

Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT)

Artroom@Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital



Graduate Artist's Brief RACH

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1. Background

Funding has been sourced from the ARCHIE foundation to run a year programme of artRoom sessions at Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital therefore Grampian Hospitals Art Trust would now like to employ a graduate artist to undertake the development of this project.

The project is due to be delivered on two consecutive mornings, Thursday and Friday within the medical and surgical wards on the second floor of the RACH.

3. Artist's Role

Two professional artists, one lead and one graduate, will work as a team within RACH to facilitate patients in their creative work. The lead artist will ideally have experience of working in community and/or healthcare settings. This brief is for the graduate artist. The graduate artist will be a recent visual arts graduate with a keen interest in developing skills in the arts and health field.

The artists will begin by working closely with the staff of the departments of the medical and surgical wards of RACH to create a positive interaction with the project and the staff.

The artists will be required to work closely together to plan and facilitate the creative development of each participant. They will also be required to work alongside the multi-disciplinary team of medical and ancillary staff at RACH. Both artists must be able to work on their own initiative and have the ability to communicate well with patients, families and staff.

The lead artist will ensure the smooth running of the project. You will act as a mentor to the graduate artist and have a role to play in encouraging and supporting the graduate artist in developing the skills necessary to work in an art and health environment.

Throughout the ArtRoom project artists will be provided with the highest quality arts materials and equipment. They will establish a 'studio' type environment, encouraging participants to experiment with a range of materials and techniques – from simple mark-making to drawing and painting, from printmaking to digital photography. Artists will work as creative 'guides' and facilitators (rather than teachers) supporting each participant in their individual creative 'journey'. It is also envisaged that artists will have the opportunity to work on a one-to-one basis with individual patients at their bedside. Medical staff will support the artists in this aspect of the work as appropriate.

To achieve the above objectives the artists will need to:

- Create a pleasant, supportive environment which will support the creative development of a variety of individuals with a wide range of interests and skills.
- Facilitate individual creative experimentation to enable (and encourage) each participant to fulfil their creative potential.
- Consult with patients, staff and families where appropriate to inform the project development.
- Work closely with the ArtRoom project group and GHAT at all times.
- Keep records of the development of the project to be presented in an end of year report.

Personal Qualities/Experience

As graduate artist you should have an interest in working in community arts and/or arts in health projects.

You should be a recently qualified visual artist with a strong contemporary practice and an interest in developing new skills and techniques. You should be confident in your own art form with a desire to pass on your enthusiasm to others.

You should have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work on your own initiative.

Ideally you will have experience of project planning and report writing.

As you will be working with vulnerable individuals it will be necessary for you to undergo a Disclosure Scotland check before commencing work on this Project.

4. Timescale

The ArtRoom project will commence in the second or third week of January 2015

The ArtRoom project will be set up in the activity area. It will be available two mornings each week – Thursday and Fridays at present.

Three and half hours have been allocated for each session, although patient contact time is unlikely to be more than 1.5 to 2 hours each day. The additional time is provided for setting up and clearing away as well as for project debriefings and planning sessions.

5. Finance and Contractual Details

a) Artist's Fee

The graduate artist will be paid per session £43.75

b) Materials

There is a further budget for the purchase of materials and equipment. The Lead Artist will be responsible for ordering and maintaining a wide range of high quality art materials and other equipment as required, such as sketch books, table easels, digital camera equipment, etc.

c) Artist's Contract

As stated above the Artist's Contract will be for One Year from appointment. The Artist will be Self-Employed, on contract to Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT). The Artist will work 2 sessions each week for 50 weeks at the sessional rate.

This is a self employed commission - Artists will be paid for tasks agreed in negotiation with the director within the project contract.

The lead artist will be responsible for compiling a project report (with input from the graduate artist) at the end of the year.

d) Support

The ArtRoom Project will be project managed by GHAT in association with the ArtRoom project team.

The artist will report directly to the Director at GHAT, who will provide support for all matters relating to the running of the project.

Staff at RACH are also available to offer support to the artists in matters relating to patient care and the day to day logistics of working within a busy hospital environment.

6. Application Procedure

Artists are invited to submit a letter of application stating reasons for their interest in this project and detailing any relevant experience. Other information requested:

- A CV
- An artist's statement
- Visual documentation of your own artwork (up to 6 images)

Please send Letters of Application along with the above documentation to Sally Thomson, at the address below.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Monday 8th December 2014.

7. Project Contact

Sally Thomson

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