

Take Art is looking for up to four Early Childhood Creative Practitioners to work on a freelance basis with us in Somerset as part of 'Making & Believing', a creative programme supported by The Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Making & Believing: Early Childhood Creative Practitioners' Brief

Making & Believing builds on previous Take Art early years programmes including: Little Big Bang and Creative Elements as well as our touring initiatives and EY festivals; Kindergardens, Hopper and Little Big Dance. There are two key delivery strands: Participation and Performance.

This opportunity is focusing on the Participation strand and the delivery of artist in residency projects in two Somerset Early Years (preschools/nurseries) settings in the autumn term 2021.

Our aim is to provide under-fives with the opportunity to work with artists, whilst at the same time supporting the Somerset Early Years workforce, for both adopting a playful, open ended and child-centred approach to creativity.

This is a three-year programme and we will be offering a series of residencies. For each residency Take Art is looking to recruit two Early Childhood Creative Practitioners with an interest in working collaboratively.

We are particularly keen to find two artists who offer complementary skills and expertise across one or several artforms including music, dance, performance, digital art, visual arts and crafts.

There are two ways in which you can apply:

- *As an individual artist:* Successful artists would then be matched up with other successful applicants with complementary skills.
- *As a pair of artists:* collaborators who have a track record or ambition to deliver projects together.

Each residency involves the 2 artists working collaboratively in the same setting across 10 x ½ days sessions. The first residency will start week commencing 20th September 2021.

During the project we will expect the Early Childhood Creative Practitioner to:

- Work alongside another Early Childhood Creative Practitioner, the EYs setting staff in a setting to provide high quality creative experiences for very young children
- Contribute to the project evaluation through reflection with EY staff and participation in a learning seminar convened by project evaluator Dr Susan Young
- Attend professional development and networking opportunities as part of the wider project
- Devise one CPD session
- Attend an initial training day at Centre for Research in Early Childhood, Birmingham at the beginning of September

We are particularly interested in hearing from artists who have an understanding of the EYFS, proven creative practice with under-fives and mentoring skills.

Applicants must hold a current DBS, along with a full, clean driving licence. Access to own transport is essential.

To apply please email your CV (you may include a link to a portfolio of your practice) along with a covering letter outlining your skills, knowledge and experience.

This is a freelance opportunity with a project fee of up to £1400 per artist to include travel and meeting/training attendance.

The fee for each project allows for your preplanning, reflection on the activity with EY practitioners and our evaluator, jointly producing documentation and delivering one twilight CPD session for staff.

In addition, there is a modest budget for the purchase of materials/equipment and travel expenses.

Deadline for applications: 15 July 2021

Interviews: 20 July 2021

For any queries please contact: nadine@takeart.org