

A NEW EXCHANGE

Call for applications to A NEW EXCHANGE: a learning and development programme for socially engaged artists in Greater Manchester.

The Turnpike Gallery is delighted to announce the launch of **A New Exchange**, an artist development programme for six early to mid-career socially engaged artists who live and work in Greater Manchester. The programme will run from September 2022 to March 2023.

Funded by Greater Manchester Combined Authority's Culture Fund, **A New Exchange** is a six month programme that builds on the foundation, success and legacy of The Turnpike CIC's ['Making of Us'](#) (2020 - 2022) with a continued focus on artist development, co-creation, collaboration and community engagement. It will be underpinned by a number of key principles that shaped the success of 'Making of Us', notably reflective practice, care, diversity and inclusion.

The programme will again be delivered through successful long-term partnerships with Wigan Targeted Youth Support Services, True Colours CIC and The Together Trust.

Our continued aim will be to bring together expertise in arts, social care and education, to share learning across sectors and develop new ways of working with artists to engage young people and to up-skill and diversify the artistic workforce to deliver projects that fully engage the communities they work with.

The Turnpike Gallery is now looking to recruit 3 early-career socially engaged artists living and working in Greater Manchester to take part in **A New Exchange**. Each successful applicant will be partnered with an artist who participated in the 'Making of Us' to deliver a project in collaboration with one of our three community partners (see below for more information about our partners). Alongside this, the 3 new artists will undertake training, mentoring, peer-to-peer learning and reflective practice.

Successful artists will be offered the following:

- A £2,500 bursary, travel and subsistence expenses, and a project materials budget.
- A short training programme to build skills and knowledge in social/community arts practice working with vulnerable young people & adults.
- Mentoring sessions with a sector professional(s).

- A series of peer-led crits and sharing events.
- The opportunity to work with one other artist who previously participated in the 'Making of Us' to co-design a collaborative project with participants from one of our three community partners.
- The opportunity to develop skills in Reflective Practice.

THE TURNPIKE GALLERY

The Turnpike Gallery is an arts organisation and exhibition space in Leigh that offers free cultural activity for all ages, rooted in the belief that meaningful encounters with arts and artists can support wellbeing, open us up to new perspectives and help us feel more connected with each other and our environments.

The legacy of the Turnpike Centre is part of the fabric of Leigh. Its reputation has encouraged artists, organisations and visitors to help shape the cultural offer it brings to Leigh.

Today, in a new era of programming supported by Wigan Council, we continue this approach by welcoming exciting visual arts, collaboration with our communities, platforming youth voice and nurturing new connections in Leigh, the Wigan borough and beyond.

PARTNERS

TRUE COLOURS CIC

Formed in 2013 as a Community Interest Company, True Colours supports young people and adults with autism and learning disabilities with autistic traits, working closely with their families and carers. The team helps service users improve their social and sensory skills, lead fulfilling lives within their community and help themselves by helping others. True Colours doesn't accept the limits sometimes placed on people with autistic traits. Through volunteering, creative arts and skills development, service users become more confident, embrace work opportunities and most importantly have an amazing time doing it. <https://www.truecoloursbic.co.uk/>

THE TOGETHER TRUST

The Together Trust's vision is a society where people thrive because they are valued within their communities. For 150 years they have been championing and caring for people with disabilities, autism and complex health needs and providing life changing support for looked after children and care experienced people. Today they are one of the North West's leading disability charities, they help children, adults, parents and carers delivering individual care, support and education to 1000s of people each year. <https://www.togethertrust.org.uk/>

WIGAN TARGETED YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES

WTYSS works with children and young people aged 8-18 years (and up to 25 years for those with a physical/learning disability) to help them get back on track if they're taking risks or experiencing difficulties. Their aim is for all young people to achieve their potential, be more confident and resilient and have a strong support network to help them make positive changes. They work with a wide range of young people including those in the youth justice system, those in care and those affected by mental health.

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Health-Social-Care/Children-and-young-people/Targ eted-Services.aspx>

A NEW EXCHANGE - THE PROGRAMME

The programme will comprise three strands - Professional Development, Collaborative Projects, and Developing Reflective Practice:

Professional Development

- An induction and closing knowledge sharing event with all six artists.
- Three externally facilitated workshops to explore relevant subjects which may include working with vulnerable young people, co-creation/collaboration and managing challenging behaviour. Members of staff from our community partners will be invited to participate in all of these sessions.
- Four mentoring sessions with a sector professional(s).
- Peer-led crits and sharing events involving all six artists in the cohort.

Collaborative Projects

- Each artist will work with one other artist from the previous 'Making of Us ' programme. Each artist pairing will be matched with one of our community partners (introduced above). The artists will work collaboratively with the partner staff team and a group of participants (aged 13 - 25 years) to co-design and co-create a creative project that meets the needs and interests of the young people.
- Projects will happen either face-to-face in venues, remotely online, or via a blended physical and virtual approach, and will reflect the needs of both participants and artists and the specific nature of each project.
- We anticipate that each project will last for approximately 3 months between January and March 2023 and will comprise up to 10 collaborative workshops.
- In addition to the artist bursary, each artist will be allocated a materials and travel budget to support delivery of the project.
- Throughout delivery, artists will be supported by staff at partner venues and members of **A New Exchange** project team (on all issues including safeguarding and risk assessment).

- The collaborative projects are intended to give artists the opportunity to put into practice the knowledge and skills gained through the CPD programme and to explore approaches to co-creation with young people. There is no expectation that each project will produce a finished product (i.e. physical artwork or exhibition).

Developing Reflective Practice

- Each artist will be given the chance to document and reflect on their own journey and that of the young people with whom they are collaborating throughout the course of the programme. This process of Reflective Practice will be supported by the Assistant Producer, Laura Makin and Evaluation Consultant Debbie Walker who will act as a 'critical friend'.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Training Workshops, Induction & Closing Event:

- Thursday 22nd September 2022 - Induction
- Thursday 13th October 2022 - CPD Workshop 1
- Thursday 8th December 2022 - CDP Workshop 2
- Thursday 12th January 2023 - CDP Workshop 3
- Thursday 30th March 2023 - Closing Event

Please note, we anticipate these sessions will be full days. The location will be confirmed nearer the time.

Mentoring:

- x4 mentoring sessions between December 2022 and March 2023. Dates for these sessions will be agreed between mentor(s) and artists.

Peer-to-Peer Sessions:

- At least 2 peer-led crits / exchange events between November 2022 and February 2023, dates to be agreed between Assistant Producer and artists.

Projects with Community Partners:

- Collaborative projects will take place between January - March 2023. Dates for workshops will be agreed between the artists and partner setting.

WHO IS IT FOR?

We are committed to the promotion of equal opportunities and fully support the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion. We fully recognise that groups and

individuals in society are disadvantaged due to discrimination directed against them and we aim to remove any barriers. We actively seek applications from people who experience racism; identify as coming from a disadvantaged background; people who are D/deaf, disabled or neurodiverse; and people who identify as LGBTQIA+.

This opportunity is designed for artists who:-

- Identify as facing barriers to this kind of opportunity,
- Currently live and work in Greater Manchester,
- Are early-career with some experience of delivering socially engaged/participatory/co-created/collaborative/social projects with communities,
- Are interested in the opportunity to work collaboratively with another artist,
- Are able to commit to all elements of the programme within the provisional programme schedule above,
- Are looking for a substantial development opportunity to move their practice onto the next level.

HOW TO APPLY

We welcome your application in any format, either as text, video or audio. Please use whichever format you are most comfortable with.

In your application we would like you to respond to the following questions: (max 1,000 words / max 5 mins video/audio)

- Tell us about yourself and your practice. What inspired you to want to work as a socially engaged artist?
- Why is this opportunity important to you now? What aspects of socially engaged practice are you keen to explore or know more about as part of the programme?
- What is your previous experience of delivering socially engaged projects? Please provide at least one example of a past project you have delivered.

Please also share a CV with details of two referees and a completed Equality and Diversity monitoring form (enclosed with this pack). It is important to note that the Equality and Diversity form is separate from the application and therefore does not form part of the selection process, and all data provided is anonymised.

A New Exchange aims to provide artists with a supportive and cared-for space in which to develop their practice. If successful, we will invite you to share with us details of any access requirements you may have, however you define access. Whether that is around disability, white spaces, money, access to the internet, childcare, institutional transphobia or other forms of exclusion. In the meantime, we invite you to let us know as part of your application if there is anything we can do to support you

through the application and interview process.

If you would like an informal chat about this opportunity, require this document in a different format, or have any questions please contact **A New Exchange** Producers Emma Fry and Shelley Cater-Shipway by email at
E: emma@fscreative.co.uk / shelley@fscreative.co.uk

Applications should be submitted by email to:
Emma Fry and Shelley Cater-Shipway at
E: emma@fscreative.co.uk / shelley@fscreative.co.uk

Deadline for applications: **Monday 4th July 2022 by 5pm**

Informal Interviews: **Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th July 2022**
Interviews can be conducted either in person or virtually via Zoom.

