Opportunity: Young Artists in Residence

Can you connect art, ideas and communities?

What does utopia mean to you?

The Whitworth is looking for two emerging artists from any discipline, aged 24 or under, to help us shape our work with young people and local communities.

Utopias project:

In his seminal book Utopia (1516), Thomas More gave name and form to an idea that captured the human imagination - that of aspiring to an ideal future, an improved world, a better society.

Utopia is, at its essence, about creating a perfect world, yet in this way, it is always in opposition with the present. Using your artistic-thinking, interest in current events, and passion for making positive change in the world, you will support Whitworth Young Contemporaries to look at how utopian strategies have been imagined, represented and tested by artists in the Whitworth Collection.

What you will do:

* You will have the opportunity to develop skills as a creative practitioner and community curator.
* Drawing inspiration from the Whitworth’s collection of art, you will work with our curator to support Whitworth Young Contemporaries to produce an exhibition on the theme of utopia.
* Using your skills as an artist, curator, cultural producer and workshop leader you will work collaboratively with young people, local communities and gallery staff to develop ideas that will inform our programming for the exhibition.
* You will use your creativity to support the Whitworth Young Contemporaries to think about how utopianism matters today.
* You will develop partnerships with local youth organisations to deliver outreach and widen our community offer.

Who you are:

* You are an emerging artist, curator or cultural producer from any practice aged 24 or under.
* You have an interest and ability to engage people from all backgrounds.
* You have an interest in current political events.
* You are interested in working collaboratively, in partnership with experienced practitioners and staff across the gallery.
* You are able to work flexible hours including evenings and weekends.

We are committed to building a culturally diverse institution where everyone can flourish and feel valued by their contribution and individuality. Our policies and practices are designed to encourage talented people, whatever their background to work here. All appointments will be made on merit.

Fee:

£2,000 for approximately 20 days work October 2019 – February 2019

(approx. 1 days per week)

Please note that successful applicants will need enhanced DBS status.

To apply:

Send your CV with up to 3 images, and an expression of interest (500 words max) telling us why you want to join us to support this particular project and how you would approach the opportunity.

Send to:

sally.thelwell@manchester.ac.uk by 5pm Thursday 19th September. Interviews to be held on Thursday 26th September with a start date of the end of October.