

Job Description



Resident Visual Artist

Responsible to: Head of Arts

Location: Sense TouchBase Pears (STBP), Birmingham, national delivery when required.

Fixed Term Contract: Permanent

Hours: Part time – three days a week

Sense Arts

Sense Arts is a unique and diverse programme of inclusive arts, events and learning that puts people with complex disabilities at the forefront of artistic excellence. Our approach is inclusive, collaborative, and person-centred. We promote equality of access and opportunity, champion the best in inclusive arts practice and strive to create empowering experiences that change people's lives.

Visual Arts

Our Visual Arts Programme combines personalised studio practice, with a mix of group sessions and one-to-one workshops. Artists and art-makers share experiences and learn from each other in a two-way exchange – sharing ideas and ways to access art making.

Description of Role

The Resident Visual Artist will be responsible for shaping and delivering a high quality and inclusive visual arts programme across Sense. We are looking for an engaging and experienced artist, practitioner, and project manager to lead our visual arts programme that puts disabled-led artistic excellence at the centre of our practice and engages the wider community and sector. The work is highly varied, and ideally,

we are seeking artists who have experience working in community practice, including but not limited to, people with complex disabilities. As well as programme delivery the artist will be supported to develop their own work and continue their own professional growth, which in turn progresses the programme. We want our workforce to be representative of all sections of society and welcome applications from everyone. As users of the disability confident scheme, we guarantee to interview all disabled applicants

Specific Responsibilities

1. Programme - Making more art with more people

Growing our inclusive arts programme so we can connect with more people across the country.

1.1 Deliver and organise sessions for the people we support created in collaboration with the artistic director that shares the vision for inclusive arts at Sense.

1.2 Lead on artistic development and implementation of the organisation's inclusive arts programme, regionally and nationally and manage both online and offline programmes.

1.3 Work with Sense services to ensure all communication approaches and abilities have equal opportunities to explore creative practices and visual arts techniques, including improvisation, composition, and the art of making visual arts together. The emphasis of the programme is to connect and communicate through visual arts.

2. People - Supporting people in their creative development.

Training, mentoring, and nurturing disabled and non-disabled artists, social care professionals and art-makers.

- 2.1 Create participatory opportunities for a range groups – including adults with complex disabilities, carers & older person's groups and children and young people
- 2.2 Lead on ongoing artist's mentorship programme – planning, delivery and monitor progress. Framework and KPI's to be led by Head of Arts & Head of Culture and Wellbeing
- 2.3 Provide professional development opportunities for emerging artists
- 2.4 Ensuring all activities are accessible and meaningful to the people we support.

3. Places - Increasing access to culture

- 3.1 Work with organisations and venues to create opportunities that are engaging, relevant and more accessible for people with complex disabilities.
- 3.2 Create annual events, performances and collaborations that support the artistic & strategic direction of [Space to Be Different](#). (please review plan for further info)

4. Profile - Sharing the impact of inclusive arts

- 4.1 Advise and work with the national Sense Arts team to deliver and monitoring the visual arts programme
- 4.2 Assists in selection and evaluation of artists and advocate leadership for and with disabled artists
- 4.3 Champion the work of Sense Arts at every opportunity, including supporting Sense Arts comms and marketing with sense branding and access guidelines
- 4.4 Play an active part in appropriate networks that can be utilised for the benefit of the organisation and represent with people at complex disabilities - at regional and local meetings and events.

- 4.5 Acts as an ambassador and advocate for the organisation to raise its status and profile and develop working relationships and partnerships of strategic importance.
- 4.6 Collaborate with Head of Arts and fundraising department to identify opportunities to make programmes sustainable. This will include supporting relationships with funders, completing funding applications and delivering/monitoring objectives outlined by external funding programmes,
- 4.7 Devise, develop, research, and follow up possibilities to secure new projects, collaborations and/or partnerships.
- 4.8 Provide regular reports on outcomes and access to the programme for the people Sense supports .

Person Specification

Resident Visual Artist

The essential criteria are those things which you must have in order to do the job.

Desirable criteria are those qualities that would be either useful, or an advantage to have and/or are things that you could be trained to do.

Education and Training	
Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
A first degree or equivalent in visual arts practice , management or teaching	

Achievements, Experience, Skills & Abilities	
Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
An understanding and commitment to make all aspects of the programme are high quality and disability led	The ability to continuously maintain and improve effective project monitoring and evaluation processes.
Setting and implementing an overarching artistic vision for a visual arts programme	Effective strategic and business planning, implementation and monitoring.
Considerable experience of organising and leading inclusive workshops and dynamic mentoring	Experience of financial management in an arts organization
Ability to forge and maintain strong creative relationships.	Awareness and understanding of good practice in safeguarding when working with vulnerable adults
A track record of delivering successful programmes and a commitment to	

developing new audiences and engagement with the arts and visual arts	
The ability to be supportive and flexible in all aspects of the role, particularly in regards to access requirements for the people we support .	
Excellent oral and written communication skills to enable the post holder to communicate effectively with people in a range of styles and settings.	
Ability to be creative and innovative, including effective problem-solving skills	
Willingness to work some evenings and weekends as required	