



## **Arts Ambassador Schools' Network Commission - £9,500**

**Plus £500 to mentor an Assistant Artist**

**Deadline: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022** (no later than 12.00 noon)

CALL FOR ARTISTS/ARTS ORGANISATIONS with Drama and movement, or Dance specialists.

**Project Brief: *'Togetherness': linked to identity and diversity across the common wealth or our community and world.***

We want to explore the theme *Togetherness* in an exciting and innovative way through working with artists from a drama and movement/dance to develop practical techniques and skills with students and teachers that explores identity, diversity and sense of community.

We are looking for artist/s or an arts organisation to work with five primary schools across Birmingham and Tamworth all members, or partners schools, of Birmingham Diocese Multi Academy Trust (BDMAT), to deliver a programme of high-quality drama/dance workshops. The workshops will lead to a final Celebration Event where all children and staff involved can showcase and celebrate their work in a creative way. We are keen that through this programme children and staff will explore and experiment with techniques and approaches to develop skills and understanding in drama and movement, and we are open to proposals covering different approaches.

### **Background:**

The BDMAT Arts Ambassador Network is a partnership between Arts Connect and five primary schools which cover children aged 4 to 11 years. The commission will involve two classes in four schools and three classes in one infant school (over same period of time). The five primary schools are:

St Laurence Church Infant School	3 x Y1 classes (5-6 years)
Nonsuch Primary School	1 x Y3 class (7-8 years) 1 x Y5 class (9-10 years)
The Nethersole CofE Academy	2 x TBC classes
Hawkesley Church Primary Academy	1 x Y1 class (5-6 years) 1 x Y3 class (7-8 years)
Heathfield Primary School	2 x Y1 classes (5-6 years)

This network aims to develop teachers and young people as Arts Ambassador leaders to increase the impact of arts and creativity in each school across the network.

**Arts Connect** is an initiative of the University of Wolverhampton, tasked to deliver the [Bridge programme](#) in the West Midlands to improve arts & cultural engagement of children and young people. For further information visit: [www.artsconnectwm.co.uk](http://www.artsconnectwm.co.uk)

Arts Connect's Arts Ambassador School Network programme brings established school networks together to develop teachers as arts leaders (i.e. Arts Ambassadors), and to achieve an Artsmark as part of a whole-network focussed programme on the arts. Arts Connect provides support for the network through match funding and a Network Coordinator, who also delivers Young Arts Ambassador and Governor training.

The BDMAT is a family of 51 Church of England schools across Birmingham, Solihull, Sandwell, Warwickshire and Worcestershire (five being involved in the Arts Ambassador network plus one school which is a partner school). The Church of England Birmingham Diocesan Board of Education has a strong commitment to ensuring that all people within its schools have the opportunity to flourish, within an understanding of what God desires for humanity, educating for *'dignity and respect, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, community and living well together'*.

### **The Commission:**

We are looking for an artist/s, or arts organisation, to work with 5 primary schools to explore the concept of 'Togetherness' - *linked to identity and diversity across the common wealth or our community and world*. It is hoped that each of the schools will create a performance piece to contribute towards a showcase at the Celebration Event for the BDMAT. We envisage the artist/s will be experienced within drama, movement and/or dance and will integrate the use of music/sound to support the performance. We are excited to hear from artists/arts organisations who respond with exciting proposals to help shape our ideas around the theme.

The programme should aim to build confidence and skills as well as creative expression among the young people, as well as to inspire and equip the teachers with creative approaches that they can develop beyond the life of the project. It should be an inspiring and engaging programme, and aim to provide an innovative approach to learning by developing understanding of the theme through quality artistic processes and experiences.

There is an expectation that the artist/arts organisation will provide a twilight session of Professional Development (CPD) for staff within each school across the network. We would expect that the artist/arts organisation will take a lead on project managing the artistic programme in partnership with the Arts Ambassador teachers in each school, working alongside the BDMAT Network Lead and Arts Connect Arts Ambassador Network Coordinator. It is expected that each practical workshop will involve a debrief at the end of the session with class teachers, Arts Ambassador lead for the school and artists, and a session report submitted to the Network Lead.

## **Assistant Artist:**

We are keen to support young artists, particularly from under-represented backgrounds, to develop skills and build experience of working with schools on arts projects. We will ask the commissioned artist/s to mentor an appointed Assistant Artist as part of the programme. There will be an additional £500 of funding, on top of the commission fee, to enable you to mentor the Assistant Artist and to support them to sample all aspects of the programme including: the network meetings, planning with schools, workshops, CPD sessions and the celebration event.

## **Contractual details:**

The fee is **£9,500**; based on the artist/arts organisation being responsible for own tax and NI on a freelance basis. This fee includes:

- 3 network meetings with schools (allow ½ day for each – see \*dates in Timescale section):
  - After appointment
  - One before the Celebration Event
  - End-of-programme evaluation session
- Individual planning with schools
- The whole network receiving a minimum of 27.5 whole day/equivalent arts workshops with the children (5.5 days in each of the 5 schools)
- CPD session with each school (delivered as a twilight session following workshops)
- Managing and delivering the Celebration Event day
- Materials/resources
- Management and travel

(In addition to this commission there will £500 towards additional time to mentor and support the Assistant Artist, if one is appointed following this commission).

## **Timescale:**

**Application Deadline: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022** (no later than 12.00 noon)

**Notification of Interviews: no later than 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Interviews: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022** at Nonsuch Primary School, Birmingham, please pencil the date in your diary. The interviews will include an adult panel plus a workshop with young people from the network's schools.

Network meetings with schools:

**8.2.22**, 1.00-3.00pm, meeting Network schools at Hawkesley Church Primary

**4.5.22**, 1.00-3.00pm, planning Celebration Event, venue TBC

**29.6.22**, 1.00-3.00pm, evaluation meeting at mac, Birmingham

Celebration Event:

**23<sup>rd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022, all day**, venue, format and timings tbc.

## **How to Apply:**

Both individuals and arts organisations/companies can apply. We anticipate that the commission will be to artist/s or an arts organisation to work across all the schools, though we recognise that you may wish to involve other artists managed by the lead artist/organisation. All successful applicants will need to evidence their portable DBS or undertake a DBS check, along with any other artists from their organisation. You must carry Public Liability Insurance for all artists.

Please submit a proposal on how you would deliver the commission and your ideas for the creative content and the celebration event. You need to include:

- Your experience of working with networks of schools (please give examples, e.g. through online links, website, etc.).
- Your suitability.
- An outline of your approach to the commission, explaining how you will use your artistic skills to engage primary aged children and teachers, enabling them to be part of the team of artists to create quality work to share. Also your thoughts for empowering participating staff through CPD.
- Two Referees, ideally schools.
- A budget of how you propose to allocate the commission.
- If an individual artist, please provide an up to date CV; if an organisation please provide an outline of your company's Aims, Mission, Vision and information on the people involved in this commission.
- If you are intending to use freelance artists we would like to know who you are proposing to work with and have a copy of their CV.
- Your commitment to supporting an Assistant Artist

(Please note that if shortlisted we would want to interview all the people involved in delivering in schools)

**Please send your proposal and all support documentation by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (12.00 noon) to all of the following:**

**Pepita Hanna (Arts Connect Associate Director):** [Pepita.Hanna@wlv.ac.uk](mailto:Pepita.Hanna@wlv.ac.uk)

**Judy McFall (Network Coordinator):** [judymcfall2@gmail.com](mailto:judymcfall2@gmail.com)

**Vicky Rumboldt (BDMAT Arts Ambassador Lead):** [v.rumboldt@stlrnci.bham.sch.uk](mailto:v.rumboldt@stlrnci.bham.sch.uk)

## **For any queries:**

- Pepita Hanna (email above, tel 0121 446 3204/07967 222817)