

## **About the Project**

*'Intergenerational practice aims to bring people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities which promote greater understanding and respect between generations and contributes to building more cohesive communities. Intergenerational practice is inclusive, building on the positive resources that young and old have to offer each other and those around them'*

The Beth Johnson Foundation, 2009 [www.bjf.org.uk](http://www.bjf.org.uk)

The Company of Voices is a cross-sector partnership which will promote and encourage cohesion in communities so that older and younger people can improve the extent that they:

- value and respect one another
- feel safe and secure in their community
- are able to speak about their issues and views
- have opportunities to come together to make a difference in their community
- enjoy healthy, active and fulfilling lives..

Intergenerational practice aims to build positive relationships and respect between older and younger people by bringing them together to work with each other on projects which benefit them and the community.

'Generations Together' is a national project, the Somerset partnership is called 'The Company of Voices' and 'Making Matters' is SAW's project within this structure.

## **Key Objectives of the Project**

SAW will deliver up to five individual arts projects across the county which use Intergenerational Work (I.G )

- To contribute to the development and share a model of best practice for I.G. activities:
- Raise the profile of I.G work through collective action and practice sharing and brand under the 'Company of Voices' Programme
- Provide space and opportunities for volunteering, to develop new relationships built around a collective purpose and activities.
- Provide activities that provide a focus for shared aims and ultimately achievements. Encourage a sense of belonging, to improve self esteem and in turn increase confidence.
- Inspire a positive change in relationships within communities via development of new skills and sense of purpose.

Older people in the communities of Somerset hold a wealth of creative skills to share and pass on to children and young people. Ground breaking programme makers on Channel 4

highlight the current trends of our time with 'home made', retro fashion, re-use and recycling themes. This, in turn, promotes the values and skills of making as a means of self-expression and improved self-esteem across all ages and abilities.

It is the older generation who hold the key; educated at a time when such skills were learnt at school and/or handed down through families. Many older people have good basic skills to contribute such as knitting, sewing and woodwork. Cake decorating and gardening are creative skills too.

SAW welcomes the opportunity to deliver a series of projects around Somerset to bring together older and younger people, using 'Making Matters' as catalyst to open up new participation in the community.

*'Making as a process or series of processes is often undervalued. And yet making develops a wide range of skills, feeds creative thought and action, results in our being productive in the best possible sense, and is vital to the economic and cultural development of our society.'*

Paula Bale, Access Arts.

## **Artist Brief**

### **Making Matters**

#### **Victoria Park Community Centre Café - Part 1**

SAW is looking to appoint a visual artist to lead the first of our Making Matters intergenerational projects.

Through the medium of visual arts the lead artist will deliver intergenerational workshops with users of the Victoria Park Community Centre, Bridgwater, to develop ideas, then create and install permanent art installations for the Café. These will add colour and character to the space, encourage a sense of ownership in the local community and help cut down the current level of sound reverberation.

It is hoped 4 large wall panels will be produced. Volunteers from the community will assist in the creation of the panel artwork. The panels are a Class A fire rated 40mm thick material with a plain surface which can be painted with PVA based paints .

Artist's time – proposed timescale, to be confirmed at interview

2 days R+D (includes briefing)

4 days Workshops

4 days to complete panels

1 day installation

Lead artist 11 days @ £200    £2,200

There are likely to be further lead artist opportunities arising through the year, let us know if you are interested in applying for these.

## **Person Specification**

In recruiting the artists, a track record in creative interaction with people and places will be specifically looked for. The ability to work closely and sensitively with people and communities and, where appropriate, to engage them in the creative process are key aspects of the residency brief and process.

An artist applying for this role will need to:

- be an excellent communicator
- be skilled in engaging and working with people from diverse backgrounds
- have an awareness of the issues that may affect younger and older members of communities. Experience, or understanding of, intergenerational practice is desirable.
- have a commitment to innovative arts practice and the sharing of high quality creativity.
- have the ability to manage workload with minimal supervision, this will include good organisational skills, report writing, paperwork, time management etc
- have a working knowledge of health and safety and child/ vulnerable adults protection issues (CRB checked, public liability insurance, risk assessments etc)

## **Timetable**

Dates to be determined (notified at interview)

Project likely to run from end March 2010 – end May 2010

## **Equal Opportunities**

The appointment procedures for these commissions will be carried out in accordance to SAW equal opportunities policy.

## **Terms and Conditions**

The project is administered by SAW.

All appointed artists will be self-employed and be responsible for their own tax and N.I. payments.

At interview selected artists will need to show evidence of CRB clearance (issued in the last 3 years) and public liability insurance.

New CRB conditions for working with young people and vulnerable adults will have to be met and project CRBs will be applied for.

## **How to Apply**

Email application is preferred, send to [beccy.swaine@somersetartworks.org.uk](mailto:beccy.swaine@somersetartworks.org.uk)

Put 'Lead Artist Application' in the subject field

We will confirm receipt of email applications

You will need to:

Write a short statement (1 page A4) about your practice

Include why you are interested in this project.

Attach three examples of your work, text and images or links to online examples (eg project websites).

Provide the names and contact details, telephone/ address/ email for 2 referees

**Deadline for applications:**

Email application deadline 12 Midday Sunday 28 February  
Preferred application method

Postal application deadline 12 midday Weds 24 February  
(to allow time for photocopying and posting to shortlisting panel)  
Postal entries must be marked 'Making Matters Lead Artist Application' and sent to:  
SAW Office, The Town Hall, Bow Street, Langport, TA10 9QR

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by Weds 03 March 2010

**Interviews:** Monday 08 March, Langport

**SAW Contact Details**

SAW Ltd, The Town Hall, Bow Street, Langport, TA10 9QR  
Tel: 01458 253 800 [info@somersetartworks.org.uk](mailto:info@somersetartworks.org.uk)

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

