

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

Artist Commission: Outdoor Installation at Orleans House Gallery

We are looking to commission a temporary installation or artistic intervention for the grounds of Orleans House Gallery.

Introduction

This summer Orleans House Gallery is programming a season of activity around the theme of 'grottos', focusing on spaces and places, real and imagined, historical and created. The season, which launches in July, will include an exhibition exploring the creative influence of Alexander Pope; an interactive sensory show in the Stables Gallery and a programme of engagement activity for adults and children.

As a 'teaser' to the grottos season we would like to commission a temporary installation in the grounds of Orleans House Gallery over a weekend in June.

We are looking for installations / interventions that are inspired by the history of Orleans House and the surrounding area (including local grottos) and which provide an imaginative and creative opportunity for people to engage with their heritage and the heritage of others.

The installation should be interactive and include an opportunity for public participation across the weekend. We invite proposals which are accessible and enjoyable to people of all ages; that surprise, challenge and inspire participants and supports the arts service in increasing engagement and diversifying audiences in line with *Transforming Orleans House* and our service vision (below).

There may be the potential for the activity to take place over additional weekends in the summer - subject to agreement.

Context

Orleans House Gallery is a free public art gallery & heritage site managed by Richmond Arts Service which is part of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Council. Set in Orleans Park on Twickenham Riverside the site comprises of two public gallery spaces, the Grade 1 Listed Octagon Room, Coach House Education Centre and also houses the borough Art Collection. The Arts Service and Orleans House Gallery provide art for everyone, facilitating a range of high-quality accessible arts provisions for residents of and visitors to the borough.

Orleans House Gallery reopened in March 2018 following the *Transforming Orleans House* restoration project, made possible by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This project included improving accessibility across the site, a new public Study Gallery and restoration of the James Gibbs Octagon Room. Using the rich history and heritage of the site, *Transforming Orleans House* aims to reach out, deepen engagement and bring together non-traditional users, such as West London audiences (including BAME ethnic groups); older adults; families and people with disabilities. For more information on the history of Orleans House please visit: <https://www.orleanshousegallery.org/>

Objectives:

- To encourage intergenerational engagement with the heritage of Orleans House and the wider local area
- To diversify engagement and participation with heritage and culture in Richmond, including non-traditional users
- To excite and inspire a wide range of people and ages
- To preview the upcoming Grottos season
- To explore outdoor programming at Orleans House Gallery and pilot how the grounds can be used for artistic interventions

Artist outputs

- Produce and manage an interactive and publicly accessible installation / intervention in the grounds of Orleans House Gallery over the weekend of 8 - 9 June 2019
- To develop and manage participation and engagement during the weekend to attract at least 150 people
- To create digital content which can be used and shared publicly in the lead up to and during the project to increase engagement
- Images and copy for promotion and marketing
- Deinstallation and responsible disposal or sustainable re-use of materials
- An installation that is sympathetic to the environment and compliant with Health and Safety regulations
- A creative method of collecting feedback from visitors for evaluation purposes

The Theme

Our summer Grottos season focuses on spaces and places: real and imagined, historical and created. Richmond is home to some of London's most famous Grotto's (Pope's Grotto, the Grotto at Marble Hill House and the Shell Grotto at Hampton Court House). We want to use these mysterious, magical, secret spaces to explore our

relationship with the artificial and the natural world, whilst inciting questions about safe spaces, sanctuaries and retreats. We would like the Grottos season to surprise visitors, encouraging them to discover new spaces and consider things from a new perspective.

Timeline

20 March	Deadline for Proposals
28 – 29 March	Interviews
w/c 1 April	Contract artist and meeting with project team
April – June	Project development/creation
8 – 9 June	Project weekend
17 June	Deadline for evaluation

Budget

The total budget for this project is **£2500** to include project fee, materials and all expenses.

Proposals

We invite creative and innovative submissions that give a clear indication of the proposed approach to the project. Please consider the attached service vision (included below) when creating your proposal.

Please submit the following in order for your proposal to be considered:

- A brief summary of your / your organisations creative practice (max 500 words)
- A description of the work; how it will be installed and maintained in the grounds, with images
- A description of participation: how it will appeal to and engage a wide range of audiences to help achieve project objectives
- Budget – your budget should give a breakdown of estimated costs for different elements of the project
- Evidence and examples of similar projects and work undertaken previously
- Up to 5 images in support of your proposal
- Details of your public liability insurance status
- Details of your DBS status

Deadline for proposals: 5pm, Wednesday 20 March

Proposals should be emailed to: artseducation@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Arts Service Vision

Vision:

We make an accessible place where people feel empowered to be creative - they share, do, see, make and create as part of their normal lives. What they produce is relevant for Richmond and west London and contributes something new to London and UK culture.

What our services do:

People meet and connect through culture (virtual as well as real space) - and across current barriers.

High-quality art and new revelations happen because of our services.

We will create a bigger and more effective creative sector, increasing the number and range of users engaging with arts and culture over the next 5 years - but not necessarily by delivering services directly.

What our services feel like:

The experiences and opportunities we create are personal, intimate and collaborative.

Our offer connects back to the green spaces, history, the landscape and openness of the area. Not necessarily by showing it, but by giving the feeling of 'a good view' after a 'good walk'.

Everything we do creates moments of 'astonishment' 'reflection' 'discovery' and 'surprise' - we're fun.

How we do it:

We influence, lead, partner, facilitate, and deliver. Most of our impact is through things we don't directly deliver or do alone. We produce the mechanisms that result in new art and creativity that could only come from here.

We provide things you can't replicate by finding facts on the internet or through a book.

Our projects focus on the impacts we aspire to and apply new ideas and solutions.

We are innovative and prepared to take creative risks, and we bring people together in unexpected groups and ways - we set them creative challenges and provide the space for them to be creative.

If we can't do it well - then we don't.