

Writer and illustrator brief, Adult Wellbeing Activity Pack.

1. Brief

As part of Coastal Communities, the YouTrust-led Thriving Communities-funded project for Portsmouth, Portsmouth Creates (CIC) are commissioning a wellbeing activity book that celebrates the collections of the Portsmouth Museum Service. Writer/Artists or a combination of both are invited to pitch to create a book which will be distributed free of charge by GP referrals as part of the National Academy for Social Prescribing's agenda to offer wellbeing resources to NHS patients.

The brief is open to interpretation, though applicants are asked to pay particular attention to collections at either/or both Portsmouth Museum and Cumberland House Natural History Museum. The activity book will be targeted at adults, though is to be accessible, taking into accounts the low levels of adult literacy within the city. Funded as part of the Thriving Communities scheme, the pack is intended to benefit communities hardest hit by Covid-19. The activity book can be up to 28 pages A4, and could, for example, include easy puzzles, brain games, colouring pages, crosswords, word searches, find the differences, trivia challenges and writing activities, inspired by the Museum collections, as well as examples for collages.

We would love to see pitches such as activity trails through the museums, and activities which incorporate Cumberland House's butterfly house and herb garden. Portsmouth Creates will provide additional resources within the packs and would look to the artists to suggest these, though we are considering watercolour paint packs, paintbrushes and felt to accompany each book. The Museum teams will be available for limited remote support to provide further information on the collections, should this be required by the successful applicant. The Museums Service are also interested in potentially profiling some of the activities on their websites in order to reach a wider audience.

For further information on the museums and collections please see the staff recommendations at the following: <https://portsmouthmuseum.co.uk/collections-stories/> and <https://portsmouthnaturalhistory.co.uk/>

2. How to Apply

Applicants should submit no more than two pages of A4 as their pitch, including the activities you will include, an idea of the collections from the museums you will work on. Applications must include samples of your illustrations and you should include details of your practise and relevant experience. Please submit your applications to pete@portsmouthcreates.co.uk

3. Background

The Thriving Community Fund is a £1.8m initiative being administered by Arts Council England on behalf of the National Academy for Social Prescribing. The fund is a partnership between Arts Council England, Historic England and Natural England, NHS England and NHS Improvement, Sport England, the Office for Civil Society, the Money & Pensions Service and NHS Charities Together.

The fund has been launched to support local voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise projects which bring together place-based partnerships to improve and increase the range and reach of available social prescribing community activities - especially for those people and communities most impacted by COVID19. The fund also aims to enhance collaborations and networking between local organisations and to enable social prescribing link workers to connect people to more creative community activities and services. 37 Thriving Communities projects have been funded for a one-year period between March 2021 and March 2022. The Thriving Coastal Communities partnership, led by the YouTrust, comprises Flow Observatorium, Final Straw Solent, Cycling Without Age, Pompey in the Community, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth Museums Service and Portsmouth Creates.

4. Outputs

One adult activity book, A4 28 pages in length, including front and back cover. 220 copies will be produced and distributed for free via the Social Prescribing Service. Books are to be submitted to Portsmouth Creates as a PDF file with 3mm of bleed on all edges (print area 210 x 297, with bleed 216mm x 303mm). All images / photos / graphics should be submitted at 300dpi resolution. If the writer/artist is not able to design the book, but can produce the content and scan it to the specified resolution, please mention this in your application and we will discuss options with the printers.

5. Timeline

Applications due 22/8/21

Confirmed applicant week 27/8/21

Completed activity book submitted to Portsmouth Creates week commencing 4/10/21

Book with printers week commencing 11/10/21

Book to be distributed by the YouTrust from week commencing 18/10/21

6. Budget

The fee available for the writer/artist commission is £2,500 inclusive of any expenses, and is inclusive of VAT, where applicable. The successful applicant is/are responsible for your/their own Tax and NI contributions and must have permission to work in the UK.

7. Payment

Payment will be made at the start and on satisfactory completion of the project:

- Start up 50% of fee
- Completion 50% of fee

Please note invoices take 30 days from receipt to payment.