



Accentuate History of Place

Brief for Liverpool film Technical Assistant

Purpose of the Role

Accentuate History of Place, a groundbreaking national disability heritage programme is seeking a Liverpool based creative filmmaker. The aim of the Accentuate History of Place (AHOP) film programme in Liverpool is to create short film, 10-15 minutes which reflects the story and context of **the Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool**. We will also require a shorter, 2-3 minutes, version anticipated to be included in the 'Changing Attitudes' section of the AHOP exhibition at the Museum of Liverpool.

Through a series of workshops with local young people aged approximately 10-18, the Technical Assistant will take the lead supporting sound and providing other technical support across the film project.

The film will tell the story of the school and reflect its relevance through the years. It will explore archives, place and local stories while combining visual interpretation with audio and creative responses which reflects the vibrant sense of place and its impact. It will also be important to include the voices of people with a visual impairment, from both the past (via archive) and the present (via workshop participants). The film workshops will need to be engaging for young people with a range of abilities and experience. Ideally we are seeking applicants with a lived experience of disability or at minimum an understanding of the social model of disability.

The Technical Assistant will play a critical role in supporting delivery of the highest quality film based on the factual archives and the workshop participant's engagement and responses to them. They will support the Creative Community Filmmaker – ensuring we get a beautiful film and the story is coherent and fully accessible, to include audio description and BSL interpretation as a minimum requirement. They will provide technical and production support for a series of workshops and filming days to generate content and shoot the film.

The material will be shot and collated on location at various places in Liverpool. Alongside the film, History of Place is also delivering digital game making workshops and it is hoped that some material from the filmmaking workshops may also feed into the games.

All film content will be edited by the AHOP Editor for final presentation as part of Disability History Month in November 2017 and possible inclusion in the exhibition at Museum of Liverpool in January 2018. All film equipment will be provided.

Background to the Project

Accentuate challenges perceptions of disability by providing life changing opportunities for deaf and disabled people to participate and lead within the cultural sector. Accentuate is a not-for-profit programme and operates under the organisational umbrella of Screen South, a Folkestone based cultural development agency.

Accentuate History of Place is a nationally significant social history programme charting deaf and disabled people's lives from the middle ages until the late twentieth century in relation to built heritage. Accentuate History of Place highlights eight sites of importance, across England, from early provision for disabled people through to the first purpose built architecture. The richly diverse, experiential stories generated by those who inhabited or designed these buildings, provides new insights into their own lives and the prevailing social attitudes and institutional processes which controlled them. As part of the project we are delivering a range of local hands on participatory activities, a national touring exhibition and a strand engaging young deaf and disabled people using digital game making workshops and filmmaking. The project links to the English Heritage disability online resource, Disability in Time and Place. <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/discover/people-and-places/disability-history/>

Accentuate History of Place (AHOP) is working with local communities bringing to life archive material and providing training to develop the skills of heritage events organisers, volunteers and heritage staff, in order to make heritage sites and events more accessible to disabled visitors. This is the first project of its kind, and is designed to bring this relatively hidden heritage to national notice.

Role Description

The Technical Assistant will work closely with the AHOP Project Coordinator, the Creative Community Filmmaker and local school/community group leaders, as well as liaise with the AHOP Archivist and Digital Content Manager, to ensure all film content is technically compliant and that creative content is maximised across all digital platforms. They will ensure all material generated during the workshop and making of film are delivered to the AHOP Project Co-ordinator and Editor according to schedule and budgets.

The Technical Assistant will need have experience in film production, especially sound recording, and editing as well as working in the community and youth sector.

- The Technical Assistant will have responsibility for the overall production management of each session during shooting of the film and be should be able to control how the film is made across all areas of production.

- The Technical Assistant will work closely with the AHOP Project Co-coordinator and the Creative Community Filmmaker to ensure all licenses and clearances are in place for all aspects of production.

They will undertake the following specific tasks

- Support film programme team and assist in the set up and focus of the film development workshops with school, colleges and community groups.
- Support the film team on the best approach with working with archive material and other assets to deliver an engaging film.
- Work with film workshop participants develop creative approaches and pass on skills.
- Work with participants and the Museum of Liverpool to explore school related objects within the collection of National Museums Liverpool and record this interpretive session
- Support and arrange schedule for shooting the film
- Work with the local community participants to ensure they are actively engaged in all area of making the film.
- Work with AHOP Project Coordinator, Editor and Creative Community Filmmaker to ensure all content is compliant and all licenses are cleared for content and personnel
- Support young people to create film content to appear across the different platforms (website, games, exhibition)

Access

We aim to make the film 100% accessible, using as a minimum audio description, subtitles and BSL interpretation.

Film Brief

The film should reflect the site's themes and bring to life the experiences of those who inhabited the Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool through time. The Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool was established in 1791 as the first school of its kind in Britain and second in the world-it remains the longest in continuous existence and still serves as a school today. The school was founded as a 'Blind Asylum' in two lodging houses whilst raising the capital required to construct a purpose built school. In 1800 the school moved to their first school building, on London Road, which was soon expanded to account for the popularity of the school as a place of technical and musical instruction for blind and visually impaired people. When the railway expanded in the 1850's the school was displaced and another, much grander, school building was constructed, on Hardman Street, In 1898 the school opened a sister site in the suburb of Wavertree, intended for children, and this building serves as the Royal School for the Blind today. Religion

and music play a significant role in the history of the school-the school constructed their own chapel, an imitation of an Ancient Greek temple, which served as the primary place of worship for Liverpoolians across the city until the Liverpool Cathedral was built. When the popularity of the chapel waned it was demolished and an extension to the Hardman Street school was constructed to house a shop to sell products made by students.

There is a rich archive of material available to provide insight into the founders of the school, the daily lives of students and school buildings although very few accounts from the students themselves. It is anticipated the film will feature in an exhibition at the Museum of Liverpool within the theme of 'Changing Attitudes'. This section of the exhibition will examine language in the archives of the Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool to highlight historic attitudes towards blind people. The film could explore language and attitudes within the archive and explore the lack of authentic student voices.

Fee and Timescale

The fee for the role is £150 + Vat per day for up to a maximum of 12 days. Travel and expenses for each film will be met subject to approval.

The Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool film programme will run two days a week during the school summer holiday in July and August 2017. We request the applicant to be flexible to suit the needs of the participants.

A full timetable of work will be developed with the successful applicant and final agreement of a payment schedule will be based upon this.

Application Process

Applicants are required to send a CV with covering letter in which you outline how you would address the filmmaking brief, early ideas in response to the themes, how you would approach working with participants and a link to your showreel. Please ensure that you have read and understood the Accentuate History of Place programme.

Applications should be made both as a hard copy and electronically, and sent to:

Francesca Lashmar
Project Manager
Accentuate
Screen South
The Wedge
75 - 81 Tontine Street
Folkestone
CT20 1JR



Email: info@accentuateuk.org

Tel: 01303 259777

Alternatively you can telephone or email to request application materials in other formats.

Deadline for applications: Noon on Monday 22nd May 2017

Interview date: 8th and 9th June 2017 at a venue to TBC in Liverpool