



LEFTCOAST

Neighbourhood Producer

Job Pack: July 2022



LeftCoast Neighbourhood Producer

Introduction

Funded by Arts Council England, LeftCoast delivers Blackpool's Creative People and Places programme which enables more people to choose and take part in the creativity and culture available to them in their towns and neighbourhoods.

LeftCoast co-create with residents a wide-range of quality arts projects and performances from large-scale spectacle to smaller, bespoke projects in intimate community spaces

We support all the people involved with our projects to develop a greater sense of well-being and connectivity to the places where they live. We work with individuals, community groups and organisations to bring about positive change and enhance civic life in local areas.

To help us do this, we require a highly-motivated and people savvy Area Producer to shape and influence a dynamic programme of neighbourhood community commissions that include:

- Co-Produce artist/resident projects across 3 years of programme in Haweside South Shore, Revoe, Claremont and the Grange
- Co-programme the R and D phase of the Mereside Wash Room
- Creative involvement in our partner's festivals e.g. LightPool and LeftCoast's 10 year birthday celebrations in 2023
- Activity with neighbourhood partners (e.g. Blackpool Coastal Housing, Groundwork, Volunteer Blackpool, Revoelution etc) projects that have lasting impact and resonance with them and their wider community
- Support Neighbourhood area art supper clubs

In the last three years, this creative engagement role has gone through a series of transformations and predecessors have worked on exciting projects which include:

- Inside Out – a national award-winning exhibition of art and crafts hosted in a disused hospital in Fleetwood
- The Welcome Collective – a series of fun, and eccentric, art activities for neighbours to try together
- Get Dancing – a crowd-sourced social dance taken to doorsteps on the Grange and Revoe social housing estates
- Exploring ideas of community exchange and shared resources
- Reframing unhelpful narratives about residents' lived experiences
- Improving participant wellbeing through friendships, physical activity, volunteering and skill-sharing

Aside from LeftCoast's neighbourhood partners, the role of Neighbourhood Producer may involve speaking with PCSOs, local businesses, local schools, local charities and other voluntary sector providers. Hence, LeftCoast is looking for an energetic and communicative individual who is passionate about working collaboratively with lots of different people from all walks of life.

The LeftCoast team will be right behind the Neighbourhood Producer to employ arts and culture as a means to engage and develop a wide range of people and their places relative to our programme.

LeftCoast's mission: *To make work that is socially engaged, socially useful and artistically ambitious.*

Neighbourhood Producer- Job Description

Title: Neighbourhood Producer
Reports to: LeftCoast Creative Producer
Responsible for: Casual staff/Commissioned artists
Located at: Peripatetic across Blackpool
Job purpose: To have purposeful conversations with residents that develop into collective action with societal and artistic outcomes

Primarily, our Neighbourhood Producer (NP) has the skills and qualities to foster and maintain positive relationships with our neighbourhood residents, local partners and commissioned artists.

The NP will have a good understanding of socially-engaged arts practice and bring excellent organisational skills, patience and resilience to this unique role. They will create space for resident conversations to notice, listen and respond to the associations being made/ideas being exchanged between people. This will actively influence what opportunities we can co-create or consolidate in our resident communities and effect which artists we commission to work alongside us.

Whilst not prescribed, the intended outcomes of the neighbourhood work are to improve the environment and develop a sense of pride in the place where people live, to reduce social isolation, to empower residents to work collaboratively and make decisions together and to provide creative activities for social cohesion and shared learning,

The role will also be required to support the utilisation of volunteers within LeftCoast's work supporting workshop delivery, to become community observers within estates and at events as well as our more traditional event steward role

The purpose of the NP is to identify and work with any individuals, communities or organisations that want to make a tangible and positive difference in the places where they live/work.

Key activity will be to :

- Hold the creative and critical space between residents and commissioned artists to stretch and elevate shared ideas
- Co-programme the R and D phase of the Mereside Wash Room and Library Pop Up to further develop community engagement activities and support volunteers
- Connect project participants to wider arts projects in the town, including LeftCoast's partner festivals such as Lightpool
- Develop and support targeted activities with those new to the arts to help achieve LeftCoast project outcomes.
- Work alongside the Digital Artist-in-Residence role to find new and innovative approaches to develop LeftCoast's socially-engaged practice



The key responsibilities of the role are as follows:

- To identify participants and audiences to work with as they emerge through partnership work with individuals, communities and local 3rd sector organisations
- To proactively enable communities to self-organise, commission artists, solicit resources and make decisions for themselves about arts and culture in the place where they live
- To be responsible for risk assessing engagement activity and developing event plans for programmes of work.
- Administrate and report/monitor/evaluate any activities delivered.
- Use LeftCoast's social media channels to help promote the work we are doing in communities in a sensitive way.
- Provide support to BCH staff 'on the ground' and LeftCoast's Creative Producer to advise ongoing creative approaches for working in targeted areas
- To look at strategic development around the role by linking into wider community initiatives
- To manage programme budget attached to this work and report back to LefCoast Creative Producer
- To be self-managing in terms of administrative support and delivery e.g. creating event plans or risk assessments, distributing and collating monitoring and evaluation materials.
- To work peripatetically and outside of usual office hours on a frequent basis



WASH YOUR WORDS
Langdale Library & Laundry room

Neighbourhood Producer- Person Specification

Qualifications

GCSE Maths and English

Experience

- Experience of working with a variety of communities in a socially-engaged context
- Experience of delivering community consultation and acting upon findings, including commissioning artists
- Experience of planning, organising and hosting community workshops, events etc.
- Experience of monitoring and evaluation, writing reports and managing a modest project budget (up to 50k)
- Experience of developing (strategic) programmes of work to help build capacity for this role beyond the fixed-term

Knowledge

- Knowledge of Blackpool, Wyre and the North West of England is desirable.
- An awareness of socially engaged arts practice and how that can be accessed by communities to create high quality and transformational creative projects.
- An understanding of how local public sector bodies work (e.g. how they are funded, what outcomes they serve etc.)
- Good understanding of partnership work with art and non-art agencies for more joined up working.
- Knowledge of Monitoring and evaluation tools and techniques for projects.
- Knowledge of social media platforms and how to utilise them to support community engagement.

Skills and Personal characteristics

- A strong and positive communicator including very good listening and negotiating skills
- A dynamic, creative thinker and problem-solver
- Passionate about breaking down the barriers to the enjoyment of, and participation in, the arts
- A self starter able to priorities workload, and ask for help when needed.
- Ability to work flexibly, innovatively and creatively.
- Understands the needs and aspirations of both diverse communities and creative people.
- Entrepreneurial, with great initiative and drive
- Excited about working in Blackpool and the Fylde Coast

INSIDE
OUT
@InsideOutFwd

COME OUT
COME OUT
WHATEVER
YOUR ART

◀ LEFTCOAST



Neighbourhood Producer– Terms of Employment

Contract: The contract is fixed term until April 2025

Working Pattern: 5 days per week

Salary: £28202

Notice period: One month

Probationary period: Six months

Pension: Local government pension scheme

Holiday Entitlement: 25 days, plus Statutory Bank Holidays

If you would like to speak informally about this role, please contact the LeftCoast Office on 01253 532989 and leave a message.

For further details and to apply, please visit Blackpool Coastal Housing website at www.bch.co.uk/jobs to complete an online application and a Job Pack will be available to download.

The closing date for applications will be: **9 am Monday 1st August**

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview on the **10th August 2022**



“Carol Salter’s Left Coast is a shrewdly observed and compassionate study of a Blackpool food bank.”

Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian, 28th May 2020.