on site within the village of Winchburgh, there will be flexibility to the specific pattern and sequence of days and this will be agreed with the successful artist applicant.

Fees and Expenses:

- Artists time: £14,190.00 (for the time allocation as outlined above)

- Art materials budget: for personal and public engagement sessions , transport/ travel, alternative venue hire/ and equipment required for display or production of prototypes/ exhibitions etc.: £13,270.00
- Communications: research/project plan writing, design, editing, document printing and any promotional materials: £3550.00
- Studio space rental budget allocation as outlined and agreed in the terms and conditions for use of the shop front property at 44 Main Street in Winchburgh:£55 / day for up to 48 days
- Hospitality: £350.00
- Contingency: £1000.00

Total project budget for expenses = £20,810.00

Total Overall project value: fees + allocated budgets for expenses = £35,000.00

10. Artist's copyright and ownership of the work: The artist will be the owner of the copyright to the artworks created on their personal residency time and will share photographic rights with West Lothian Council, Winchburgh Development Ltd. and Winchburgh Development Trust. Plans, designs and prototypes which are created for community engagement sessions or a creative enterprise will belong to the Commissioning group partners on behalf of Winchburgh Development Ltd. Who will have the right to reproduce designs/ works created during the community residency time.

11. Application Process:

Please see the full requirement of documents required below. Each applicant must submit all of the requested documents for evaluation through the Public Contracts Scotland Tenders portal, please register to access the portal at:

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk>

and search for this project code: **CC10269 Winchburgh public art residency project**

- A. A copy of your most recent CV
- B. An expression of interest- i.e. a Letter indicating why this project interests you
- C. A statement outlining how your particular skills and experience meet the artist specification as outlined in section 4
- D. A statement outlining how you would propose to undertake a balanced approach to developing your own practice and the community

engagement sessions and an example of a monthly plan as outlined in section 4. This is to propose a suggested outline of your approach to the overall project, acknowledging the proposed budget allocations, that would result in the project being a benefit to your work while the community have opportunities to engage critically in a creative learning process that aims to inform and engage all those involved in a creative development process.

- E. A statement on your experience of working with communities, and proof of appropriate PVG checks or a willingness to provide a copy of a current PVG before the start of the project.
- F. Appropriate supporting digital portfolio of visual arts material to demonstrate the quality of your art practice and completed public art projects to date – e.g. between 20 to 25 digital images together in a pdf format, including titles and medium.
- G. Two references – that will verify your experience working in the arts and with communities with the necessary skills to meet the needs of the project.
- H. Proof of public liability insurance minimum of £1.5 million. If you do not have this level of insurance please state that you would be willing to carry this level of insurance if you are selected for this appointment.

12. Application Deadline: 12noon on Monday 16 March 2020

Thank you for your interest in working with us, however only artists selected for interviews will be contacted. If you have not received an invitation for interview it means that your application was unsuccessful. If selected for an interview, you/ your team will be asked to prepare a 20 minute power point presentation as part of your interview. This should cover images of your past artworks and examples of community engagement practices and how this experience may be relevant to you developing our current residency project in Winchburgh. The selected artist will be awarded the contract through Public Contract Scotland Tenders.

We want to appoint an artist/craft maker based on the strength of their past work, experience of working creatively with communities, and their proposal for how they will approach this commission.

Interviews will be held on: **Tuesday 24 March 2020**

The interview panel will be made up of:

- 1 representative from WLC Planning services
- 1 representative from WLC Community Arts
- 1 representative from Winchburgh Development Ltd.
- 1 representative from Winchburgh Development Trust

At the interview stage the selection criteria will be:

1. Quality, clarity and presentation of requested documentation.
2. Proof of experience of working with communities and public engagement activities.
3. Appropriateness of artistic style for the project as related to the brief and demonstrated by the portfolio images.
4. A proposed methodology for the residency and community engagement work.
5. Anticipated value for money.
6. General understanding and approach to the brief

13. Contact:

For more information about Public Art in West Lothian please see the West Lothian Council Public Art Page:

<http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/publicart>

For an informal discussion about the project, please contact:

Camille Archer
Music and Public Art Officer
Community Arts. West Lothian Council
T: 01506 281 014

Please do not email your application, it will not be considered if it is not submitted through the Public Contract Scotland portal.