

Photoworks

Introduction

This pack contains information on the role of **Artist Facilitator Freedom & Photography**, including the job description, person specification, overview of Photoworks and how to apply.

About Photoworks

Photoworks champions photography for everyone. We are an international platform, global in reach, and have provided opportunities for artists and audiences since 1995. We do not have a physical venue, but our online channels are always open. Our programme brings new experiences to audiences and opens new ways to encounter photography.

Photoworks is a registered charity and the only organisation with a national remit for photography in England. Our work is supported by public funding through Arts Council England's National Portfolio.

We partner with organisations and venues across the UK to deliver our programmes. We are a small team of seven full-time and part-time staff, supported by freelancers and artist facilitators.

About the role

This is an opportunity for an experienced artist facilitator to deliver a programme for two groups of secondary school students in Portsmouth that utilises photography as a creative vehicle through which to increase young people's awareness of the history of the Black and mixed-heritage Caribbean prisoners held at Portchester Castle during the French Revolution.

Freedom & Photography is a partnership between Photoworks, English Heritage and the University of Warwick.

Led by an artist facilitator (this role) working collaboratively with a historian, the programme will engage local school students in an innovative and creative way to bring to life the histories of the Black and mixed-heritage prisoners of war and empower local young people to reflect a shared heritage that feels relevant to them and their communities, and developing students' creative skills, knowledge and understanding.

This role is freelance starting December 2023 and finishing by August 2024.

Partner & Programme Background

English Heritage and Photoworks have worked together successfully for a number of years on different projects including England's New Lenses. This project will build on and extend our existing connections.

English Heritage was formed to preserve the places where the stories of England were forged and where they can be re-told. Photography offers a unique vantage point from which young people can challenge perceptions of what constitutes heritage, explore how and whether we all see ourselves reflected in heritage, and work to engender a sense of belonging, ownership and relevance.

Freedom & Photography is part of a broader partnership between Photoworks and English Heritage, forming part of **Shout Out Loud**, English Heritage's national youth engagement programme. More details will be shared upon appointment.

Shout Out Loud provides a platform for young people to explore heritage sites and collections across England, helping them to uncover untold stories from our past. By amplifying their voices, *Shout Out Loud* puts their ideas and stories at the heart of English Heritage.

Both organisations are committed to promoting inclusion and diversity.

Professor Katherine Astbury, University of Warwick: Project Research Outline

Katherine Astbury has worked closely with English Heritage at Portchester castle for a number of years, advising on the reinterpretation of the keep, particularly the prisoner-of-war theatre that was there 1810-1814, and leading schools workshops on the prisoners' acting styles. In 2019 the castle housed a sound installation commissioned by Astbury: | Les Murs Sont Témoins | These Walls Bear Witness | was created by internationally renowned artist Elaine Mitchener to bring to life the experiences of the 2000 black revolutionaries from the Caribbean held at Portchester in 1797 and those from mainland France held there during the Napoleonic wars.

In 2021 Astbury worked with English Heritage and the National Youth Theatre on a new project called Freedom and Revolution which used archival work to explore Black history in the Caribbean and at Portchester Castle through the focus of the women and children brought to the UK as prisoners of war in 1797. Lakesha Arie-Angelo wrote a new play called the Ancestors using as inspiration the stories of these prisoners, with a nod towards a prisoner of war play from 1807, the Revolutionary Philanthropist which looked at the Revolution on Haiti.

“The British public’s knowledge of France 1789–1815 is dominated by military history. My research gives us a richer appreciation of cultural responses to the period, revealing how writers, playwrights and musicians coped with the political and emotional legacy of the French Revolution and of Napoleon’s regime. I have also shown how culture played an important part in shaping debates about identity, nationhood and political legitimacy.

In particular, I have revolutionised understanding of the French prisoners of war held at Portchester Castle, with a particular focus on how French prisoner theatre gave agency to both the enslaved and the imprisoned in the plays they wrote and performed while prisoners, most notably a 4-act historical drama, The Revolutionary philanthropist, which tackled the incendiary topic of the Haitian Revolution.

The on-stage rebels in the play mirror the lives of 2000 Black revolutionary men and women from the Caribbean, who were sent to Portchester in 1796, thereby opening up reflections on Black agency, experiences of captivity, encounters with the Other and constructions of identity.

My research on this play and my current PhD student’s exploration of the lives of the women Revolutionaries from the Caribbean held at Portchester explore key questions about human rights, discrimination, identity and power, moving beyond traditional narratives of the enslaved as victims and enabling young people from the global majority to see relevance in a site such as Portchester which they otherwise would feel is ‘not for them’.

Professor Katherine Astbury

About you

You are an enthusiastic and dynamic person with a passion for photography, visual arts practice, and increasing participation and engagement in the cultural sector. Ideally, your practice will link in some way with the ideas and themes that young people will be exploring in this project (i.e. heritage, decolonisation, identity, placemaking, representation, youth and visual culture).

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from candidates of all backgrounds. We are particularly keen to receive applications from global majority individuals for this role.

To apply, please email your CV (no more than two pages) and a cover letter outlining how you meet the criteria for the role to jobs@photoworks.org.uk. If you would like to submit your application as a video or audio file, please contact juliette@photoworks.org.uk

You must also complete our anonymous monitoring form (online).

Deadline for applications is **10am on Monday 27 November 2023**. Interviews will take place online on **Wednesday 6 December**

Job title:	Artist Facilitator Freedom & Photography (freelance)
Location:	This role requires regular travel to Portsmouth (Portchester Castle) to deliver workshop activity.
Working hours:	Part-time, freelance planning and delivery for a total of 6 full workshop days across two secondary schools in Portsmouth plus content preparation for online exhibition of project outcomes and written content for a teaching resource. Dates to be confirmed.
Line manager:	Learning & Engagement Consultant
Salary:	Fee £3,000 (inc VAT) to include planning, delivery & evaluation plus editing of artwork for digital exhibition and contribution of written content for a new teaching resource.
Pension:	N/A
Annual leave:	N/A
Contract type:	Freelance

Job description

Purpose of the role

Working closely with the Photoworks Learning & Engagement team, Youth Engagement team at English Heritage and Professor Katherine Astbury at the University of Warwick, the Artist Facilitator will be responsible for delivering a series of photography-based workshops at Portchester Castle for two groups of secondary school students (ages and class sizes tbc).

The programme seeks to address issues of slavery, race, and revolution, drawing on Portchester's unexpected history as a prisoner-of-war camp to give space to unheard voices from the past.

Working collaboratively with the project historian (artist and historian partnership), the programme will give young people an opportunity to learn and creatively respond through photography, taking ownership of history, focusing on telling forgotten stories, with a particular focus on Black British history and the ways in which free people of colour fought for emancipation in the Caribbean.

The resulting artwork will be exhibited online (Shout Out Loud/Photoworks platforms). Outcomes from the programme will also be used to inform a new teaching resource for those wishing to work creatively with young people at Portchester Castle and other heritage sites.

The Artist Facilitator will be responsible for devising an engaging and accessible, photography and heritage focused programme that actively engages participants, with an emphasis on ideas, creative thinking and skills development.

The Artist Facilitator will play a key role in delivering Photoworks' commitment to reaching audiences who face barriers to engagement.

The Artist Facilitator will be responsible for ensuring that all activity complies with Photoworks' rigorous safeguarding standards.

Main responsibilities

- Working closely with the project historian to collaboratively devise a programme of practical, fun and engaging photography & heritage activities for two groups of school students using the history of Portchester Castle as a creative starting point.
- Lead on site and in-school youth-engagement workshops x 6 (3 at each school).
- Supporting young people to create interpretation material that contextualises their work (when it is publicly presented online).
- Select and prepare young people's artwork for exhibition (at the end of the project).

- Ensure activities are appropriate for the diverse needs of all participants in the room.
- Liaise as required with project partners (Learning & Engagement and Curatorial teams at Photoworks and English Heritage).
- Ensure that all programme activity is documented.
- Contribute to ongoing monitoring & evaluation (ensuring pre & post project surveys are completed in session time with students).
- Contribute to wider project dissemination activity.
- Ensure all activities comply with Photoworks' rigorous safeguarding standards and paperwork is kept up to date. This includes consent forms and workshop/event registration procedures.

COMPETENCIES

Knowledge and experience (essential)

- Art practitioner using photography as a central part of your practice.
- Experience of working with children & young people.
- Three years demonstrable experience of teaching or facilitation in either formal education or community settings with adults and/or children and young people).
- Knowledge of history of photography and Black history.
- Knowledge of contemporary photography and cultural trends.

Knowledge and experience (desirable)

- Experience of working with children & young people in school settings.
- Experience of working with children and young people with additional support needs.

Skills and abilities (essential)

- A creative thinker capable of generating ideas and developing high quality creative experiences for others.
- Skilled team worker, able to work collaboratively, broker relationships and manage multi-agency partnership working.
- Highly organised with excellent time-keeping and budgeting skills.
- Strong communication skills.
- Registered as self-employed, responsible for making your own tax/NI payments.

Skills and abilities (desirable)

- Strategic thinker, flexible and open to new ways of working.

Attributes and personal qualities

- A genuine interest in and commitment to working with young people.
- Able to provide inspiration, knowledge, skills, resources and support to young people.
- A commitment to, and understanding of, the principles of diversity and representation combined with how to apply them to everything you do at work.
- Passion for communicating with and inspiring people, communities and partners.
- A strong interest in visual arts learning and engagement in the cultural sector.
- Interest in working with Photoworks.



ENGLISH
HERITAGE

Photoworks