**Play Make Art – Lead Artist Facilitator**

Richmond Arts Service and Orleans House Gallery is seeking a freelance artist with experience and/or an interest in working with early years children and their adults to develop and deliver Play:Make:Art, our creative arts workshop programme for children aged 2-5 years and their adults.

**Artist Brief**

Play:Make:Art is our ongoing child-led, drop in creative art workshop series designed for children aged 2-5 years and their adults. Sessions are designed to enable children and adults to explore different ways of making art together with the support and guidance of an experienced artist-facilitator in a relaxed, informal environment. Play:Make:Art aims to encourage creativity and curiosity, and support early years skill development in communication, co-ordination and social interaction. Our drop in sessions are designed to be welcoming and inclusive to all families.

This year, we are looking to engage an artist to become our Artist-in-Residence on Play:Make:Art from September 2022 – August 2023. This artist will take a lead on planning and delivering each of the workshops and working with us to test new ideas and approaches.

This year’s programme will form part of our [Cultural Reforesting](https://www.orleanshousegallery.org/event-categories/cultural-reforesting/) work, where we are asking the question, “how can we renew our relationship with nature?”. The programme supports artists researching this theme through our early years work.

Play:Make:Art aims to:

* Help adults explore making art with their children in a relaxed, informal gallery setting
* Support skills development in communication, coordination and social interaction
* Invite audiences to engage with the lead facilitators own artistic practice
* Be relaxed, informal and welcoming to new attendees
* Support the [Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2)
* Introduce early years audiences to different art forms and gallery spaces at Orleans House
* Produce research and evaluation at the end of the year in relation to cultural reforesting
* Take thematic inspiration from the themes of our Cultural Reforesting programme, the aims of which include:
	+ Placing OHG as a centre for [ecological](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecological_art#:~:text=Ecological%20art%20is%20an%20art,%2C%20and%20hydrosphere%2C%20including%20wilderness%2C) arts projects, with the grounds acting as a catalyst, laboratory and immersive ecosystem for interdisciplinary collaborations
	+ Developing a participatory practice to empower all voices, including audiences, in the ecological emergency
	+ Demonstrating the power of storytelling, and therefore art, in local, everyday solutions to the ecological crisis

Sessions take place Friday mornings every fortnight. Currently sessions are ticketed and run on a drop-in format with a maximum capacity of up to 40 children in each workshop across the morning. Parents/guardians will be in attendance throughout and are encouraged to support their children with activities. We are happy to work with artists to explore the format of delivery. All sessions are held at Orleans House Gallery.

Artist responsibilities include:

* Plan, prepare and deliver all Play:Make:Art sessions, working with the Arts Officer (Projects and Commissioning) to test new approaches and undertake relevant research
* Provide a project delivery plan to the Arts Officer (Projects and Commissioning) in advance of the beginning of the project
* Attend at least two planning and evaluation meetings throughout the year with the Arts Officer (Projects and Commissioning)
* Work with the Arts Officer (Projects and Commissioning) and Programmer (Learning and Engagement) at the end of the programme to share learning from the year
* Adhere to all Richmond Arts Service Safeguarding and Health and Safety policies and procedures.
* Set-up and pack down the workshop space.
* Support the effective evaluation of the programme
* Supply and manage necessary materials for the sessions (additional fee for materials is include)

**About You**

This opportunity would suit an artist with experience in facilitating sessions for early years or socially engaged participatory practices who wishes to develop their practice.

You will have:

* Demonstrable facilitation skills including being able to plan sessions and adapt to changing circumstances
* Experience of working creatively and responsively with a diverse range of young audiences
* An interest in working with early years audiences and their adults
* Confidence or experience in developing workshops that share your own artistic practice with audiences
* An interest in the environment and/or the ability to bring the themes of Cultural Reforesting into your practice
* Experience or interest in making sessions as inclusive and accessible as possible
* The ability to work in a collaborative manner with all members of staff and volunteers at Orleans House Gallery

We are looking for someone who broadly defines themselves under the banner of visual artist, but you may have a background in craft, or graphic design, or have developed art skills through teaching and facilitation. You do not need to have any formal visual arts related qualifications although we may ask to see examples of your work and you should be confident using a range of different materials.

The successful applicant will be required to hold or be willing to carry out an Enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service check) through Richmond Borough Council, as well as adhere to all Safeguarding and Health and Safety policies and procedures.

We are keen to work with artists from a variety of backgrounds with different skills, stories, and experiences. Applications are encouraged regardless of age, caring responsibilities, disability, sex, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, and sexual orientation.

**Fee**

There is a freelance fee available of £3,675 for delivery and planning of the sessions across the year (£175 per session and individual session planning). This is an inclusive fee covering all expenses other than materials.

There is an additional £525 budget for attending 3 additional planning and evaluation meetings (dates TBC).

There is a materials budget of £300 allocated for the project to be managed collaboratively with the Arts Officer and the selected artist.

Artists are responsible for their own tax and National Insurance.

**Key Dates**

* Deadline for Applications: 9 am, Monday 27 June 2022
* Informal Interviews: w/c 11 July 2022
* Notification of Outcome: W/c 18 July 2022
* Initial Planning Meeting: w/c 25 July
* Artist to develop project and session plans (including one check in with Arts Officer): August 2022
* Session plan submitted for sign off: w/c 22 August 2022
* Site Visit: TBC, prior to 9 September
* Delivery dates:
	+ Autumn 2022: 9/23 September, 7/21 October, 4/18 November, 2/16 December
	+ Spring 2023: 3/17 February, 3/17/31 March
	+ Summer 2023: 14/28 April, 12/26 May, 9/23 June, 7/21 July
* Evaluation and final wash up meeting: TBC

**Application process**

Deadline for applications is 9am on Monday 27 June 2022.

Applications can be submitted in writing, by voice-recording or video and should include the following:

* Full contact details
* A link to your website, relevant social media platforms and/or a copy of your CV (max 2 pages) which demonstrates previous examples of relevant experiences
* A short statement (no longer than 500 words if written or 3 minutes if recorded) outlining your interest in the project and how you would approach designing the programme brief
* The names and contact details of two referees. They will not be contacted before asking your permission.

Please send applications to : Julia.Albertoni@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Please do not send Drobox, Google Folders, or WeTransfer links. If you need to transfer any larger files (such as a video file) please get in touch first.

We encourage artists to answer our Equal Opportunities Monitoring form [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rPXT2QP4vkmUnxSnB010pz3OB0DtlnlAteq0Y2HmzZ9URFhYS1RTNVJKRk9DNVo0SERPMjVBOFo3QyQlQCN0PWcu) when completing their application. The form is anonymous.

We are committed to making application processes as accessible as possible. If we can provide you information in a different format or you have any questions regarding this opportunity, please contact Julia.Albertoni@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

**Selection Process**

We will be shortlisting artists on the following criteria:

* How you meet the criteria for the role using the information provided in the “About You” section.
* How closely your approach to the brief aligns with our vision and aims of Play:Make:Art and of Richmond Arts Service

We will respond to all applications no later than Monday 11 July

We will invite a selection of applicants to have an informal interview via Microsoft Teams with the Orleans House Gallery Team prior to making a decision. These conversations will be scheduled for w/c Monday 11 July. They are intended as a way for both parties to meet one another and ask questions. You will not be required to prepare anything in advance.

**About us**

Orleans House Gallery is a free contemporary art gallery set in grounds overlooking the River Thames in Twickenham. It is managed by Richmond Arts Service which is part of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. You can find out more about us here: <https://www.orleanshousegallery.org/>

Our mission is to build community through creativity. We foster creativity and enjoyment of the arts, enable people to reflect on their lives and develop new ways of seeing the world. We aim to embed Learning and Engagement throughout all our work and our programmes offer audiences the opportunity to collaborate with and access art created by professional artists. We have recently launched our new programme of activities for early years and children at Orleans House Gallery, enabling families to take part in a variety of inspiring workshops led by professional artists.

Play:Make:Art Tots is just one of our Children and Families programmes. Our learning programmes are delivered by artists and encourage play, exploration and curiosity. More information about our other programmes can be found here. Orleans House Gallery is committed to being family friendly and is signed up to the [Kids in Museums](https://kidsinmuseums.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Kids-in-Museums-Manifesto-2022.pdf) manifesto to guide our work.

The Richmond Arts Service vision has the following values, and we are particularly interested in working with artists that interrogate or support this direction:

**Collaborative** – we work with people in innovative and inspiring ways, we invite artists, communities and individuals to create the public programme with us and help develop the arts service.

**Socially engaged** – we respond to the needs and wishes of local people, widen participation in the arts and connect people from different backgrounds, enabling them to have a say over issues that affect them, and promoting opportunity particularly for underrepresented groups.

**Experimental** – through the arts we test new ideas and approaches and share our learning to support the work of the borough. This might involve being playful, adventurous and taking risks.

**Enterprising** – we will always be open to new ways of working, sustain and develop productive partnerships and seek to find ways to make our work financially sustainable and develop inward investment for the arts