**Museums and Galleries Partners in Education**

**Lead Practitioner Freelance Opportunity**

**Overview**

Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums (TWAM), have been awarded funding by Paul Hamlyn Foundation through their Teacher Development Fund. This funding will support teachers to work with artists and local arts and cultural resources in order to increase creative learning opportunities for their pupils. The programme is funded through the Teacher Development Fund awarded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

During the MAGPIE project TWAM will be working with ten schools from across Tyneside. Over two years teachers from each of the schools will work with TWAM’s museums and galleries to draw on inspiration from museum collections via visual arts and creative writing to support pupils’ speech and language development through enquiry-based learning approaches.

Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums require a freelance Lead Practitioner with experience of working in schools to join our team. Please note that this commission is to help us to coordinate the first year of the programme, however further commissions to support year two may be possible.

**Context for this Work**

A common need identified across participating schools is the challenges of speech and language development and communication skills. Speech and language delay on entry to school impacts on learning across subject areas and this will be the key area of focus for this programme. TWAM holds diverse collections which will connect curriculum subject areas of Art, History and Science. We will use these subject areas to create opportunities to develop questioning and thinking, discussion and debate.

This project will draw on the skills of museum learning teams, teachers and artists to explore the potential of museum collections to be a focus for curriculum focussed learning and the development of skills, knowledge and experience which can be embedded in the practice of the school.

**Lead Practitioner Brief**

Our approach for MAGPIE is collaborative; we intend teachers, museum educators and artists will work alongside each other and learn together. From experience, TWAM have developed an understanding of the integral role collaborative Continuing Professional Development and Learning (CPDL) plays in ensuring teachers are confident developing creative learning projects using our collections and venues.

As Lead Practitioner your experience of working with schools and an understanding how creative practice can support speech and language development, will allow you to support both the arts practitioners and teachers throughout the course of this programme.

Working closely with the TWAM team you will be expected to support recruitment of art practitioners and contribute to the design and development of the training sessions.

As Lead Practitioner you will play an important role in facilitating relationships between participants as they develop and carry out their own action research projects. Working with TWAM staff and teacher participants you will support plans to transfer new knowledge and skills into practice and adapt your support to suit the needs of those settings.

**Core Tasks**

* Work with TWAM team to co-design the CPDL programme and recruit relevant art practitioners
* Work with TWAM team to facilitate reflective learning with teachers, senior school leaders and arts practitioners
* Contribute to eight CPDL units consisting of 6 half day training sessions, one full day introduction to the project session and 1 full day reflection session
* Actively engage with the broader learning aims of the project
* Provide support and mentoring to the teachers throughout the programme
* Support teachers to develop action research projects
* Support the sharing and dissemination of outcomes of the project
* Represent the project at external meetings
* Contribute to evaluation and ongoing review of the programme
* Support arts practitioners to develop their training sessions

**Key Skills – essential**

Applicants for the Lead Practitioner role should demonstrate their ability and previous experience in:

* Continuing creative practice
* Experience of working with teachers in schools and other educational settings
* An interest in and/or experience of working with museum collections
* Experience of planning and organising projects
* Good communication skills
* Enthusiasm for collaborative working practices
* Understanding of how engaging with creative practice can support speech and language development
* Good understanding of Arts Council England’s 7 Quality Principles guiding work with Children and young people

**Person Specification**

* Clear interest in and understanding of educational or arts-based research
* Interest in visual literacy
* Knowledge of primary curriculum
* Strong collaborative and team working skills
* Able to work autonomously
* Adaptability, self-reliance, sense of humour
* Experience in coaching or mentoring
* Commitment to improving outcomes for disadvantaged young people
* Flexible, reflective, self-critical practitioner
* Experience of leading a project in a formal educational setting
* Experience of project leadership, documentation, evaluation
* Experience of working with museum/gallery collections
* DBS checked
* Public Liability Insurance

**Timeline and Information**

Deadline for applications 5pm on 14 June 2019

Interviews 26 & 27 June 2019

Project Planning Meeting with TWAM Team 11 July 2019

Recruitment of Arts Practitioners - July & August 2019

Programme delivery commences September 2019

Locations Newcastle, NorthTyneside & South Tyneside

Number of days 21

Fee per day £250 (£5,250)

**Applications**

If you would like to discuss the opportunity with a member of our team, please email vicki.allan@twmuseums.org.uk and we will make a telephone appointment.

To apply please email your CV with a covering letter of no more than 2 sides of A4 to vicki.allan@twmuseums.org.uk by 5pm on Friday 14 June 2019.

Please put **MAGPIE Application** as the subject header.

The covering letter should address the following:

* A summary of your understanding of this brief and what it aims to achieve, alongside a description of how you can help deliver this
* How your track record relates to this specific project
* Any relevant web links to your work or current/past participatory programmes
* Evidence of previous relevant schools-based work
* Examples of any previous collaborative projects you have delivered
* Contact details of two referees – preferably including one from a school that you have worked with

Please note that all candidates must be DBS checked and have appropriate Public Liability Insurance.