

## Local Artist/Photographer commissioning opportunity

### Home page design for information and advice community wellbeing website

York is a great place to live.

We want everyone in the city and its surrounding villages to enjoy healthy, active and independent lives.

We are creating an innovative and dynamic website, in partnership with York CVS, Healthwatch York and Age UK York, to provide good quality information and advice and access to support in our communities.

Our new volunteering strategy People Helping People gives us a flavour of this <https://www.yorkcvs.org.uk/people-helping-people-effective-city-led-volunteering-in-york/>.

We are also the first city of human rights <http://www.yorkhumanrights.org/>. This demonstrates our vision and commitment to equitable provision for all.

We would like to provide the opportunity for a person or group in York to produce the image for the banner that will then be on each page of our website. **This picture should capture your interpretation of the essence of York, or an image reflecting the ideals/benefits of being part of a community in York.**

This website will be viewed by thousands of people from our communities. It will also be used by those working in York to support people to maximise their independence and quality of life.

If you would like to be considered to be the selected artist/photographer then please complete the attached application form and return to Michael Turnpenny, Head of Museum Development , St Mary's Lodge,

Marygate, York YO30 7DR or by email to  
[Michael.Turnpenny@ymt.org.uk](mailto:Michael.Turnpenny@ymt.org.uk) by Friday 9th February 2018, 5pm.

### Entry Requirements:

- Applicants need to be adult/s that live in York
- The successful applicant will be informed no later than 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 with the completed work to be submitted by the successful artist by no later than 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
- Image needs to be 2D ie a painting or photograph.
- The image will need to be approximately 53cm width x 20cm height or scaled up accordingly (eg 106cm x 40cm)
- If this is a photograph submission then it needs to be no less than 3,000 pixels in length across or 6.75 mega pixels.
- You will need to describe the concept in your submission and include photographs of previous art work you have produced using the same media. You may submit more than one proposal.
- “Artist” in this case includes photographer and can be submitted by an individual or a group or an artist working with a community group. If the image is submitted by a group it needs to be clear what the name of the group is and whether the group is a registered organisation (for example a registered charity).
- The successful artist will irrevocably assign to the City of York Council copyright and any related rights in [insert details of the work(s) in question] absolutely throughout the world for the full period of copyright and all renewals, revivals and extensions thereof be required to sign all right to City of York Council in respect to both ownership and use of the image.
- The successful artist will be required to provide permission to the City of York Council and York Cultural Consortium to release the name of the successful applicant or group as well as their story provided in the entry submission.
- A publicity photograph will be required of the successful artist or group.
- The artist will need to submit the required time for the project and if awarded will take full responsibility for any unplanned additional hours and accept that the value paid will be in accordance with the hours submitted. The values are as follows:
  - Recently graduated artist - £160
  - Artist with <3 years’ experience - £210
  - Artist with >5 years’ experience - £260

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Name (individual or group) Stephen Lee Hodgkins

Address 10 Penleys Grove Street

York

YO31 7PN

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Telephone Number 07951050153

Email hiya@stephenleehodgkins.net

I am applying as: Individual ☒ Group ☐

I live in York/ this is a York based group:

Yes ☒ No ☐

I am/the group consist of people over the age of 18:

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please tell us your story (this can include: your life in York including any personal experience of being part of a community in York, your experience as an artist, the reason why you have applied). Please note if successful we may wish to use this as a part of a wide range of promotions for this site:

I moved to York four years ago for my partner's job and took on the role of full time Dad. I am currently a trustee of York Independent Living Network (YILN), and previously worked at Citizens Advice York on the Advice York project. Through this I am engaged with a range of community organisations, including York Human Rights City, Explore York, York People First, Lives Unlimited and York Racial Equality Network. In December I organised, in my role at YILN, York Disability Pride, a series of celebration events to coincide with International Day of Disabled People and Disability History Month [see more here](#).

Having left school with no qualifications, I later received the labels of dyslexia, dyspraxia and attention deficit. Reflecting on these now days my preference is for the term neurodiverse, and I've learnt to embrace and harness my diverse language use and organisational approach to the world. Indeed this gives me a great deal of insight in terms of the how we engage with each other, the importance of diversity, tolerance and acceptance. This experience led me to becoming involved with a wide range of community groups in a variety of ways, as volunteer, supporter, employee and trustee at different times.

Returning to university as a mature student, in 2008 I completed a with a PhD in Social Psychology. An [abridged version](#) of my thesis was published as a chapter in an international text in 2009 'Disabilities: Insights From Across Fields and Around the World'. I've since also written about experiences of dyslexia and the joy of using screen readers, [see more here](#).

I am visual and critical thinker with a positive attitude. I have engaging people skills, loads of creative energy and am committed to inclusion and human rights. I have significant experience of working with community based organisations in York and across the UK. In 2000 I set up a community disabled persons organisation in Tower Hamlets, now part of [Real](#). This provided information, peer advocacy and adaptive technology advice, as well as promoting equality and inclusion.

In terms of my approach to art, I am self taught through being a chronic doodler and natural fidget with a passion for the things people say and the meaning that everyday places hold for them. You can see some recent examples of my art work and interests in my [blog](#) here. I am currently working with Explore York as one of the resident artists and am beginning a participatory 'pop art' style installation at the end of Feb 18 onwards.

My reason for applying for this opportunity is that it is aligned to my interest and approach to art. Through personal experiences of being involved in community work and local network settings I am well aware of the value and importance these diverse, human focused groups bring. I believe all too often art and design work focuses too much on an elite style, overlooking the great value community people and places offer, which should be celebrated far more than they are.

Please describe the image/s you would submit if successful (please explain what media this will be in and why you have chosen this). If you are choosing more than one proposal then please title each proposal so that they can be considered separately;

Title: York Community Skyline Group Print

My proposal would be to create unique piece called 'York Community Skyline Group Print'. This would be a participatory pop art style piece focusing on significant 'community' venues in York. This wouldn't however include typical buildings featured in mainstream skyline designs, i.e. The Minster, Cliffords Tower, etc. Rather it would through engagement with York's diverse community select a range of community grass roots places and spaces, i.e. Priory Street, Door 84, 20 Falsgrave Crescent, Tang Hall Smart CIC, Norman Collinson House etc.

My approach to create this piece would be to use a method I have been developing called 'group print'. Group print is a fast paced low tech participatory method that can help capture the experiences and perspectives of a place based community. The approach values and emphasises the importance of everyone's involvement, and combines a place based icon, with emotive key words from participants. Group print creates co-produced art pieces that capture everyday diversity as well as highlighting the social interconnectedness of people and place.

To produce the piece there would be three steps. The first would be to put a call out for people to nominate community spaces that are significant to York. From these I would create an icon style stencil from which each community space could be printed. The second step would be to visit each of the community spaces or to host a single event to create the piece, and using the stencils and a letter printing kit to get people to print versions of the community places, along with keywords that describe the meaning the place has to them, and the value of York's vibrant and diverse community spaces. The final step would be to create a digital image from this larger piece.

The following images shows the end result from an event at a local school. Using a 1950's shopkeepers ticket makers kit and a rubber stamp of the school, local children and adults made two prints of the school along with a word to describe what the school meant to them, one on the large group piece and one for them to take away. The large piece now hangs in the school reception, and individual prints are with each person that participated in this activity.



Park Grove Group Print 2016.

The result of the proposed piece would be a colourful collaborative piece representing a unique community place skyline, created with and by community groups and leaders in York. The image would reflect the benefits of being part of a York's vibrant and diverse community captured from those that are active in it. The final version would be a 2D painted piece from which a digital version would be created for use on the website.



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2. Libraries Gave Us Power – Group Print 2017 at York Explore central library as part of their 90<sup>th</sup> year celebrations.





3. York Disability Doodle 2016 – facilitated to mark international day of disabled people, this doodle captured thoughts, experiences, drawings and doodles from people at York Explore Library during the first week of Dec 2016. See flickr collection of this piece [here](#).



4. Nutfield – street party group print 2011.





5. York Human Rights City Doodle – created in 2017 to mark the declaration of York as a Human Rights City. Currently displayed at York Explore as part of the ‘Art and Activism’ exhibition. See here for [hi res image](#).

Please complete the application form below and return to: Michael Turnpenny, Head of Museum Development, Museum Development Yorkshire, York Museums Trust or by email to [Michael.Turnpenny@ymt.org.uk](mailto:Michael.Turnpenny@ymt.org.uk) by Friday 9th February 2018, 5pm.

Applications will be assessed by a panel consisting of representation from the York Museums Trust, City of York Council and any additional panel members invited by the Trust.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

☎ 01904 551550