

## **Associate Artists Background Information**

Zest has the brief to improve the environment for everyone using and working in NHS facilities, within Plymouth.

The majority of our work takes place within Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust, although we work on specific projects with Plymouth NHS (Primary Care Trust) and the Peninsular College of Medicine and Dentistry (PCMD). Currently we have over 10 projects based in five different locations within Plymouth and one in Truro (PCMD).

Founded in 2005 Zest's work has gone from strength to strength. It now has a team of three full-time people, with support from a number of long-term volunteers and student placements. In 2007 we were selected as a model of good practice and are showcased in the Department of Health and Arts Council England 'Prospectus for arts and health'.

A few brief highlights..... We led the creation of the new 'Discovery Library', a major research and learning facility for the Plymouth area health community and the Peninsula Medical School. Lead artist Robin Blackledge, worked alongside the design team devising the interior space and integrating artworks. The library is now recognised as one of the best new medical libraries in the UK.

We devised a scheme for artworks in the Peninsula Dental School, Cumberland Centre and Primary Care Centre at Devonport Health Campus, secured £154,000 for the programme and worked with 7 regional and national artists on a variety of large-scale projects.

Zest have also worked on numerous smaller scale projects within Derriford, these include; Children and young people areas for both inpatients and outpatients and the Emergency Department.

Other projects range from small scale interventions within a waiting area through to large-scale projects working as an integral part of the design team.

We are founder members of Plymouth Visual Arts Consortium (PVAC), and have partnership projects with Plymouth College of Art, University of Plymouth, Plymouth Art College, Plymouth Arts Centre and Theatre Royal.

Over the past four years we have become truly integrated into the complex structures of Plymouth Hospitals. We are part of the senior management team

within the Planning Department and regularly work on projects directly with the Hospital Executive Team and Medical Directors.

We have close working relationships with the teams that make things happen on the ground including Estates, Facilities and the individual medical Directorates.

It has taken a number of years to reach this stage and build the relationships and confidence required and we now want to maximise the opportunities that our position offers.

### **Role/requirements of the Associate Artists**

We are looking for two dynamic artists, who enjoy working in a collaborative way, to join us at Zest. Collaboration and participation are at the heart of our work, all of our projects are designed to actively engage patients, visitors, staff and the wider community.

The Associate Artists will have a rare opportunity to research and develop their own practice whilst at the same time create excellent, high quality artworks that can be enjoyed by everyone using the hospital.

The skills/interests we will be looking for are:

- an interest in the research aspect of arts and healthcare
- a proven track record of producing high quality art work within the public realm
- excellent communicators who can work in multi disciplinary teams
- In conjunction with the Zest team are able to facilitate creative workshops, give artist talks and other run other educational activities as relevant
- works digitally, possible approaches could include screen based work for our network of large screens in waiting areas, video mapping, works
- creates two or three dimensional work

Art works produced will be:-

- Relevant to healthcare environments
- Durable and requiring minimal maintenance
- Resistant to vandalism
- Safe and not constitute a hazard
- Be of the highest quality

Each artist will:

1. Will work for approx 120 days over a period of 12 months
2. Be based in the Planning Department of Plymouth Hospitals
3. Have support from the Zest team

4. Have access to world-class clinical facilities where they can work alongside medical teams in a range of different environments<sup>1</sup>. Please see enclosed sheet
5. Produce artwork that will be displayed within the hospital environment

The process/work will be:

### **Workshops/talks**

A programme to be agreed.

### **Budget**

This project is funded by Arts Council of England

Fee

There is an all inclusive fee for the project of **£21,000** per artist, to include all travel, subsistence and VAT.

Materials budget

A budget available for materials this will be allocated depending on the individual artist's requirements.

### **Recruitment process**

Eligibility

All and the submissions will be judged as seen, purely on merit and without prejudice.

Selection

A short list of artists will be prepared and invited to interview. More information will be provided to short-listed artists.

### **Submission Process**

How to Submit

If you wish to be considered for one of the opportunities please supply the following information.

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<sup>1</sup> The artists will be able to work with the whole patient journey

- Your CV which must include the names of two people who can provide a reference for you.
- A statement about your artistic practice and how your experience is relevant to the Associate Artists opportunity. Please indicate your area of specialist interest if you have one.
- Up to 15 images/digital files of your existing work

These can be submitted as prints, digital files on CD/DVD. Digital files must be in JPEG format or QuickTime movies of not more than 2 minutes in duration each.

- List of images

Including details of title, medium, date, location and commissioner (if relevant)

- Stamped address envelope

If you wish any of your submission material to be returned to you please include a statement to that effect and a stamped address envelope

Return submissions to

Christine Jowett  
 Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust  
 1st Floor, Bircham House,  
 Plymouth International Business Park  
 Plymouth  
 PL6 5WR

01752 437026  
 christine.jowett@phnt.swest.nhs.uk

### **Timetable**

Closing date for submissions 4.00pm Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Short-listed artists will be invited to attend an interview on Friday 30 April.

### **Further information**

All applicants are welcome to contact us for an informal conversation, please contact Christine Jowett on the number above.

## **Possible areas of interest for artistic research**

We are proposing a number of opportunities where the artists maybe interested in working. This is not a complete list but gives a flavour of the possibilities:-

- Plymouth Hospitals is a specialist cancer centre delivering treatment for patients through surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy services. We have state-of-the-art services to detect, plan and deliver treatment together with excellent supportive care from nursing and allied health professionals to address the cancer and palliative aspects of care and needs of family supporters.

There are 13 specialist teams include surgeons, physicians, radiologists and pathologists, oncologists, cancer nurse specialists and other health care professionals. The artists will have access to some of the UK's leading experts in this field. As part of updating and creating new facilities there are opportunities to create work for treatment and waiting areas within the centre.

- Neurology and Neuroscience – Plymouth Hospitals is one of two centres in the UK that practice high risk operations on 'awake' patients. This involves a highly qualified team who are at the forefront of their specialties. There will also be opportunities for the artist/s to work on the development on new purpose built operating theatres.
- Medical Imaging – Derriford Hospital has excellent imaging facilities and includes two MRI scanners and 3 CT scanners featuring a top-of-the-range 64-bit CT scanner. One of the leading sites in the country for installing a totally digital imaging system called Picture Archiving and Communications Systems (PACS). This system has replaced traditional X-ray films with digital images, throughout Derriford and the community hospitals.

We also have the Peninsular Radiology School which provides a learning environment linked to the clinical practice of radiology. It is closely connected to the clinical departments of the local training scheme with image and voice links to Derriford Hospital that permit remote access to clinical procedures and reporting areas to enable skills acquisition in these important radiological processes

- British Antarctic Survey Medical Unit - (BASMU), is part of Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust. BASMU provides a comprehensive medical service for the British research stations and ships in the Antarctic through the deployment of doctors, provision of medical supplies and equipment, medical research and an emergency support system in our Emergency Department.