

## STAMFORD CONNECTIONS

Art Pop-Up with MindSpace Stamford

Community Engagement Lead

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**Art Pop-Up is seeking a Community Engagement Lead for a community mapping programme to investigate how community connections are made in the Stamford area.**

Particulars of the role

- Part-time contracted role
- 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021
- We anticipate that the Community Engagement Lead will spend approx. 30 days working on the project primarily during May and June.
- This fee is inclusive of travel and any costs/expenses associated with the work.
- Post holder must have their own administrative set up and be registered as self-employed.
- Post holder must also be available to take part in reflective and evaluative discussions about their work, during and at the end of the project.

Fee £3,000

To include all labour, materials, carriage charges, administration, travel and all other costs.

Project Overview

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### **“How do you connect in Stamford?” Building a stronger community based on its assets**

The *Stamford Connections* project is a partnership led by Art Pop-Up with MindSpace Stamford. Based on the premise of Asset Based Community Development and the NEF/NHS 5 Ways to Wellbeing, this project will provide the initial research to define, and help understand, what Stamford’s ‘assets’ are: where and how do people connect in Stamford?

If you are not familiar with the concept of ABCD please watch the video below:

*Sustainable community development: from what's wrong to what's strong*, Cormac Russell, TEDx Exeter- <http://bit.ly/CR-ABCD>

Using this research, we will make the local connections and their importance visible and define their value so they become a principle to invest in: know, understand, value, act. We will then use art as a method of convening and engagement: creating a public platform through an artist’s residency at the Stamford Arts Centre gallery to tell the stories of how connections are made - to encourage participation, advocacy and further connections. Finally we will host celebratory/introductory events at key sites as defined by the research to advocate for increased participation.

We will investigate:

- where connections exist and how they happen
- what connection means to the community and how it helps
- how are connections maintained - how do we make them wider reaching, resilient and sustainable?

#### Outcomes:

- disseminate the opportunities, facilitate connections in the Stamford community
- facilitate networking between key community connectors

#### Deliverables

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1. The Community Engagement Lead will engage in 150+ initial conversations and recruit 100 participants to the project, conducting one to one and group discussions to understand and define the connections.
2. The Engagement Lead will work with the Project Manager to recruit and oversee a number of volunteers to assist with the engagement and research.
3. A 'book' will be developed alongside an artist in residence that defines the connections that exist in the Stamford community enabled by the contributions of the participants the engagement lead has recruited.
4. A process and findings summary report capturing the process of engaging participants including the challenges, the successes and the learning (minimum 5,000 words)
5. A presentation deliverable to the broad range of citizens and stakeholders within the Stamford community explaining the project, the process, the findings and explaining 'the book'.

#### The Community Engagement Lead role

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The Community Engagement Lead will work in the local Stamford area with key stakeholders, community groups and the wider community to ensure the appropriate recruitment of participants to the *Stamford Connections* project in order to examine and conclude how people make the interpersonal connections that underpin a strong, cohesive community life.

Ideally, we are looking for a Community Engagement Lead from the local area and will be able to utilise existing connections and networks as part of their involvement in the project. It is envisaged the vast majority of the work will be carried out in person in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines.

The post holder will carry out recruitment activity in local neighbourhoods and with local groups.

Tasks will include:

- Recruiting a small team of volunteers (2-4) to assist with enquiry (and the programme).
- Recruit 50 research participants (Group 1) to phase 1 in May conducting 1-to-1 interviews and in groups (in person as COVID-19 restrictions permit.)
- Facilitate Group 1's referrals to a further 50+ research participants and conduct interviews.
- Collaborate on celebratory events including liaising and encouraging research participants to engage with the subsequent event programme.
- Organising and delivering information sessions at community events and to groups.
- Using social media platforms to advocate for the programme and encourage engagement to enable effective advocacy of the research programme.
- Liaising with the artist in residence based at the Stamford Arts Centre Gallery and encouraging participants to engage in the production of a 'book'.
- Undertaking reflection on their findings to better understand how to widen opportunities for connections to be made and sustained.

- Participating and contributing to the project evaluation

#### Expected skills and attributes

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The contract will be awarded to an individual with experience in community outreach, community development or community organising.

Ideally they will be based within 25 miles of Stamford and/or with strong ties to the local community.

They must possess the ability to build networks, strong team working and good interpersonal skills, and effectively communicate and represent the programme aims to the general public.

The candidate should be friendly and personable with the ability to communicate verbally with members of the public, individually and in groups, adapting communication style to different audiences and experience of working with a diverse range of participants; an active listener with strong sense of empathy.

It is desirable that candidates have knowledge of community outreach and engagement techniques and an understanding of supporting equal access and participation for diverse individuals, including those experiencing disadvantage.

Also:

- IT literate and confident administrator (E)
- Strong organisational capabilities, able to work under pressure, multi-task and meet strict deadlines (E)
- Flexible with ability to work outside of normal hours when required (E)
- Good knowledge of the Stamford community (E)
- Passion for community led projects (E)
- Understanding of qualitative research methods (D)
- A current valid driving licence (D)
- At least three years experience working in a community focused or community engagement role (D)
- Enhanced DBS check (D)

#### To apply

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Deadline for applications: 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Decisions: 30<sup>th</sup> April

Applicants must be available for interview on 28<sup>th</sup> /29<sup>th</sup> April.

To apply please send the following to [submissions@artpopup.co.uk](mailto:submissions@artpopup.co.uk)

- A cover letter explaining why you are interested in this role and your relevant experience
- Your CV

- Information of any commitments that would impact on delivery of the contract over the next 6 months
- Confirmation that you are registered as self-employed