



OUR TURN: Bradford Visual Arts Festival

Curator: Bradford Open

Day Rate: £250 per day for 25 days

Contract duration: June-Dec

Total contract value: £6,250

OUR TURN is an ambitious new festival designed by Bradford artists and we are seeking an experienced Curator to support the delivery of an independent 'Bradford Open' exhibition.

OUR TURN: Bradford Visual Arts Festival will bring together new & established artforms, supporting artists and audiences at all stages of their creative journey. It will take place across the city collaborating with multiple partner venues.

Building on the heritage and success of the highly esteemed Bradford Open & Young Open run by Bradford Museums & Galleries (up to 2019) 'Bradford Open' promises to be bold, experimental and authentically Bradford. The exhibition will be an opportunity for a broad range of artists (professional to amateur) to exhibit in a large-scale exhibition.

The exhibition is part of the wider OUR TURN festival and is supported by South Square's curatorial team and a group of 18 artist steering group members who will guide the direction of the festival. The team will require a mixture of on-site meetings at South Square, offsite meetings with partners & remote working to deliver this ambitious festival. The curator will work alongside a producer to support delivery.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Responsible for the overall curatorial vision for a new independent Bradford Open
- Leading on the call out for artists to submit to the Bradford Open
- Working with the producer to facilitate the submission process for Bradford Open
- Arranging workshops with community groups to encourage applications
- Ensuring access support is given to artists to enable a wide range of submissions
- Designing accessible opportunities for artists from underrepresented backgrounds
- Designing opportunities for learning disabled audiences to access the exhibition
- Managing volunteers to support the management & preparation of artworks
- Facilitating the judging process including support from the artist steering group
- Facilitating the artwork drop off process and supporting installation
- Writing interpretation for the Bradford Open alongside marketing lead
- Curating the exhibition and managing the technical team to install the exhibition
- Liaise with venue coordinators to arrange installation & invigilation
- Management of volunteers and invigilators
- Support the training of staff and volunteers to manage sales
- Management of artwork sales & invoice management
- Managing project budgets & supporting invoice management for artists
- Reporting to the artist steering group for feedback at regular meetings

Person Specifications

Essential:

- Excellent written and verbal communications skills
- Ability to problem solve, adaptability and flexible thinking
- Strong organisational and time management, prioritisation skills
- Self-motivation and ability to work in teams and unsupervised



- Experience curating large-scale ambitious exhibitions
- Experience managing teams of producers, assistants and volunteers

Desirable:

- Experience managing a large-scale open submission exhibition
- Knowledge of the UK contemporary art scene, regionally & nationally
- Knowledge and understanding of the cultural sector in Bradford
- Possess a commitment to diversity and inclusion and environmental sustainability

Requirements:

- A good general standard of education
- Legally entitled to work in the UK
- Registered Self Employed

How to apply:

Please apply by sending a CV and Cover Letter (2-pages max) outlining your suitability for the role to info@southsquarecentre.co.uk.

Please ensure your CV & cover letter are attached as a .pdf or .doc and your name is in the file name of both your cover letter & CV. Please use the subject line 'OUR TURN – Curator Application'

If you require support with your application or would like to ask any questions about the role, please email info@southsquarecentre.co.uk. We will be conducting 2 x drop-in zoom sessions for questions surrounding the roles for both producer & curator (dates below). Please email if you would like to join and we'll book you a slot.

Timeline:

Call out for applications: WC 28th April 2025

Application Zoom Q&A Drop in: [Tuesday 13th May 2-4pm](#) & [Thursday 15th May 2-4pm](#)

Deadline for applications: Tuesday 3rd June at 11am.

Interviews: Thursday 12th June 2025.