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**EVALUATOR’S BRIEF**

DASH, Arnolfini, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern art (MIMA) and Midlands Art Centre (MAC) are working together on a three-year programme of Curatorial Commissions providing individual residencies for three artists/curators who identify as Deaf and Disabled people.

**History Of The Programme**

DASH has been working with galleries and arts centres in England and Wales since 2009 creating opportunities for Deaf and Disabled artists to exhibit and curate. These opportunities have significantly advanced the careers of more than 15 Deaf and Disabled artists, and have influenced and changed the thinking of a number of key people in these galleries.

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However, DASH asserts that further deep-rooted cultural changes must be made within the visual arts sector in order for it to become a more inclusive and accessible sector. One part of effecting this change is by placing Deaf and Disabled people in positions of influence within the visual arts, to influence change from within.

The long-term aim of the programme is to support the development of Deaf and Disabled curators, so they can become the directors/curators/programmers of the future.

The programme will be linked with action research as part of DASH’s Cultivation artist development programme investigating accessible processes for Learning Disabled artists and Neurodivergent artists.

**The Aims And Objectives Of The Programme**

The Aims are:

* To change the culture of the visual arts sector so it becomes more inclusive and accessible
* To change the position of Deaf and Disabled artists within the sector
* To change the lack of Deaf and Disabled people in positions of influence within the visual arts by supporting the development of Deaf and Disabled curators/directors/staff
* To develop a cohort of skilled and respected Deaf and Disabled curators who are well networked, understand how the visual arts works and how to influence the sector
* To increase the number of Deaf and Disabled Young People who are participating and engaging with the Visual arts.

This will be achieved by:

* Working with three of the leading galleries/art centres in the UK; MAC, Arnolfini and MIMA to be the hosts for 3 curators who define themselves as Deaf and Disabled people
* Using the 3 residencies as case studies that will show the influence and change that will have happened to the curator, the organisation and the wider community through the time of the residency.
* Using the residencies to create accessible application, selection and evaluation processes
* Providing each host venue, a bespoke training menu to choose appropriate in house training
* Ensuring the residencies achieve a high visibility in the sector
* Running a Deaf and Disabled young person’s engagement programme alongside the residency

**The Network**

The programme officially started in July 2018 with the first meeting of the network of 4 partners.

These meetings are key to the process of the programme. They provide the partners (who are geographically separated) an opportunity to:

* Update on the progress of their residency
* Marketing, PR and training discussions
* Budget updates
* Discussions around any issues and resolutions

**Evaluation**

The evaluation of this programme will be key to its success. It is essential that partners know the impact that the programme will have had upon:

* The 3 curators
* The 3 gallery partners
* The Artistic Outcomes of the residencies
* The Programme Network
* DASH

Additionally, quantitative and qualitative data needs to be collected by Audience Finder surveys showing the following:

* The numbers of audience attending associated events
* The ‘make up’ of the audience (where this is possible)
* Qualitative responses from audience members

Deaf and Disabled Young People: There will be £5K/partner to support the development of Deaf and Disabled young people as participants and audience.

This area will need to be evaluated in a similar way to Audience Finder surveys, depending on how each partner approaches this work.

**Evaluation Requirements**

* An interim report in April 2020 covering:
* Available quantitative data
* Available qualitative data
* Relating the impact of the programme on goals 1/2/5 as laid out in Arts Council England’s Mission and Strategy.
* Final report at the end of the programme (February 2021)
* It is expected that Evaluators attend quarterly updates (phone/skype) and meetings every 6 months (relating to the network meets)

**Evaluator’s Budget**

The total inclusive budget (to include VAT, travel etc.) is £9000

The fee will be paid in 3 payments of £3000:

Payment 1: on starting the contract

Payment 2: Interim report April 2020

Payment 3: Final report February 2021

