

# **ARTISTS BRIEF**

## **PUBLIC ART COMMISSION FOR THURCROFT, ROTHERHAM, S66**

**2018- 2019**

### **IMAGINATIVE OUTDOOR INSTALLATION FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN.**

**A creative response that provides a place for families to stop, stay, eat, play with creative sensory and imaginative elements suitable for small children.**

LEAD ARTIST: Fee £10,700 (inclusive of travel and VAT)

Includes at least 10 community based workshops and three public events.

Materials and installation of co-created outdoor piece suitable for young children and families @ £3,500

We have a budget to allow for Skills Training as a legacy for the project for local people.

It is expected that further funding will be sought dependant on the development of ideas and subsequent costs.

#### **TIMESCALES:**

Deadline for applications: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 12 noon

Community workshop delivery: November 2018 – March 2019

Final piece proposal: End of May 2019

Installation: September 2019

You will be supported by ROAR and the Local Neighbourhood Team.

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTISTS BRIEF:**

A large residential development in Thurcroft has released some Section 106 funds to work with the creative sector to develop a cultural asset for the new and existing residents.

ROAR have been engaged to bring specialist knowledge to the management of the project and to prepare the artists brief, recruit and support the delivery of the chosen proposal. This has meant setting up a local steering group now called the Thurcroft Creatives, to guide the process bringing local insights.

Consultations have taken place across a broad range of groups and demographics and a final presentation with a public voting scheme for top three suggestions has led us to an over whelming decision the village needs something centrally located for young children.

There is a play area with equipment suitable for the over 8's and sports field, but nothing to inspire and engage the imaginations of toddlers. It is also worth noting that seating was a major issue, and any design needs to incorporate an imaginative solution.

## BRIEF:

The Idea As presented to the Voting Public:

- Provide an area for families to enjoy the park space, to take a rest and keep an eye on younger children who can enjoy some imaginative creative sensory elements designed in.
- You can come and have a pic-nic in good weather.
- We can include environmentally friendly elements to support wildlife.
- By being in the middle of the village it is accessible for most people.
- All designs will be low maintenance and vandal proof where appropriate.
- The site can be developed according to available budgets and further phases can be built with additional funding.

The exact location has yet to be agreed but we anticipate it will be somewhere on 'The Rec' behind the Parish Council building, the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall. Other locations have also been identified depending on the final outcome.

The design will be co-created through a series of workshops within the local community, including the mainstream schools and The Willows School. Working with the Thurcroft Creatives suitable groups can be identified. It is important to involve some of the older children / young adults who spend their free time on 'the Rec' who maybe don't engage in regular activities.

As the lead artist you will be required to take ideas and inspiration from all the different groups and distill this down into a workable design, and where applicable involve the community in the construction of the resulting design to a safety standard suitable for young children.

You will be required to accurately cost the fabrication, installation and any on going maintenance required once the final design has been approved by stakeholders. (There is a separate budget for maintenance/ decommissioning).

## APPLICATION:

It is not expected that you submit a final proposal, as the organic nature of this commission means the participants will have a major influence on the final outcome. Please address the following in a maximum 2 sides of A4 written application (or video/ audio submission) with supporting visual evidence, include website links. You can post and include a disk or USB or email.

- Communicate original and relevant artistic vision relating to your own practice
- Experience/ knowledge or approach of working in community settings including schools.
- Methodology for meaningful co-creation
- Potential skills legacy for the community or the creative sector
- Understanding of Under 8's requirements, to stimulate imagination, while being 'safe'.
- Knowledge of technical skills required for outdoor public installations.
- Appreciation of the role of art has in Place-Making.
- Can work as part of a team and deliver to schedule and on budget!

We will consider joint applications who share the available fee.  
If you are new to Public Art commissions and feel this is a bit daunting, please get in touch.

We may wish to contact two referees who you have worked for previously. If you are short listed we will contact you about this.

#### FEES AND PAYMENT:

Fees will be paid on the submission of a monthly Invoice or as agreed between the artist and ROAR as laid out in the Contract.

A final amount of £1,700 will be payable on the completion of the project to the satisfaction of the commissioning body.

ENQUIRIES about this opportunity to:  
Sharon Gill, ROAR 01709 835747  
sharon@rotherhamroar.org

#### CONTEXT:

Thurcroft is a village and civil parish situated southeast of Rotherham in the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham in South Yorkshire, England and has easy access to the M18 and M1 Motorway. The village is surrounded by green belt and farm land.

Until the early 20th century, there was no settlement of Thurcroft, only Thurcroft Hall and four farms: New Orchard, Sawn Moor, Green Arbour and Steadfold. The Hall was occupied by one of the owners of the colliery which was sunk mid 1909 then the village which was built for the workers became known as Thurcroft.

The presence of coal was the single most contributing factor to Thurcroft's development during the 20th century. In 1918, coke ovens and a brickworks were erected at Thurcroft. The factory was situated at the end of New Orchard Lane (commonly called Pit Lane by the local villagers, because it led to the pit), on the land where the New Orchard Housing Estate (private houses) now stands.

Closure came in 1991 after the Miners Strike.

The population of Thurcroft is estimated to be about 5226 from the 2011 census data, the second largest ethnic group after 97.9% White British, was Multiple Heritage (0.6%). 34.4% were in full time employment, 13.7% in part-time employment and 7.9% self employed. 6.5% of residents were unemployed.

(Thurcroft Community Profile- Big Local )