

 YOU ARE INVITED 

REPRESENT

Exploring the impact of gaining the vote
on the lives of Birmingham's people

Brief for Artist(s) for 'Represent' at Saheli Hub in Handsworth

The People's Heritage Co-operative and the Saheli Hub Group at Handsworth Wellbeing Centre seek an Artist(s) to support their community heritage project, 'Represent'.

Could you support our group to creatively 're-present' stories from 100 years ago for new audiences? We have been exploring the impact of gaining the vote and the push for political change following World War One. We want an Artist(s) to help us to create a piece which will form part of a touring, pop-up exhibition around community venues in early 2020.

Fee: A fixed fee of £1,500 (an estimated 6 days of work at £250 per day)

Materials, equipment and expenses: Up to £1,000 available

Responsible to: Rachel Gillies – 'Represent' Project Manager

Who are we?

Saheli Hub, is dedicated to improving community health and wellbeing by providing innovative services and solutions that educate, motivate, inspire and empower.

We meet each Wednesday morning at Handsworth Wellbeing Centre in Handsworth Park and take part in a range of activities, including cycling, gardening and craft activities.



We are freespirted, positive and confident Black and Asian women who live locally. We enjoy learning and enjoy meeting new people. We have previously worked with a number of Artists including a Photographer and Textile Artists.

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Why do we want to make Art?

Learning and creating are very important to us – we are a very creative group. We want to express ourselves through our work and bring in our different cultures, backgrounds and life experiences. We want to develop new skills and knowledge and collaborate with our peers.

As women, we want to actively empower other women and be bold in getting our ideas out into the world. Unless we all learn about and protect our democratic rights then we may lose them. As Women of Colour we feel it is important to speak out about education and rights for women.

What we would like to do

We will create a piece which supports the interpretation of the heritage and develops our audience's understanding of the heritage. We have been considering different art forms and approaches and we are interested in:

- Mixed media work using a range of skills and techniques
- Linking our work to our location in Handsworth – maybe through using maps, a guided walk or trail around Handsworth Park and/or the wider neighbourhood.
- Creating a scrapbook of our research, development of our ideas and documentation of the project.
- Using textiles – we have been looking at Suffragette banners, badges and rosettes
- Metalwork – we have seen some embossed sheet metalwork which we are interested in
- Incorporating images or text from Archives into our work
- Using Screenprinting – inspired in part by campaign literature from 100 years ago
- Tactile work

We learn best when we are shown what to do by example rather than lots of verbal instructions. We like handouts to support our learning. You will help us to realise our ideas through a participatory approach – listening to us, supporting us in a hands-on way and ensuring that no-one feels 'left behind'.

Sessions will take place on Wednesday mornings in November and December at Handsworth Wellbeing Centre. We meet in a large hall with an adjoining kitchen. We are also able to access the community allotment and use space in Handsworth Park. There is potential to make use of the 'Sons of Rest' building in the Park.

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About you

You will be an experienced community artist or arts organisation with a commitment to a participatory practice. You will be able to share and communicate your ideas to project participants and staff, manage your allocated budget and report on your work. You will liaise closely with project staff, including the Project Manager and Designer to integrate the finished work into the final exhibition. We particularly welcome applications from women and people of colour.

Schedule and expectations

- **28th October** – Appointment of Artist(s). All applicants will be notified of the outcome.
- **Early November:** Visit to Archives with Project staff, meeting with Community Groups and refining project plan.
- **November – December 2019:** Workshops will take place with the group on Wednesday mornings, 9:30am - 12noon.
- **January – February 2020:** Incorporating the finished piece into the touring pop-up exhibition. Final reporting for Project Evaluation and Case Study.

About 'Represent'

'Represent' is a community heritage project exploring the impact of WW1 and gaining the vote on the lives of Birmingham's people. Our project focuses both on women's historic role as active citizens and historic housing campaigns.

The People's Heritage Co-operative was awarded a £36,000 National Lottery Heritage Fund grant in December 2018. We are currently working with two community organisations, Saheli Hub and Edgbaston Community Centre, to explore and interpret archival research. The project will culminate in a touring pop-up exhibition in early 2020.

The project is managed by a Project Manager, supported by a project Advisory Group and regular meetings of the People's Heritage Co-operative. It is funded through the National Lottery Heritage Fund and supported by The Active Wellbeing Society and Birmingham Archives and Collections.

www.representpeople.co.uk



REWRITING THE BOOK
THE LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM

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About The People's Heritage Co-operative

The People's Heritage Co-operative are a group of heritage professionals with a strong track record of delivering and supporting engaging and educational community heritage projects, including 'Untold Stories: Birmingham's Wounded Soldiers from WW1' and 'Field of Remembrance' with pupils at Paganel Primary School. We aim:

- To promote and raise awareness of people's heritage
- To contribute to community cohesion and increase understanding of our diverse heritage
- To support our members to more effectively work with people to share our culture and heritage
- To develop a network of supportive members, developing their practice by promoting collaborative work, increasing participation in exploring and interpreting Birmingham's heritage through an open membership policy

<http://www.peoplesheritagecoop.uk/>

About the National Lottery Heritage Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife.

To apply

To apply for this role please send three examples of your work (text, images, audio or film all welcome via e-mail, file transfer or weblinks) and a short statement outlining your suitability for the role and your initial ideas from the brief to Rachel@peoplesheritagecoop.uk by **5pm on Friday 18th October**.

For any questions or enquiries can be directed to Project Manager, Rachel Gillies at Rachel@peoplesheritagecoop.uk / 07967 093 256.

