

## Creative Practitioner brief

### Overview

***An exciting freelance creative practitioner opportunity has arisen to work with Manchester Museum and a partner school on a Start project funded by The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts.***

The project (working title: *The Art of Identity*) will involve partnership with three Greater Manchester schools and engage over three hundred key stage three students per year (2-4 classes will be involved from each school). We are looking for three creative practitioners, one to work with each partner school, to produce a physical or digital output based on the topic of identity. Ideally, we would like practitioners who have experience of working with secondary school age children and would be confident translating their ideas into pieces of art with a cultural and historical context.

### Fee

The available fee for this work is £1,650 for a total of seven days work.

There is a further breakdown of work involved at the end of this document; however the fee is primarily broken down as follows:

- £600 for 2.5 days of preparation time
- £1,050 for 4.5 days of project delivery

There will be a separate budget set for exhibition materials and resources to be agreed between the Museum and practitioner, dependent on the project output. Currently there is an upper limit of approximately £400 per partner school for materials.

### Expressions of Interest

If you would like to be considered for this work please supply the following to [Catherine.lumb@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Catherine.lumb@manchester.ac.uk) by **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013 at 12pm.**

1. Brief CV (max two sides of A4)
2. Link to a portfolio of previous work
3. Evidence of your suitability for this work (max 500 words)
4. At least two testimonials/references

This work will be subject to a DBS check.

We will be inviting practitioners whose skills and experience match the brief for an informal discussion at the Museum on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October** please indicate if you would prefer a morning or afternoon slot on your expression of interest.

Please send all application material to Cat Lumb, Secondary and Post-16 Humanities Coordinator Manchester Museum, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL  
Email: [catherine.lumb@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:catherine.lumb@manchester.ac.uk) Tel: 0161 306 1765

## **Background & Supporting Information**

**The Manchester Museum** is one of the UK's great regional museums and the country's largest university museum. The Museum is a 'global' museum, dedicated to inspiring visitors of all ages to explore human cultures and the natural world, past and present. The collection comprises some 4.5 million items, spanning three centuries, and with extensive interests in both the humanities and natural sciences.

Our **Mission** is as follows:

***As a university museum, the Manchester Museum uses its international collection of human and natural history for enjoyment and inspiration, working with people from all backgrounds to provoke debate and reflection about the past, present and future of the earth and its inhabitants***

Our **Vision** is that the Museum is ideally placed to encourage people to engage with some of the major issues of our time:

### ***1. Promoting understanding between cultures***

One of our major challenges is that ignorance and misunderstanding can lead to intolerance and conflict. We will work to increase mutual understanding between cultures today, by placing them in a rounded context, and we will promote understanding of cultures of the past by showing their richness and influence.

### ***2. Developing a sustainable world***

Through the collections of both natural and human-made objects, the Museum can engage people in some of the major issues facing us in terms climate change and habitat loss. It is no longer sufficient for the Museum to show the world as classified and unchanging: we must show it as dynamic and shaped by past and contemporary forces, many of them human-made.

In doing this, we will position ourselves as one of the leading university museums in the world, known for our innovative and campaigning approach.

**The Prince's Foundation for Children & the Arts** believes that every child has the right to be inspired the arts. The charity's UK wide arts engagement programmes work with deprived children from areas of social and economic disadvantage by building partnerships between their schools and local cultural venues. The charity takes children on a journey into their local arts venue and unlocks the arts for those who need to be inspired by them the most, raising children's self-esteem and confidence, and nurturing their communication skills. Through the work of Children & the Arts, children learn that cultural venues are welcoming, accessible places to visit. Since 2006 Children & the Arts has introduced over 300,000 children to life-changing arts experiences.

[www.childrenandarts.org.uk](http://www.childrenandarts.org.uk)

Children & the Arts' Start programme works with arts venues around the UK to foster new partnerships with their local schools. Start gives schools in deprived areas the motivation, means and opportunity to engage their pupils in a series of creative experiences outside of the school environment. Since 2006, Start has given Children & the Arts an opportunity to award grants of over £1.25m to arts organisations around the UK, enabling them to build strong relationships with their local schools.

## **Project Overview**

This three year project will focus on exploring personal and collective notions of identity with KS3 pupils from local schools resulting in a physical or digital art output. The project will use the Museum's new Ancient Worlds galleries. These three galleries highlight our collections from Manchester and the region, and from ancient civilisations such as Greece, Rome and Egypt.

The project will focus on the Portrait Gallery. This gallery contains Mummy portraits of the Roman Period (30 BC-395 AD), which are among the earliest realistic depictions of the human face in two dimensions. This practice developed out of the Egyptian tradition of covering the head of the mummy with an idealised image of the dead person. Portrait painting was a Roman practice. The portrait panels seen here are the result of the mixing of burial customs from Egypt's multicultural society at this time.

Using these portraits as a starting point we aim to consider how multicultural societies have existed throughout history and how each culture's customs and practices, including their artistic techniques, have influenced others. Students will be encouraged to consider the notion of identity and how we as individuals or as groups define and represent ourselves now and in the past.

## **Practitioner Brief**

- Practitioners will be involved in an initial introductory day delivering 4x 45m activities for students at the Museum involving the Portrait Gallery and associated material in the Museum's collection
- Practitioners will be required to work closely with their partner school in order to determine the best use of the allocated time with the students involved in the project over the course of a school term
- Practitioners will be requested to build in an evaluative exercise for both participants and teachers and encourage reflective practice, to be agreed upon by the Museum and partner school
- Practitioners will work with their partner school to assist in producing a digital or physical piece of artwork based on the theme of identity, as interpreted by the participating students. They will also be requested to support the installation of the art piece at the Museum
- Practitioners will be required to attend the celebration event in July 2014 to support staff and students in sharing their work with parents and teachers

The Creative Practitioner will be responsible for guiding the students in the development and creation of their artwork based on the students' vision. This output will either be digital or physical; therefore it is imperative that the Practitioner has an understanding of one, or both, of these areas. The Practitioner will be required to work closely with the partner school, particularly the Art Department and will need experience of clear and effective communication skills in similar circumstances.

The project itself is likely to take place during dates in either the Spring or Summer term 2014. Payment for the project will be delivered in two halves; half to be paid after the initial contact date and the remainder upon completion of the project in July 2014.

As this is a three-year funded project, there may be opportunity to continue working with the Museum and the partner school for additional project years (2014-15 & 2015-16) dependent on the successful completion of the first year.

#### Breakdown of Work

Event	Overview	Allocated Time
<b>Enrichment Day (Initial Contact)</b>	Prepare a 45m workshop on the topic of identity linked with Museum's collection	<b>0.5 days</b>
	Delivery on Enrichment Day of 4x 45m workshops	<b>1 day</b>
<b>Working with Schools</b>	Preparation for half day sessions with the participating students	<b>1 day</b>
	Five visits to the partner school to work with students and guide the creative process to produce an artwork	<b>2.5 days</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Visit (Mid-way)</b>	Prepare activities to engage participating students with a temporary exhibition to widen their concept of Identity	<b>0.5 days</b>
	Support and lead activities with students during their second visit	<b>0.5 days</b>
<b>Installation</b>	Preparation and supervision of installation of artwork at Museum	<b>0.5 days</b>
<b>Celebration Event (Final contact)</b>	Attend Celebration event and engage and inform visitors on artwork	<b>0.5 days</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7 DAYS</b>

#### If you would like any further information please contact:

Cat Lumb, Secondary and Post-16 Humanities Coordinator Manchester Museum, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL

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