

# EDINBURGH ART FESTIVAL

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

4 DAYS PER WEEK

FIXED TERM 3-YEAR CONTRACT

SALARY	£25,000 pro rata
START DATE	Late March / Early April 2019
APPLICATION DEADLINE	Midnight, Sunday 17 February 2019

### ABOUT

Founded in 2004 and now in its 16th edition, Edinburgh Art Festival is the platform for the visual arts at the heart of Edinburgh's summer festivals, bringing together the capital's leading galleries, museums and artist-run spaces in a city-wide celebration of the very best in visual art. Each year, the Festival features leading international and UK artists alongside the best emerging talent, major survey exhibitions of historic figures, and a special programme of newly commissioned artworks that respond to public and historic sites in the city.

We are committed to sharing our programme with the broadest possible audience, and to engaging new audiences for the Festival and visual arts more generally. Our Festival programming includes a range of free supported activities aimed specifically at young people, community groups and schools. A key ambition going forward is to build on these foundations to develop long term partnerships with two communities in the city, engaging participants in the core Festival programme, through activities including co-commissioning a major new artwork within their neighbourhoods.

We are now looking to appoint a Community Engagement Manager to lead on this work. This role forms part of the Platforms for Creative Excellence (PLACE) programme, launched in November 2018 by the Edinburgh Festivals, the City of Edinburgh Council and the Scottish Government. The successful candidate will lead an exciting programme of projects and events, with a focus on working with communities across Edinburgh.

Applicants should have experience of delivering partnership projects at scale, and be comfortable building relationships in a broad range of settings.

## **ROLE, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The principle aim of the post will be to work with local schools, families and community groups and to support the Festival's ambition to develop the impact of our programme in harder to reach communities in the city.

As well as maintaining and building on the Festival's existing network of relationships with community groups across the city, the Community Engagement Manager will develop long term relationships with two communities:

- In year 1 there will be a focus on Wester Hailes, building close partnerships with the community-led arts charity WHALE Arts and local schools to deliver a strong 3 year programme of creative learning activity, culminating in a collaborative public commission.
- In year 2 the Community Engagement Manager will identify and begin to build a relationship with partners in a second community, with the aim of developing a long-term programme and related public co-commission (duration of this project will be subject to confirmation of further funding).

The Community Engagement Manager will work closely with the Festival Director and Programme Manager to:

- Establish and maintain effective partnerships and relationships with local schools, community groups and relevant project partners, establishing opportunities for ongoing development of community engagement and access work throughout the year
- Plan and deliver engaging workshops that relate directly to the annual Commissions and the wider Festival programme, including devising a dedicated programme of activity centred on Bobby Niven's *Palm House* in Johnston Terrace Wildlife Garden (commissioned as part of the 2017 Festival)
- Identify opportunities to work with partner organisations to strengthen and extend the impact of the Festival programme
- Increase knowledge, awareness of, and engagement with Edinburgh Art Festival in traditionally hard to reach communities
- Collaborate with Festival partner galleries to deliver workshops aligned to their programmes
- Lead on the design and production of resource materials for use in schools, community workshops and by families with support from the Marketing and Communications Manager
- Lead on the development and delivery of a new long-term relationship with the community of Wester Hailes, using Edinburgh Art Festival's existing relationships with WHALE and Canal View Primary School as a foundation to build on
- Lead on the design and delivery of a programme of engagement activities with partners in Wester Hailes, including residencies, workshops, events etc.
- Develop and manage project budgets
- Recruit and manage artists and freelance creative practitioners to support the programme activity

- Working with the Festival Director and community partners to devise a strategy for co-commissioning a new artwork
- Working with the Programme Manager, support the production and project management of the publicly sited artwork
- Liaise with the Marketing and Communications Manager to identify and maximise opportunities for audience development
- Liaise with the Development Officer to support relevant fundraising activity
- Monitor and evaluate the success of projects and workshops, developing clear and deliverable objectives for future projects
- Champion the values of Edinburgh Art Festival's dual commitment to quality and access

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

### **ESSENTIAL**

- A minimum of three years' experience in a community engagement role
- A genuine passion for contemporary visual art
- Experience of building partnerships from the ground up
- Demonstrable experience of developing and delivering programmes of community engagement activities
- Demonstrable experience of project management, including budget management and evaluation
- A strong track record of building relationships with community organisations, schools and stakeholders
- Experience of working with a range of individuals and community groups – including children, young people, schools, community organisations
- Excellent facilitation skills, and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of people
- Excellent admin and IT skills, incl. Word, Excel, Powerpoint etc.

### **DESIRABLE**

- Knowledge of the landscape of Edinburgh's festivals
- Knowledge of formal and informal education settings
- Knowledge and experience of socially engaged art practice

### **TO APPLY**

Please send a current CV, cover letter and the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form to [info@edinburghartfestival.com](mailto:info@edinburghartfestival.com) using 'Community Engagement Manager Application' as the subject heading. The cover letter should be no more than two sides of A4 and should outline your interest and suitability for the role and highlight relevant experience.

**Deadline**      Midnight, Sunday 17 February 2019

*Interviews will take place week commencing 25 February at the Institut Français D'Écosse, West Parliament Square, Edinburgh.*