

Enliven: You're Welcome Participation artist's brief

The project

In August 2022 Animated Objects Theatre Company will bring a unique series of live events to Crawley. 'The Survivor' is a large scale puppet that will be visiting a number of destinations in the town from 11th – 14th August 2022. She is a young girl who is displaced; a survivor of conflict and warfare; and she has arrived in a place unfamiliar to her. She is lost; frightened and alone. She is a refugee; seeking safety and asylum. She stands at almost 5 metres tall .

We will welcome her to Crawley with artworks, music, and spoken word as she arrives. She will explore her surroundings. And she will be offered shelter.

The Survivor will arrive in Crawley on Thurs 11th August 2022 and be welcomed by the people of the town. Over the following days she will visit a range of locations in Crawley and be met by a wide variety of local people who will engage with her in different ways. We anticipate she will be witnessed by around 15,000 people.

The project is part of Creative Crawley and Crawley Town Centre Business Improvement District's May – September 2022 *Enliven: You're Welcome* season of arts and culture in Crawley. The season celebrates the diverse and welcoming nature of Crawley whose history is rooted in migration.

It is produced by Creative Crawley and funded by Crawley Town Centre Business Improvement District, Arts Council England and Crawley Borough Council as part of the town's 75th anniversary season.

Aims of the role(s)

Creative Crawley is seeking up to three different artists to work with local people to produce 'welcome' artworks to greet 'The Survivor' when she arrives in Crawley. These artworks could be in the form of song, dance, craft, poetry, banners, flags or something we haven't listed here.

We want to work with professional artists who:

- Can co-create family-friendly artwork(s) that connect with a range of diverse participants and locations in Crawley
- Connect with different communities in Crawley in the lead up to *The Survivor's* arrival in Crawley
- Deliver a series of creative workshops with local people to co-create the artworks.

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@CreativeCrawley creativecrawley.com Charity Incorporated Organisation no: 1195308

We are seeking artists who:

- Have a professional participation practice over at least 2 years.
- Have experience of working with different communities to celebrate creativity and remove barriers to participation in the arts
- Have experience of working with a range of communities from different ages and backgrounds
- Have experience of or are passionate about working with refugees and migrants and in particular those from Afghanistan and/or the Chagos Islands as well as elders who may have moved to Crawley from London after the second world war.
- Have experience of working with different youth groups from groups such as scouts or local dance schools as well as other people who live and work in the town.
- Are used to driving a creative process that leads to an outcome or series of outcomes
- Can make the most of limited resources
- Have track record in creating artworks that connect with people
- Live in the South East of England (ideally in Sussex)

We actively support applications from artists/artist collectives from diverse backgrounds and protected groups.

The fee

We have a total budget of £6000 for this freelance role. This could be split by up to 3 artists (8 days x £250 per day each e.g) but are open to working with fewer artists for longer, if they can fulfil the brief.

The schedule

- Mon 14th February:** Call out goes live
- Weds 30th March:** Deadline for applications
- w/c 4th April:** Interviews take place
- By end of April:** Artist(s) in place and work begins
- May – July:** Workshops take place and artworks are created
- Monday 8th – Weds 10th August:** rehearsals and arrival of Animated Objects crew
- 12th – 14th August:** Welcome artworks presented to The Survivor
- Thursday 11th August:** ‘Arrival in a Distant Land’ The Survivor arrives at the North Terminal of Gatwick Airport. She’ll be there from 5am until after lunch to be met by

those using the airport. She is a refugee; seeking safety and asylum. She stands at almost 5 metres tall and at this location she will be seated (Approx. 3 metres tall) interacting with passers-by as she surveys her new landscape, and she has lost almost everything. This is the Survivor's first public appearance. This is where the first press call will happen.

Friday 12th August: 'Destination: Crawley' She travels around Crawley on an open top bus making number of stops along the way. The Survivor stays overnight in a central Crawley public building.

Saturday 13th: 'First Steps / Safety' She makes her way around the centre of Crawley, standing at almost 5 metres tall in a number of walkabout journeys from about 11.30am – 6pm. She undertakes her bedtime routine (at 5pm ish) in Queens Square, perhaps using the fountains to brush her teeth and then moves in a hammock to County Mall for her overnight stay surrounded by illuminations/objects/artefacts from community welcoming her to the town.

Sunday 14th: 'Welcoming Arms' The Survivor walks a final journey; heading into a local park where she comes to rest, surrounded by the creative works of artists and communities from Crawley who say thank you and goodbye to her.

How we will work together

Creative Crawley will identify and contact local groups and invite them to be part of the project. We will organise the scheduling of workshops and provide materials in addition to the fee. We will liaise with Animated Objects and co-ordinate communication between them and the participants where necessary.

We will produce the event, scheduling and facilitating the performance meetings with The Survivor on her journey around Crawley. We imagine the artist(s) will be present for the presentation of the artworks to The Survivor.

We are a small team of a part-time Creative Director and Production Manager plus freelance staff.

Communities, audiences and demographics

Crawley is made up of a series of 14 neighbourhoods and 3 key employment zones; Manor Royal, Gatwick Airport and the Town Centre. According to the Local Insight profile for 'Crawley Borough' area report created on 11 December 2019 there are 112,450 people living in Crawley Borough.

72.1% (76,890) identify as White British compared with 88.9% average in West Sussex and 13% (13,825) as Asian as compared to 3.5% average in West Sussex. 31% (34,895) are aged 0 – 24. 13% (15,050) are aged 65+.

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57% (60,751) of residents are classified as Multi-Cultural Metropolitans; concentrated in larger urban conurbations in the transitional areas between urban centres and suburbia, high proportion of Black and Global Majority groups, high proportion of families. This compares to an average of 8.5% in West Sussex. 20.1% of the population is non-white ethnicity. *Source: Place Survey (2008), Active Charities - National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) (2009). Note all information is collected at Local Authority level.*

41% of all school age children in Crawley have a non White British ethnicity. This compares to 18% across West Sussex as a whole. (Crawley Community Profile May 2018)

Context

On January 9 1947 the then Minister for Town and Country Planning, Lewis Silkin MP, confirmed the order designating [Crawley](#) as a new town. The intention was to move people and industry out of the overcrowded and bomb-damaged capital and into the countryside. This year sees the 75th anniversary of Crawley's new town. Read about Crawley Borough Council's plans [here](#)

Crawley is part of West Sussex County Council's Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme. West Sussex County Council (WSCC) has been working with all of the district and borough councils, the Clinical Commissioning Groups in West Sussex, Sussex Police, other services and voluntary groups across the county. Together, they have resettled 48 families or approximately 200 people under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme UK (VPRS). Under the new UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS), West Sussex has resettled two families since April 2020 and will commit to resettling more families in 2021/22 and beyond.

Local charity Refugees Welcome Crawley is working in partnership with West Sussex County Council, Sussex Aid for Refugees and other local charities involved locally to meet the current need of Afghan people in particular who have managed to escape the country and are in need of basic essentials.

There is a significant Chagossian community in Crawley . Read more about it [here](#)

We will build on already existing projects such as [The Legacy Banner](#) and work with local experts to celebrate Crawley's diversity.

Responding to this commission

Please send a one page proposal (no more than 500 words total) OR a film up to 3 minutes long (recorded on a phone is fine) with your responses to these questions:

1. What processes and forms will you use to inform the new welcome artworks you make?
2. Which communities in Crawley are you most excited to work with?
3. Why are you interested in being part of this project?
4. What have you done in the past that will inform your approach to the project?

Please also send a one page CV with two referees for your application. Send it to louise@creativecrawley.com

The deadline is 12 noon on Weds 30th March 2022

Interviews will take place online w/c 4th April 2022

If you would like an informal chat with Louise before the deadline please send us an email.

