PICTURE THIS

CALL OUT FOR SUBMISSIONS

Culture Weston are looking to commission an artist for an upcoming project that will work with a group of young people to explore environmental issues and imagine a vision for a carbon neutral North Somerset in 2050.

We are living in a time where inequalities are stark, where we all know that the old ways of doing things are not working and have not worked. New ideas are vital. We are inviting artists to help us imagine new ways of thinking and being, to provoke change and inspire people to start to imagine the possibility of a different world.

In 2019, North Somerset Council declared a climate emergency and set a target of North Somerset becoming carbon neutral by 2030. Picture This aims to:

- Raise awareness of this target and engage North Somerset residents in what a zero carbon future means
- Start a creative public discussion about how North Somerset can become a zero carbon place, and gather opinions, thoughts and new ideas
- Encourage North Somerset residents to take positive action to reduce their environmental impact

Picture This will be a public campaign and art competition inviting residents to share their visions of life in a zero carbon future society. Alongside this, we want to commission an artist to work with a group of young people to explore environmental issues and develop a youth-centred vision for a carbon neutral North Somerset.

Commission Opportunity

We are seeking to commission an emerging / early career artist aged under 30, who is interested in working with a group of young people from Weston-super-Mare to explore environmental issues, develop a youth-centred vision for a carbon neutral North Somerset and co-create a public artwork as social action.

Young people's voices are often left unheard and not appreciated when it comes to making change happen. We want to change this.

The artist will lead 4 workshops with a group of young people in order to collaborate with the young people to create high quality, dynamic work for exhibition that authentically captures the passion and vision of the youth participants for positive social change and environmental action. The group will develop a youth-led manifesto/vision for a Net Zero North Somerset.

Whilst you will lead on the creation of the work, you will also create a clear framework of opportunities for the youth participants to directly make and contribute to the final piece.

At the end of their time with the artist the young people will be energised, informed, and will have gained new skillsets, and expanded life chances through engaging with youth social action. They should also be immensely proud of the public artwork they have contributed to.

The artist will develop a work inspired by the young people’s responses.

Ideas could take shape in any artform; an installation, sculpture, street art, audio piece, performance, poetry, visual art – but it should be something that can be experienced in a range of locations across North Somerset and/or have the potential to tour town centre locations across North Somerset in the build up to COP26. You may choose to work with another artist in collaboration, how you manage the budget is up to you.

Previous experience working with young people is not required, you will be supported by Culture Weston to run activities and facilitate conversations. Culture Weston will support you in developing your approach to working with the group of young people.

Who we are looking for:
We are looking for artists from all mediums, you could be working in music, performance, visual art, installation, audio, poetry or anything in between. We will give preference to applications from West of England based artists, but welcome applications from national and international artists.

We are particularly keen to work with artists from backgrounds that are under-represented in the creative sector including Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people, disabled, neurodivergent, D/deaf, LGBTQ+, and lower socio-economic backgrounds.

What we can offer:
We will support you with access, marketing, space and time to make. You will be supported by the Culture Weston team at each stage of the process, with idea development, co-creation and making the work.

Fee

£2500 Artist Commission (approx. 13 days work)

£1000 materials/creation budget

How to apply

Please send us:

1. One of either:

   a) A one sided A4 document explaining why you are interested in this commission and what your proposal for the commission would be, or 2 sides if you wish to include illustrations

   b) A short audio/video file explaining why you are interested in this commission and what your proposal would be (up to 5 minutes) - either sent as a link or an attachment

2. Some example images of your work. A link to your website/ or link to a short portfolio with up to 3 digital examples of relevant work.

3. Your artist CV (no more than 2 sides)

4. Please download and return a completed equal opportunities monitoring form (Equality and Diversity Monitoring form)

Artists can submit proposals for one or both of the commission opportunities.

We want the application process to be as straight-forward as possible. If you have any access needs or would like any help in submitting your idea please email admin@culturewestonorg.uk or call 07791010546. Please let us know if you would like a copy of this information in a Word document or in large print format.

Please send your submission to admin@culturewestonorg.uk with the subject heading Picture This project.

The deadline for submissions is Friday 2nd July 2021.

How decisions will be made

From the proposals submitted, Culture Weston will make an initial sift for deliverability and then a shortlist of artists will be created by a commissioning panel comprising of Culture Weston, North Somerset Council and a group of local school children. North Somerset Council will hold the final say in the commissions chosen.

We will let people know by Friday 11th June 2021.

Timeline & Submissions

Deliverable/Milestone	**Dates**
Deadline for Callout	Friday 2nd July
Decision panel	Week commencing 5th July
Early conversations with selected artists	Week commencing 12th July
Social action workshop planning	12th July – 23th July
Creative workshop sessions	Week commencing 26th July – 27th August
Artwork fabrication	22nd August – 16th September
Public exhibition of art work	25th October – 12th November

For More Information
To find out more about what North Somerset Council is doing to tackle climate change, head to the council's Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan.