



Creation of artist database for interest in public realm projects

'Creative Giants Art' on behalf of 'Coventry City Council' in partnership with 'Coventry City of Culture Trust'

INVITATION OF INTEREST

Project Title: Public Realm Artwork database

Deadline for Responses: Ongoing

SUMMARY

As part of the UK City of Culture readiness programme and to fulfill the partnership legacy ambitions beyond 2021 - we are inviting all West Midlands, national (UK) and international creatives to submit their interest, proposals, and/or portfolio, in order to be considered within call-outs for current and upcoming public realm regeneration schemes, citywide redevelopment projects and cultural programmes.

The aim is to create a diverse catalogue/database of work and a register of interested artists that can be considered by Coventry City Council and the Coventry City of Culture Trust for future projects.

We are keen to engage local artists to help us create beautiful places for the people of Coventry in what promises to be an exciting year. The nature of the projects is varied and covers all elements of public realm, from garden projects to construction projects, from lighting to street art. We want to talk to you whatever your specialty and whatever your size. Projects will range in budget from very small to several hundred thousand pounds – and we want to invite you to become part of this journey during 2020 and as we progress into 2021.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

We are looking for all visual artists, makers, thinkers, doers at all stages of their career, whether early or more advanced. There is no limit to the scope of work, its message, scale or materiality.

Working within the public realm means certain policies and procedures as well as elements of technical planning will have to be met to ensure compliance and protection of the public. Please do not let this discourage you from applying though as support teams can be built on a project by project basis.

Our commissioning process is like our city, open to everyone.

WHO WE ARE:

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL

Coventry City Council looks after the city of Coventry, home to 366,000 residents is the 12th biggest city in the UK. The Council was awarded funding from the West Midlands Combined Authority and Coventry and Warwickshire LEP in 2019. This funding is in place to deliver the city centre transformation in readiness for UK City of Culture 2021 and 2022 Commonwealth Games as well as ensuring a lasting legacy to promote ongoing economic growth and development for Coventry and the whole West Midlands. The programme aims to get the city of Coventry ready to welcome millions of visitors during 2021 and maximise the benefits of this fantastic accolade for the city and wider region to create a long and lasting impact.

For Coventry, there is a need to change perceptions of the city as a place to visit and spend time in order to attract investment, retain talent and grow the visitor economy. The City of Culture programme gives the Council an opportunity to change the city and create a place where people want to live, work and play. In addition, the programme will support the delivery of safe and vibrant communities through the creation of high-quality public spaces which will help to bring communities together, as well as offering apprenticeship opportunities for local people during scheme construction and ensuring the city is accessible for all.

City of Culture provides an opportunity to showcase the fantastic innovations being developed in the West Midlands. Coventry City Council is working closely with Transport for West Midlands on a number of innovative transport projects which we hope to showcase in 2021. We are working together to futureproof the city and create a vision of a future Coventry.

WHO WE ARE:

COVENTRY CITY OF CULTURE 2021

Coventry City of Culture Trust was set up in 2015 to bid to be UK City of Culture in 2021. Now that we have been successful in securing the prestigious title, we are working with strategic partners and stakeholders, local businesses, local artists, cultural organisations, and residents groups to deliver an amazing build-up programme, an ambitious UK City of Culture year in 2021 and a cultural legacy for the city.

By inspiring leading artists to work with us, supporting a new generation of artists and makers, nurturing the creativity of young people, welcoming communities to collaborate, partnering with local schools and universities and removing barriers to attendance, we, along with our city partners, encourage everyone to participate in the creative life of their city and region.

We are a youthful, diverse, digital city which is re-imagining the role culture can play in bringing people together. Coventry is a city of welcome, a city of activists and pioneers, a city of peace and reconciliation, a city of innovation and invention, a City of Culture. We are committed to delivering a series of outcomes and indicators including welcoming 2.5m additional visitors to Coventry in 2021.

To help you understand what is important to us, here are the core values and objectives of Coventry UK City of Culture 2021.

Coventry's culture will be...

Collaborative

We believe the UK City of Culture title is for everyone and belongs to each and every person in Coventry. We will work closely with our community organisations, residents and local creatives across the city to co-create a programme that is sustainable long after 2021 is over.

Caring

In these times of austerity and change, Coventry is faced with ongoing issues surrounding poverty and homelessness, increasing issues around our mental health, isolation and inequality experienced by older citizens and newly arrived communities, and knife crime and safety, particularly amongst young people. Our programme will reach out to everyone and work with key organisations and networks in the city that are working to address these issues.

Creative

Coventry is a young, creative and future-facing city, with a population seven years younger than the national average. We are playful and pioneering by nature, with a long history of innovation and invention, from the bicycle to the electric car, and now a test bed location for 5G technology in 2021. Coventry's City of Culture will showcase the best of local, national and international talent, and act as a catalyst for new forms of creativity.

Activist

Coventry is a city of welcome, a city of activists and pioneers, and a city of peace and reconciliation. The UK Green and Trade Union movements began in Coventry; we are acutely aware of the impact we're having on our planet and actively work to create a better society for all.

Ambitious

Coventry will be a globally recognised future-facing and pioneering city. Coventry's culture will contribute to the social and economic prosperity of the city and region, with citizens empowered to positively influence and shape the city they want to live in.

WHO WE ARE:

CREATIVE GIANTS ART

'Art has the power to effect change, inspire, stimulate and promote new dialogue...'

Our aim is to find opportunity and support the creative process to make this a reality; enhancing the environment we work in and ultimately make captivating experiences to remember and share.

We work with artists, institutions, non-profits, festivals, and agencies alike. All of whom are creative giants in their own right but ultimately our relationship is always informed by a collaborative approach to work.

Everything begins with an idea or sometimes the absence of one. At the start of a project comes the strategic definition where we agree on what and who the scheme of work is for and what the long term impacts should be. From here teams of producers, designers, fabricators and artists, tap into their know-how and experience to aid, support and help validate proposals. We aim to amplify and empower. This is our key role for Coventry City Council and we do so informed by the key values of the City of Culture Trust.

We are a support system within projects that would otherwise move too quickly or operate at a scale that doesn't typically accommodate independent creatives, despite there being ample opportunity and funding. This role is focused towards working with Coventry City Council and the City of Culture Trust to leave a positive legacy and platform for local communities to build on.

HOW TO RESPOND

Privacy Notice

Coventry City Council will use your personal information to create a register of interested artists for the public realm development works. We will work with Creative Giants to provide consultancy and engagement services in order to reach out to the artist communities regional, national and international.

We will also share information about you with the Coventry City of Culture Trust in order to ensure that both the Council and the Trust have access to artists who may wish to be involved in wider projects and programmes.

We also use information about you, provided to us by Creative Giants, as part of the development of the artist register. This information may also be shared with other third party organisations as appropriate by responding to our online form.

More details about how we use information about you can be found in the full privacy notice [HERE](#)

[Please Complete this form https://forms.gle/CNUpuNMX5Rf21at1A](https://forms.gle/CNUpuNMX5Rf21at1A)

If you would like to speak to us about this Invitation, please contact Creative.giants@coventry.gov.uk

Once we have received your application you will then be added to the public realm database and relevant briefs will be sent to you.

Equal Opportunities

Coventry City Council and Coventry City of Culture Trust are committed to equal opportunities and will treat all applications fairly on the basis of written and/or visual submissions.