



Liskeard Town Council

Emily Hobhouse Craftivism Project – Call for lead artist.

Project Brief – September 2019

Summary

Are you an artist or group of artists who enjoy working with community groups to create large-scale art?

Interested in craftivism and how we can explore the contemporary relevance of heritage issues?

Liskeard Town Council wishes to commission an artist (or team of artists) to work collaboratively with community groups in the area to develop and implement a two-dimensional artwork inspired by the life and achievements of Emily Hobhouse, to be sited on an exterior wall along Westbourne alleyway in Liskeard, Cornwall.

Expressions of interest are required by **12 noon on Friday 11th October 2019**, sent in hard copy or email to:

Hobhouse Mural

C/o Yvette Hayward

RFO & Deputy Town Clerk

Liskeard Town Council

3-5 West Street

Liskeard

Cornwall

PL14 6BW

Tel: 01579 345407 / Direct Dial 01579 559561

Email: office1@liskeard.gov.uk

1. Aims and Objectives

The work that you undertake with community groups should inspire, energise and inform your final artwork. You will work with community groups on the development, design and implementation of an original high quality two-dimensional artwork that is inspired by and reflects the life and achievements of Emily Hobhouse. The mural can be in any material suitable for an external wall, but must be fully weatherproof and durable with an anti-vandal coating as appropriate. The finished installation should have a minimum life of 5 years (ideally, we anticipate its lifespan will be well beyond this).

Your role

We see the artist(s) as key to how the project develops and we are therefore looking for artist(s) who will be prepared to input to the ideas for the project and applications for funding. This will mean being part of discussions to finalise the shape of the project (ideally by attending a meeting in Liskeard) and will also involve contributing to funding applications. We do not have funding for this development stage. Please see section 5 for more information.

Once funding is secured, the artist will form part of a team comprising of a heritage consultant, Liskeard Museum staff/volunteers and the project coordinators. The artist will co-host a number of Hobhouse/Craftivism workshops for community, youth and craft groups in Liskeard. The artist will then develop the two-dimensional design for the wall through their own artistic practice and inspiration of the workshops. The artist will then implement the completed design on the wall in Westbourne alleyway, Liskeard to the timescales and quality agreed by the project team.

2. Background

Emily Hobhouse was a political activist, campaigner and suffragist. She was born in the village of St Ive in 1860, just a few miles from Liskeard, Cornwall and would have known the town well.

This call for an artist presents an opportunity for to develop their own practice through working with this historically important heritage town and their community.

The artist's installation forms part of a project to raise awareness of the life of Emily Hobhouse in the local and wider community and the concept of Craftivism – the idea that craft can have a significant and wide-ranging social impact. Hobhouse was a widely travelled campaigner and philanthropist and during her time in South Africa she assisted in the setting up of spinning, weaving and lacemaking schools for families experiencing poverty following the Boer war, to enable them to become financially independent.

With support from a historian who has specialist knowledge, the artist will take inspiration from Hobhouse's life and accomplishments and be tasked with engaging community groups through a series of workshops, using the outcomes as a catalyst for the design process.

The appointed artist will be commissioned and managed by Liskeard Town Council and will be required to work with the project partners in undertaking the commission.

3. Location

The artwork is to be located on Westbourne alleyway which links Dean Street and Westbourne Car Park in Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 4AB. This garden wall is of breezeblock construction. The space for the mural measures 21 metres long by 1.5 meters in height.



Mural location wall on right



Mural location wall on left

4. Timescale

Applications are required by **12 noon on Friday 11th October 2019**

The intention is to secure funding by the end of 2019 and for the project to start in early 2020.

5. Budget

Liskeard Town Council is in the process of applying for funding for the Hobhouse/Craftivism project. We are expecting to apply for £10K from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Some of the funding for the lead artist will need to be derived from another funding application and we would work with you to develop that. One likely option is an Art Council England application under "Developing your Creative Practice". More information on this process can be found here:

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/DYCP>

The artist is engaged on a self-employed basis and is responsible for their own tax and national insurance payments.

6. Project Proposal

Applications will be welcomed from artists working individually or as a team. Your proposal should include the following information:

- An artist's CV
- Photographs of previous work
- A statement (1 side of A4) explaining why you are interested in the commission together with a description of how your experience of working with community groups supports your application.
- The contact details of two referees

Copyright, moral and legal rights of preliminary designs and completed artwork will remain with the artist. Liskeard Town Council and Cornwall Council will have assigned joint rights to use the images from each stage of the process for press and promotional purposes.

7. Selection process

The lead artist(s) will be selected by a panel who will consider the proposals received against the following criteria:

Essential

- The artistic vision and experience of the artist.
- Ability of the artist to undertake the work on time, within budget and to the standard required
- They are eligible for an Arts Council Developing Practice grant
https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/sites/default/files/download-file/DYCP_Guidance_for_applicants_Apr_19_0.pdf
- They produce high quality, visually exciting work which can communicate a clear message
- They have experience working on community artworks

- Their work fits with the ethos and aims of the craftivism project
- Their work can reflect in some way the central role of textiles in Emily Hobhouse's projects.
- They are available to work in Liskeard during the timescale set out.

Desirable

- They have previously led one or more visual arts projects which bring together outputs from community workshops
- They have experience in writing grant applications.

Data Protection: The information provided will be used for the purposes of assessing your application. If your application does not result in your being engaged by us, will be retained only for so long as is necessary. If you are engaged by us, the information will form part of your contract file and may be processed for any purpose in connection with your contract.



Emily Hobhouse