Making Waves – Creative Writer Brief

Tees Valley Arts is recruiting for a Creative Writer for our Making Waves project, linked with River Tees Rediscovered, Pathways School and Musinc.

Tees Valley Arts

TVA is a participatory arts organisation based in Middlesbrough working across the Tees Valley. TVA designs and delivers creative interventions which help people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities enjoy, engage, learn and make progress in life.

River Tees Rediscovered

The RTR vision is to reconnect the people of the Tees with their river through telling the engaging story of the River Tees as a natural feature that has moulded the physical and cultural development of the landscape and communities through which it runs. TVA is the arts partner for RTR.

Musinc

Musinc leads and supports inclusive music-making with young people from all backgrounds across Teesside.

Pathways School

Pathways School is a special school for 66 pupils aged 6-16 years who have experienced emotional, behavioural and social difficulties in mainstream education. Currently most of the pupils are male.

Making Waves

Pathways School is a small special school which seeks to encourage its pupils to achieve, enjoy and learn across all curriculum areas, but, inevitably, its staff are not able to provide high quality activity in every subject. Currently the school is not able to offer music to it students.

Through this project it is intended that two musicians, one as Music Leader and one as Music Trainee, should work with a group of up to 15 students, all of secondary school age, to help them develop and enhance their own music making skills, whether in playing and singing existing music, or in creating their own original work/s. There will be 10 sessions with the students (to include any celebration/ performance event) which both the ML and the MT will attend. There is an allocation of paid non-contact time for both the ML and the MT which is to be used in familiarisation with the school's existing equipment/ software, in preparation for sessions and editing/ refining works produced after sessions and all other allied project tasks. Both the ML and MT will be expected to attend a briefing session at the school prior to commencement of delivery, due to the particular nature and needs of the students.

A creative writer will also be appointed and will attend three of the ten sessions alongside the ML and the MT; his/her role will be to help the students work on their own lyrics, so that they can understand how to begin to create their own songs, whether in this project or in the future.
The River Tees is to be used as a creative stimulus for any original work/s, whether in terms of its history, its local importance, its moods in different weathers and lights, its tidal rhythms, what lives in it, etc. – whatever the students particularly respond to.

It is envisaged that there will be a celebration/ performance event at the end of the project, but the scale and nature of this (e.g. other pupils attending, parents invited etc.) will be determined in consultation with school personnel, and will be subject to the progress and confidence of the group – developing enjoyment and confidence will be the absolute key aim for this group.

It is envisaged that recording/s will be made of works created/performed by the group and the ML and MT will liaise with school personnel as to how/when this is to be done.

Genres

After consultation with the young people at Pathways, it has been decided that the chosen music genres are **hip-hop, rap, dubstep and heavy metal**. All artists will need to work within these genres.

Schedule

Session No.	Date and Time	Activity	Where
1	Weds 24th Feb 3pm – 5pm	Intro	Pathways School, Grangetown
2	Weds 2nd Mar 3pm – 5pm	Music Lesson	Pathways School, Grangetown
3	Weds 9th Mar 3pm – 5pm	Music Lesson	Pathways School, Grangetown
4	Weds 16th Mar 3pm – 5pm	Music Lesson	Pathways School, Grangetown
5	Weds 23rd Mar 3pm – 5pm	Visit?	Pathways School, Grangetown
6	Weds 13th Apr 3pm – 5pm	Music Lesson	Pathways School, Grangetown
7	Weds 20th Apr 3pm – 5pm	Music Lesson	Pathways School, Grangetown
8	Weds 27th Apr 3pm – 5pm	Music Lesson	Pathways School, Grangetown
9	Weds 4th May 3pm – 5pm	Rehearsal	Pathways School, Grangetown
10	Weds 11th May 1pm – 3pm	PERFORMANCE	Pathways School, Grangetown

NB. You will need to be available for 3 of the above sessions. (In discussion with Projects Coordinator)

Fee

3 x sessions Creative Writer @ £135 = £405
1 x day Creative Writer Non Contact @ £150 = £150

TOTAL = £555

NB. There is an additional materials budget of £500 for instrument/equipment hire and £450 for any software usage to be spread across the project to be allocated in consultation with TVA.

To Apply

If you are interested in applying for this position, please write a statement of intent, indicating your experience in this area/examples of previous work/links to soundcloud etc. and how you might approach this project. (No longer than two sides of A4)

Please email your application to Projects Officer, Ree Collins using the email address provided below by **midday Wednesday 3rd February 2016**. Applicants will need to have Public Liability Insurance and applicants with Professional Indemnity Insurance will be preferred.

Selection will be made by Thursday 4th February 2016, and TVA may hold interviews if we think it necessary.

projects@teesvalleyarts.org.uk

For more information call **01642 264 654**.