Opportunity
Wysing Arts Centre is recruiting for a Freelance Project Evaluator

Project: Circuit Routes, supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Fixed Fee: £5,000 across 2 years, until March 2023 (c. 20 days)
Anticipated breakdown £2,000 2021-22, and £3,000 in 2022-23

Young people create ceramic work at Wysing Arts Centre with artist Lawrence Epps. Photo: Charlie Bryan

Project Overview

Circuit Routes, supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, is a project to create routes for sustained involvement and development in creative arts for young people in rural communities in Cambridgeshire.

The project forms part of Wysing's Education programme which provides support for Children and Young People, including those who are disadvantaged or isolated, as well as early creative career support.

Wysing approaches every child and young person as early stage artists, offering programmes equal in quality and approach to those accessed by older artists. We explore art through relevant topics and approaches to empower young people to develop their creative thinking and confidence, providing progression opportunities to sustain engagement.

We actively support disadvantaged children and young people in rural Cambridgeshire, who benefit from community-based outreach programmes and schools' workshops. We actively seek to give a platform to voices that are marginalised or under-represented.

In summary the outcomes for the Circuit Routes programme are that more marginalised young people in rural Cambridgeshire:

- Participate in creative opportunities.
- Are empowered to participate in creative projects and activities in the long-term
- Connect with and develop Wysing as a centre for excellence for a creative youth voice.

Young people share banners at Wicken Fen with artist Caroline Wendling. Photo: Emma Monteiro

Summary of work:

To design and implement an evaluation methodology for the Circuit Routes programme.

This will include:

- Assessing the current data against the key outcomes
- Capturing evidence through surveys and case studies to address the above
- Collaborating with the programme's community partners
- Speaking with participants and partners to collate case studies as part of the final evaluation report
- Reflecting upon the impact of Covid-19 on the programme and its participants
- Identify key learning and future recommendations

Key Dates:
Deadline: 9am 24 May 2021
Interviews: 3 June 2021
Project completion: March 2023
Evaluation report due: April 2023
Further dates of progress to be agreed with the appointed evaluator.

How to apply
Please submit:

- A proposal summarising your experience and approach for this opportunity, maximum 2 pages
- A costed workplan within the agreed budget
- Name and contact details of two relevant referees

Wysing is committed to equality of opportunity and supporting diversity and inclusion across all aspects of its work. We welcome applications from individuals who are underrepresented in the visual arts sector including those of Black, Asian or minority ethnic heritage, those who have faced socio-economic barriers, those who identify as LGBTQ+, and those with disabilities. All applications for this position will be treated equally and confidentially. Recruitment for this opportunity will be based on merit.

Contact
For queries or to arrange an informal conversation contact Lucy Shipp, Education Manager, education@wysingartscentre.org.

Young people in the Wysing Polyphonic studio with artist Maxwell Sterling. Photo: Lucy Shipp

About Wysing Arts Centre
Wysing Arts Centre is a progressive and inclusive workplace for the arts that develops ways to support artistic development and enables everyone we work with to explore their creative potential. It provides a supportive environment and testing ground for new ideas. Wysing is a thriving cultural campus set in 11 acres of rural Cambridgeshire. It operates at local, national and international levels. The Education and Community strand works across digital, residency and studio artist programmes to support early career artists and the

development of creativity in children and young people, particularly with communities of socio-economic deprivation and disadvantage.

Wysing believes that art and artists have a vital role to play in society and that opportunities in the arts have not always been fairly shared or accessed by all. We believe that everyone who wishes to should have the opportunity to explore their creative potential. We develop programmes that support artists at every stage of their lives and careers.

Our public programmes are designed to provide different entry points for a wide range of interests and abilities to access contemporary art and to develop their creativity. Programmes reflect the complexities of contemporary life and have included explorations in race, gender, ecology, societal issues, and alternative educational and learning structures alongside practical workshops and courses.

Context

Within rural Cambridgeshire there are few opportunities for young people to participate in creative activities outside school. Between Wysing Arts Centre and King's Lynn, there are nearly 60 miles with little or no cultural provision for children and young people and areas of high economic deprivation. Wysing's reach for education activity extends 50 miles into this region, with a focus on Huntingdon, Fenland and East Cambridgeshire, areas of high deprivation and low arts engagement. Through the programme we support individuals to develop into leading creatives and confident individuals through the provision of Arts Award and signposting to future progression routes. We work in close partnership with schools, youth groups and individuals to design one-off workshops through to peer-led projects to ensure the relevance of programmes, whilst linking in with themes in the wider Wysing programme.

Young people participate in a workshop at Wysing with artist Harold Offeh. Photo: Lucy Shipp