



## Story of Water Artist Brief 2019

### **About Thames Festival Trust:**

Since 1997, the Thames Festival Trust has entranced and engaged audiences in excess of 10 million through our annual outdoor festival Totally Thames, which prior to 2014 was called The Thames Festival. We have worked with 110,000 children and young people across London, the UK and the world, commissioned 506 art projects, engaged with 460 organisations on river-inspired programmes and delved into the River Thames rich heritage and archaeology to improve access and increase diversity across the arts, culture and heritage sectors. For more info go to [www.thamesfestivaltrust.org](http://www.thamesfestivaltrust.org)

### **About The Story of Water:**

The Story of Water is a new art and geography based project designed to inspire teachers through creativity while meeting National Curriculum objectives in Geography at KS2. It has local and international 'water' and 'river' themes and involves a whole year group of Year 3 to 6 Key Stage 2 pupils – schools can decide which year group.

The project seeks to benefit teachers by giving them skills and confidence to apply art-based learning themselves in their own practice and because of this, The Story of Water is a two-year commitment – we ask to work with the same teachers and artists over two successive years.

We provide each school with an international school partnership and there are opportunities for teachers both to visit their partner school and to host teachers from overseas within their own school.

We ask schools to adopt The Story of Water as a Summer or Autumn Term scheme of work as part of their Geography curriculum teaching. We will provide teachers with resources from their overseas country to enrich lesson plans. We also provide art-based learning CPD and offer advice and guidance throughout involvement with the project.

### **Project overview**

The Story of Water involves the creation of an artwork / installation that is made collaboratively by all the pupils in the year group. The work is water-themed and could integrate the culture of their overseas partner school.

The work is conceived as a visual centrepiece for curriculum learning by a professional arts practitioner – themes, techniques, materials and a lesson-plan structure – as well as practical issues such as its location - are discussed and agreed well in advance with teachers.

The Thames Festival Trust is looking for artists / designers to deliver the visual art based workshops for The Story of Water in 6 Newham primary schools over the months of April to November 2019. Newham schools will be linked to schools in Sudan.

Each school involved in the project will be asked to select one single year group of Year 3 to 6 pupils (7-11 year olds) to be involved in the art workshops.

It will be the artists responsibility to research the curriculum strands and work with the teachers and pupils to decide on the idea behind each work. You will also decide on the best media for each workshop, for e.g. print-making, sculpture, photography, collage. We are looking for an innovative approach, giving pupils the opportunity to work with materials they may not have used before.

Each year group is to create one joint high quality artwork/ installation for the school. The overall aim of the project is to push the pupils' abilities and to inspire the teachers to apply arts based learning through other topics in future teaching.

**Artist requirements:**

- To lead a 2 hr CPD session with all the participating teachers to show them different art techniques and how these could be applied to their teaching practice
- To lead 3 sessions of art with each class group in each school working across a whole year group – 1 to 3 class groups per school
- To impart art skills to the participating teachers and to inspire them in the potential of art based learning in the future
- To design a large-scale impressive water / river themed display in each school which is inspired by their curriculum teaching of the topic

**Person specification**

Artists applying should have:

1. Experience of working with young people, including those with special educational needs and providing in-school art workshops
2. An inspiring creative portfolio.
3. A current DBS certificate
4. Good availability during May – July 2019

**Artists Fee: £5,075 to cover:**

- 1 day CPD briefing session with schools led by Thames Festival Trust and the British Council but to include 2 hours of art activities with teachers led by artists. Artists to attend the full day.
- Planning and school consultation including workshop timetabling
- 3 full-day workshops in each of 6 primary schools (18 days total) – working across a whole year group per day for primary school workshops of Water
- Creation of the display in schools (in part can be done during the workshops)

**Materials budget**

£600 material budget to be split across the schools

All fees are exclusive of VAT

**Timeline:**

May – CPD training

June – December 2019 – scheduled 3 day workshops in each of the 6 schools (over a term – either Summer or Autumn) and completion of display

**How to apply:**

Please send the following:

- Your CV
- A cover letter outlining your relevant experience and what you feel you could bring to the project
- Up to 5 images of your work / work you have done with children

To Kate Forde: [k.forde@thamesfestival.org](mailto:k.forde@thamesfestival.org) by midday on Friday 3 May