

ALICE BILLINGS HOUSE - CONTRACT BRIEF FOR PROGRAMME FACILIATORS

CLOSING DATE: 31 January 2024

INTERVIEWS: W/C 5 February 2024

LOCATION: Alice Billings House, Stratford (+ some remote working)

CONTRACT: 12 months (with possibility of extension)

START DATE: February/March 2024

HOURS: Equivalent to 16 hours p/w

PAY: £15,500 (Additional budget available for activity costs)

RESPONSIBLE TO: GROW Studios (also reporting to Creative Land Trust)

CONTRACT OVERVIEW

Grow Studios is looking to commission an artist-led individual/collective/organisation to propose, develop and deliver cultural events/projects to help establish new artists' studios and creative hub at Alice Billings House, one of Newham's most historic buildings, located just behind Stratford's historic High Street.

Alice Billings House is a property owned by London Borough Newham (LBN) and was built c.1905 as two matching blocks of firefighters' accommodation with a courtyard between. The property has enormous potential to better serve the local community, due to its layout and location adjacent to Stratford High Street. Creative Land Trust's vision for the site includes the creation of affordable studio spaces and activation of associated space (notably the courtyard) for public use, generating a community asset.

Grow Studios is working with Creative Land Trust to run the studios and manage the cultural engagement programme in 2024 as they work together, with support from the National Heritage Lottery Fund to repurpose and reimagine the building into studios for artists to make their creative home and the building to be a hub for cultural activity for the people of Newham via an engaging outreach programme.

The outreach programme will involve collaboration with other local artists, local communities and the creative and educational organisations of Newham. It builds on the work of Alice Billings Connects (a year-long programme culminating in February 2024) which has reinvigorated interest in Alice Billings House via activities promoting heritage, cultural traditions and well-being. More about Alice Billings Connect at <https://www.alicebillingsconnects.com/>



CONTRACT BRIEF

This phase of cultural/community engagement includes the design, facilitation and delivery of meaningful participation to drive local engagement. The activity will be inspired around the histories of Alice Billings House and local people should benefit from workshops and other larger events for example, activities programmed during 'Newham Unlocked Festival'. The engagement will align with creative/cultural outputs already in existence in Newham and also amplify the work of existing Newham organisations by developing relationships, building networks and finding innovative ways to partner. As well as working with the resident artists of the new studios, your activities will align with the interpretation project being led by external Heritage Consultants.

The programme already has agreed scopes and resources and is designed to lead to innovative outcomes, whilst also ensuring activities are realistic and achievable. There is built-in flexibility so you will be able to put your creative stamp on the activity, but you will also be expected to design the activities so that they meet existing targets and to report on their impact within preagreed formats and timescales. You will be working closely with the Grow team, partners, local artists and organisations who support and share the same goal of delivering regeneration through a reconnection with history and culture.

OTHER

- Attend meetings and training when required
- All activities and duties to be carried out to the highest standard and in line with company values, policies, H&S standards and procedures.
- Should proposed activity involve children and young people, the correct qualifications and checks will need to be in place
- Some evening and weekend work at events will be required

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We're looking for an individual, collective or organisation who has experience of working in arts, in particular, experience of delivering innovative and inclusive creative/community participation projects with people of all ages and backgrounds who work and/or live in LB Newham. You will have a creative flair for bringing stories alive by working with communities and artists and a proven track record of working in partnership with other creatives/organisations. Grow Studios is an equal opportunities employer, committed to building a diverse workforce and welcomes applications from all individuals.



ABOUT GROW STUDIOS

GROW is an ecosystem of studios in Hackney Wick, London. The first GROW studios in Hackney Wick was established in 2007 and since then has been creative home to over 300 artists and SMEs, including visual and fine artists, photographers, filmmakers, architects, clothing and set designers, music producers, a baker, a blacksmith and street artists. Grow Hackney (a grassroots cultural and community hub and experiment in ethical and sustainable business) is also part of the studios and marks its 10th anniversary next year. In 2024, we will also be extending our studio offer to Alice Billings House in Stratford which in addition to artist studios and co-working space, will include a community engagement programme, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. www.growstudios.co.uk
@growhackneystudios

ABOUT CREATIVE LAND TRUST

Creative Land Trust was established in 2019 to secure long term, affordable workspace for London's artists and creatives, ensuring a vibrant and prosperous future for this critical industry, enriching communities and strengthening our city. The Trust's aim is to secure 1,000 affordable workspaces in the first five years, providing space for the creative sector and helping to maintain London's status as an international cultural capital. This is a critical moment for art and culture in London, as the impact of Covid adds to the financial pressures forcing creatives out of the city; Creative Land Trust aims to reverse the trend. The Trust acquires buildings through purchase of freeholds and long leaseholds, asset transfers and strategic partnerships with local authorities, developers and landowners. The Trust then works with expert studio providers to lease space to artists, makers and other creative practitioners. www.creativelandtrust.org @creativelandtrust

HOW TO APPLY & THE APPLICATION PROCESS

STAGE 1

Please provide appropriate samples of previous work and a statement outlining your proposed approach to the project. Additionally, please include some initial ideas and relevant experience. This should be sent to: jordanna@growhackney.co.uk by 31 January 2024.

We are more than happy to arrange a 15 minute telephone conversation in advance of your submission to answer any questions you may have. Please email jordanna@growhackney.co.uk to express your interest and we will arrange a time to speak.

STAGE 2

Based on these submissions, 2-3 applicants will be invited to an approximately 1-2 hour meeting on site to discuss their experience and ideas in more detail. In advance of this, you will be expected to provide a worked up in-principle plan on how you would deliver the programme. Grow Studios will pay £50 per person to those who participate with the onsite meeting (up to 2 people per submission).

