

## ARTIST CALL OUT: CREATE & CHANGE

### SAMPAD Arts & Wellbeing Programme at Dolphin Women's Centre, Washwood Heath, Birmingham



*Photo Credit: Left & Centre – Sampad Right – Kate Green Photography*

**Sampad is seeking an experienced and compassionate Lead Artist to co-design and lead a series of community arts workshops with our Create & Change women's group at Dolphin Women's Centre.**

**Fee:** £2,200 including preparation and delivery. A small travel budget to support travel from outside of Birmingham but within the West Midlands is available. A budget for materials is available and will be discussed at interview and confirmed upon appointment.

Create & Change creates a positive space to support the women's mental health, but also to give them the opportunity to try new things and create things.

This autumn, Sampad is working with Shakespeare Birthplace Trust using their archive as inspiration for a creative response. Early in the term, the group and lead artist will visit the archive and we envisage that this will inform the work.

#### ***What might the creative response look like?***

We are not prescribing the creative response as we would like this to be co-created between the Lead Artist and the group, however, there are different possibilities including curating a case at a Shakespeare Birthplace Trust venue or displaying work across sites/online. The creative response may be a group or individual responses or a combination of both.

#### ***What art form are we seeking?***

We envisage that visual arts, poetry, creative writing, crafts, film and photography may be the best art forms for this project. However, if your art form is not listed and you are keen to respond with thoughts on what your art form could offer, we would be interested in hearing from you.

### ***What support is there for the artist?***

There will be a Shadow Artist (also being recruited at the same time as this role) and there will be support from the Sampad Team, in particular the Learning Officer. You will also be able to access expertise via SBT Community Engagement Project Officer and archivists.

In addition, we offer a regular Artist Wellbeing session to support you.

### **Background**

Sampad has been working in partnership with Dolphin Women's Centre on Create & Change since 2017. Since 2022, thanks to funding from The Baring Foundation, we have established a weekly arts & wellbeing group on Tuesday mornings at the Centre. Each term, a different artist leads these sessions. The workshops aim to foster creativity and self-expression while providing a safe and supportive environment for participants.

Since 2022 the group has co produced or had sessions with drama practitioners on play reading and stories; with visual artists on a variety of projects including mood boards, zines and postcards; a visual artist to create embroidered wall hanging and with theatre makers on 'Connecting Stories' using visual and storytelling media to explore how to find their voice.

This project is part of our commitment to using the arts and heritage as part of improving the well-being and resilience of vulnerable people in some of the most deprived communities in Birmingham.

### **Project Details**

- Project Duration: Project commences in September 2024 with workshops sessions starting with a visit to SBT on 24<sup>th</sup> September and then weekly sessions running to the end of November/early December with a break for October half term.

- Fee: £2200.00 to include preparation, planning, reflection and delivery of a minimum of 8 x 2hour weekly sessions and a visit to SBT. There is a further budget for materials which we will discuss with you.

Weekly sessions run from **10.00-12noon every Tuesday morning. Please note due to timetabling at DWC there is no flexibility on this day or time.**

- Location: Dolphin Women's Centre, Washwood Heath Road, Washwood Heath, Birmingham B9 1NA.

- Target Audience: We work with adult users of Dolphin Women's Centre which includes vulnerable adults and some with additional needs. These women use the centre for a variety of purposes including attending courses, coffee mornings and volunteering. The group is open to all women or those who identify as women.

- Number of Participants: Engagement can vary but we have consistently had between 6 – 20 women attending. We would work with you to set a maximum capacity for your series of workshops.

- Sampad Support: There will be a member of the Sampad team present at most sessions. This project is currently being supported by the Sampad Learning Officer.

## **Create & Change Aims**

1. To provide a safer and inclusive space for participants to explore their creativity and artistic potential.
2. To help participants build self-esteem, self-confidence, and a sense of accomplishment through artistic expression.
3. To foster social connections and a sense of belonging among participants.
4. To support and enable participants develop creative skills and techniques.
5. To create a tangible body of work produced by participants as a source of pride and achievement.

## **Your Role**

- Plan and prepare for the project and each session. Initially this will include meeting the group, with Sampad and SBT to get fully briefed and get an understanding of the group that you will be co producing with
- Facilitating workshops while creating a supportive and inclusive atmosphere, promoting mutual encouragement amongst participants
- Providing guidance, feedback, and encouragement to participants
- Employ a collaborative approach for project development, adapting to participant feedback
- Harness the existing skills, expertise, and interests of group members to enhance the project
- To work with the Shadow Artist to support their engagement in a collaborative way
- Help prepare for, and attend (where possible) any exhibition and/or launch. This *could* include helping to select work to showcase and preparing it for exhibition including writing text panels contextualising the work and/or supporting the finishing of work to exhibit.
- Collaborate with Sampad's Learning Officer to document project insights and explore its lasting impact on Sampad, DWC, and the participants and to take part in an evaluation session with SBT.

You will work closely with Sampad's Learning Officer, who manages the logistics of the project, leads on communication with participants and will support you in the delivery of this project.

***Given the nature of this call-out, we strongly welcome applications from South Asian women artists or women artists that have a connection to South Asian communities and culture, as well as:***

## ***Essential Requirements***

- Experience of working with adults
- Experience of working in community and education settings to produce work for exhibition or display
- Excellence as an arts facilitator
- Available for the period detailed on page 2 under Project Details

The activity must be inspired by South Asian culture and heritage & demonstrate your understanding of working with South Asian communities including sensitivity to religious and cultural beliefs.

## ***Desirable Experience***

- To have co-produced work with communities including vulnerable adults and people with additional needs

- To have produced work for exhibition/display
- To have worked with collections
- Fluent in one or more South Asian languages
- Experience with people with English as an additional language
- To have worked with volunteers
- Undertaken Safeguarding Training and an understanding of Safeguarding good practice
- Experience of effectively using the resources available to you including budget, space and volunteers

We seek artists who can contribute to and uphold the low-pressure and friendly atmosphere that our participants value. Maintaining this relaxed ethos is an essential requirement of the artist brief.

### How to apply

To apply, please send us the following by **21<sup>st</sup> August 2024.**

1. **A letter of interest** (max 2 sides of A4): as this project has a co-creation approach, we don't expect a detailed plan for all of the sessions. Rather, we want to hear about your artistic practice and experience, possible ideas for creative activities and the approach you would use to respond to the brief.

2. **Your CV** (max two pages)

3. Please give up to three examples of previous relevant work or projects as text, images, links to websites or film. Please include 2 references that we can contact about your work.

You can also submit a video or audio application instead of your letter of interest, this should be no more than 4 minutes.

Please send applications to [info@sampad.org.uk](mailto:info@sampad.org.uk)

If you need support with any elements of the application process, have any specific access needs for the application process or have any questions and would like an informal chat ahead of applying please contact Sabra by email [sabra@sampad.org.uk](mailto:sabra@sampad.org.uk) or call 0121 446 3260.

Please note if selected:

- An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check will be undertaken
- Sampad is an equal opportunities employer. We actively encourage applicants from diverse South Asian backgrounds as they are particularly under represented in participatory artistic work. We are committed to equality and diversity within our organisation.

**The Baring  
Foundation**

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