



SMASH

MENTAL HEALTH ARTS PROGRAMME: CALL OUT FOR FEMALE ARTISTS

A creative social prescribing project that offers participants a range of innovative experiences designed to:

- Help improve how participants feel
- Increase their understanding of mental health and illness



- Increase confidence in talking about their experiences
- Provide new creative tools for exploring and expressing mental health experiences
- Meet and share their thoughts with others who are facing similar experiences

Supported by The Pilgrim Trust, this iteration of SMASH will have a focus on engaging Women and Girls struggling with their mental health.

We are looking for exciting and diverse artists to deliver creative workshops and/or facilitated conversations to participants referred to us through various mental health services in the community and wider city.

Participants referred to SICK! will consult with our Creative Producer and a **dedicated Mental Health Practitioner** to develop a menu of engagement for them, they will also both be present through the delivery of all the elements of the process to offer support, continuity and **help maintain a safe working environment for all involved.**

The 2 elements we are looking for artist for are:

- **Participatory workshops (CREATE):** Artist led workshops developing creativity as a way of exploring their own experiences. The sessions will be carefully pitched to enable participants to engage in ways that they are comfortable with. These sessions are aimed to be up to 2-3 hours long for a group of up to 10 participants.
- **Creative Conversations (TALK):** Facilitated conversations with artists about their work, the challenges they have faced and their approach to managing their own mental health and wellbeing. We envisage these to be intimate events for a group of up to 10 participants.

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You can lead either a workshop(s) or be the subject of the creative Conversation series, or both. All sessions will be held at a venue in Harpurhey on Monday mornings from 10.30am between April 2023 – January 2024.

Submission process

For the workshops we are asking artists to submit their proposal for a stand-alone workshop between 2-3 hours in length with a brief outline of content, objectives and outputs.

For the Creative Conversations we are asking for a brief outline of the sorts of themes/topics and discussions you would be interested in leading. From there we will consult with you to find a relevant focus for the event based around your portfolio and artistic practice. Each Creative Conversation is aimed to be between 1 – 1.5 hours.

Please send all submissions to Steve@sickfestival.com

Deadline for submissions is 15th February 2023

Fees

For the workshop delivery the fee is £200 per session inclusive of planning with an additional £40 for materials. For the Creative Conversations the fee is £200 per event inclusive of planning.

Term

Between the delivery period of April 2023 – January 2024 we will host 10 workshop sessions and 10 Creative Conversations.

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