

Abundance

Call-out for South Asian artists in CV postcodes

Coventry City of Culture Trust / Sampad



Are you a poet who'd like to perform? A costume maker with flair and talent - would you like to design for a parade? A dancer who can choreograph and enthuse others to perform? Could you make and design lanterns that could be carried for a carnival parade? Are you a DJ? Do you have ideas and want to see how they could translate into an outdoor performance space? Are you looking for collaborators to work with?

We are looking to uncover the hidden talent in Coventry's South Asian communities!

Coventry City of Culture Trust, working with Sampad South Asian Arts, are running a development and mentoring programme for creative people of South Asian heritage with a CV postcode. *Abundance* will offer successful applicants an 8-10 week programme of workshops, mentoring and support. We'll help you develop your idea into a pitch to City of Culture's Creative Director, Chenine Bhathena, and then help you develop it into a project grants application to Arts Council England for presentation as part of the Carnival of Lights event in Coventry's City of Culture year.

WHAT IS ABUNDANCE?

Abundance is a development programme for creative people of South Asian heritage from Coventry & Warwickshire, that will forge new relationships with Coventry City of Culture Trust and Sampad South Asian Arts, leading to the co-creation of Coventry's Carnival of Lights in Autumn 2021.

WHAT AND WHO ARE WE LOOKING TO SUPPORT?

We are now looking for 10 individuals of South Asian heritage to form part of a network of artists, *Abundance*, as part of City of Culture to co-create the Carnival of Lights with communities in Coventry. If you are selected for *Abundance*, you will get a seed commission of £1000 to develop your idea.

You may not yet think of yourself as an artist or a creative – or you may be new to this, just starting out or mid-career. We are interested in art forms that lend themselves to parades and performance – this can include costume, dance, make up, crafts, music, performance art, spoken word, street theatre - or something not listed here. We are open to your ideas and thoughts on what would work as part of the Carnival of Lights. *Abundance* is your opportunity to develop ideas into a realisable project.

As a result of this programme, we expect you will

- Create an artistic proposal that has potential to be part of Coventry's next Carnival of Lights
- Pitch this idea/proposal to Coventry City of Culture Trust's Creative Director, Chenine Bhathena in March 2021
- Submit an application for funding to Arts Council England to deliver the proposal in 2021

This programme will run from January to March 2021 and is an opportunity to be part of a network of creative people and develop links and connections with producers and arts

organisations in the region. This programme is open to individuals from a South Asian background.

Eligibility

You must

- Be of South Asian heritage.
- Have a demonstrable commitment to your own creativity and/or art form and a passion and ambition to develop as an artist.
- Be based in Coventry and Warwickshire (i.e. CV postcode).
- Have an interest in creating artistic work that engages with the public and connects with communities.
- Have an interest in South Asian arts and culture.
- Have the time to ensure that you can be part of the *Abundance* programme, to develop your idea with support from Sampad including attending group sessions and mentoring sessions & undertaking any independent work in between sessions.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please answer the following questions in writing (maximum 2 sides of A4) or through a 5-minute video:

- Tell us about yourself and any experience you have.
- What is your creative talent or art form? Tell us what idea you would like to develop through Abundance.
- Tell us what you would like to celebrate as a British Asian creative as part of the Coventry 2021 programme.
- Please attach photos or examples of your work (no more than 3 pages of attachments or video/audio with maximum combined length of 10 minutes)

Please ensure you include both an email address and contact telephone number in your submission.

To submit your application, visit coventry2021.co.uk/abundance and click 'APPLY NOW'. You'll be taken to our online application form. **Applications close 10 Jan 2021.**

Coventry City of Culture Trust would like to hold your information so we can contact you about future opportunities for local South Asian artists. By applying, you agree to let us hold this information and share with relevant third parties.

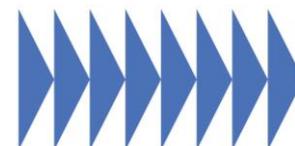
WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

If you have any questions, please send informal enquiries to Sabra Khan (sabra@sampad.org.uk), or attend one of our Artist Surgeries on Zoom:

Wednesday 16 Dec, 6pm – 7pm. [BOOK A PLACE](#)

Wednesday 6 Jan, 11am – 12 noon. (Closed captioning provided) [BOOK A PLACE](#)

ABOUT COVENTRY CITY OF CULTURE 2021



This is the city where movement began, from innovation in the transport industry to a history of activism. Our city has moved people for centuries.

For a whole year, we will celebrate our city with events, music, dance, theatre, and large-scale spectacle.

As well as these big celebrations, our city will show its unexpected side, with more intimate experiences and ways to get involved across every ward of the city.

And it's not just Coventry. This celebration will see the entire region get involved and benefit from the opportunities that being City of Culture brings.

Our values:

- **COLLABORATION:** We believe collaboration is the foundation for innovation and achieving excellence in all aspects of our work.
- **ACTIVISM:** We seek to make positive social change so that all our communities participate and are represented.
- **CARE:** We consider the impact of our actions on the economic, physical, mental, social and environmental well-being of all our colleagues, partners, and communities across the city, region, UK and the globe.
- **AMBITION:** We are ambitious for the future; we are pioneers and innovators who thrive on change and embrace new challenges.

ABOUT SAMPAD

Sampad's mission is to connect people and communities with South Asian and British Asian arts and heritage. Sampad believes in the power of arts and heritage to impact widely on all communities – breaking down barriers, raising important issues, amplifying unheard voices and bringing people from all walks of life together.

Now in our 30th year, we continue to play an instrumental role in promoting and encouraging British Asian arts, so that they progress, break new ground and enrich mainstream culture in the UK. We support, commission and co-produce a huge variety of arts and heritage activities inspired by diverse artforms that originate from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. We regularly run artist development programmes and offer informal mentoring and support to a range of artists across the country.

