



## **ART WORKS - Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What local employment and training opportunities will ART WORKS create?**

ART WORKS will create 16 new jobs at Living Wage. There will be 8 full-time placements for established artists for up to one year and 7 six-month Kickstart placement opportunities for recently graduated artists (open to 21 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit). There will additionally be 1 full-time artist coordinator.

The programme will include mentoring, training, support and care package for the artists tailored to their individual needs. The placements for local young artists are development opportunities, for the artists to learn on-the-ground skills for art-making, engaging with local people and developing vocational skills.

### **Will local artists be involved?**

Yes. The Kickstart placement artists will be locally based, recruited through the Job Centre. The established artists will be required to live in, or move to, your locality or a commutable distance and are likely to be predominantly locally based artists.

### **What kind of things will the artists do?**

The artists will work on their own artistic practice and will actively contribute to the local environment, culture and community through their art practice. They will develop ideas and projects for post pandemic renewal. The numbers of artists involved will allow for many different approaches. We anticipate activity to include artworks based on the history, social context or landscape of the local area, as well as other kinds of activity, such as clubs and public realm projects, books, digital projects, collaborations with local people and artists' engaging local manufacturers or services to help realise their artworks.

### **What will our local community get out of this?**

There will be an events programme offering lots of different activities to the general public and to specific groups – these may include events like open studios, workshops, exhibitions and screenings. There will be opportunities to work with the artists on collaborative artworks and to be involved in the development of ideas for post pandemic renewal.

### **How will our High Street benefit?**

Your High Street will see an immediate benefit through creative occupation, events and artworks which will activate the area, create foot fall and re-establish a public realm through shared activities. ART WORKS places artists at the heart of towns and cities to help reimagine a future collectively. The longer term strategic benefit comes from ART WORKS working collectively with your communities to reimagine the high street and test ideas and propositions for new usages. At the end of the programme each partner will be provided with a set of propositions to reset, reimagine and renew their location.

### **What type of premises are appropriate?**

Vacant Class A1 retail units would be ideal so that there might be a public-facing element and a visible impact on the high street. However, other types of Class A, B, C or D premises may also be appropriate. The property should be secure with running water and toilet facilities. If available, ground floor, wheelchair accessible premises with disabled toilets would allow us to offer placements to artists with different access needs. We would also be interested in larger units which may share usage with other initiatives and facilities.

### **How many artists do we need to accommodate at a time?**

You will need to provide premises for 11-12 artists at a time. One group of 8 artists will be resident for up to a full year, and two groups of 3-4 artists will be on six month placements. We suggest a minimum of 120sqft per artist.

### **How will the artists be selected and what experience will the artists have?**

We will manage and administrate an open call process to select the established artists, advertising locally and nationally, with a panel of professional artists as selectors. The process will adhere to best practice around diversity, access and inclusion, aiming for high quality candidates from a range of backgrounds. There will be 8 experienced professional artists with an established artistic practice and track record in their field. The 7 Kickstarter placements, recruited through Job Centres will be for very early career artists, for whom this will be a fast track to vocational experience and skills.

### **Who will brief the artists?**

Working closely with partners, and following site visits and research, we will produce bespoke briefing packages for the artists, outlining the particular local, historical, geographical and community context. These briefing packages will include key local contacts, initiatives and projects to enable the artists to best connect with and understand the local context, conditions and opportunities. Of course many of the artists will be from your local community and will bring their own networks and knowledge.

### **Do we need to manage the artists, or arrange for them to work on our programmes?**

No. But you may wish to share opportunities with the artists, and they may come to your organisation with ideas for projects. Kickstarter placement artists may want to meet or shadow teams within your organisation, but this is not a requirement.

### **How much are the artists being paid?**

8 professional artists will be paid a full time Real Living Wage for up to 1 year to create, think, make and participate in the locality. 7 young/emerging artists National Living Wage for 25 hours a week, to make and create, but also to learn essential skills for working as an artist. A production budget is allocated for each artist, meaning that they will have the means to realise high-quality, ambitious art projects.

### **What resources do we need to put to towards Art Works?**

We will be seeking a financial contribution estimated at £160,000 plus vacant properties to be a partner of the project. We also ask that you insure the buildings whilst in use by the artists. The contribution to core costs will cover local practical support and central management and coordination. It will cover selection and management of the artists and programme, support of the artists to develop public activities and artworks, and promotion and marketing the programme beyond the local area.

### **How much funding does this attract as external investment?**

Your investment will see an immediate return to the value of £200,000 which we are seeking from Arts Council England and the Government Kickstart scheme.

## **Is ART WORKS a fixed programme, the same in every location, or will it respond to our particular conditions?**

The founding principle is to place artists in the high streets of our towns and cities in spaces made vacant through the pandemic, and ensure they are remunerated. We anticipate that the artists will respond to your locality and context. However, there is flexibility beyond this and we would be very happy to hear from you about your ideas.

## **Who is behind ART WORKS?**

ART WORKS is being developed by and will be delivered through DACS, the leading UK organisation championing artists' rights and their sustained and vital contribution to culture, society and the creative economy. Visit [dacs.org.uk](https://dacs.org.uk)

## **What are your criteria for selecting partners/locations to be involved in ART WORKS?**

ART WORKS is a pilot project and we are seeking an initial group of partners/locations who will demonstrate a range of different locations and conditions. Longlisted partners will be invited to participate in discussions to ensure that the project will be appropriate and beneficial to their context, aspirations and resources. Selection will be on the basis of the potential for the scheme to work well for the artists and the location, that it can deliver impact and that the location aligns with the objectives of our funders.

## **How will the artists be supported?**

An artist co-ordinator will be employed to support the artists in their work. The coordinator will help broker local relationships and support the artists to produce artworks and public activity. Support will be tailored to the artists' stage of career: the 7 Kickstart placement artists will receive bespoke mentoring and support; the 8 professional artists will be offered a flexible care package.

## **Will the artists be insured?**

We will assist the artists to arrange their own public liability insurance.

## **How will our location be part of a national programme?**

We intend to secure a broadcast media partner and will promote the projects in national print media. We will deliver national promotional activity including a website, culminating celebratory events and activities. This will contribute to the national profile of the partners and the artists contributions to the reimagining and renewal of society.

## **Further information**

To download an application form and read more about the programme please visit

[dacs.org.uk/home/art-works](https://dacs.org.uk/home/art-works)

If you have further question about your expression please contact us [artworks@dacs.org.uk](mailto:artworks@dacs.org.uk)