

Commission Application Information

Powys Arts Month, Machynlleth Comedy Festival, Hay Festival and Oriel Davies have come together to offer an exciting commissioning opportunity to artists of any genre who want to create a small-scale, innovative and exciting work for outdoor spaces in Wales in 2014.

These opportunities form part of Powys Arts Month in May 2014, which aims to spark the creation of innovative and high quality outdoor arts in Powys.

This document includes information about Powys Arts Month and *events partners*, whether you are eligible to apply, what you can expect from us, and what we will expect from you, as an applicant.

You will find specific info about what you should include in your submission, so keep reading to the end!

About Powys Arts Forum

Powys Arts Forum is an independent organisation and registered charity working to join up and enhance arts activity across the county of Powys. The aims of the Forum are:-

- To promote a greater understanding of the arts in Powys.
- To raise public awareness of and participation in the arts.
- To communicate the views and needs of individuals and organisations involved in the arts in the county both among each other and to the wider community.

About the Partners

Machynlleth Comedy Festival is in its 5th year and has quickly become established as the UK's leading alternative comedy festival. We place an emphasis on experiencing performance up close, and in intimate and interesting spaces utilising the town of Machynlleth and all its natural and historic resources. We expect approximately 4000 visitors to the festival over the May Bank Holiday weekend coming from all over the UK.

Hay Festival was founded around a kitchen table in 1987. Set in the Welsh border town of Hay-on-Wye in the staggering beauty of the Brecon Beacons the festival continues to attract the most exciting writers, film-makers, comedians, politicians and musicians to inspire, delight and entertain. For 10 days in May, Hay is full of stories, ideas, laughter and music. Hay Festival works in 11 countries across 4 continents. 2014 will be our 27th anniversary year and a cause for great celebration.

Oriel Davies is a contemporary art gallery in the heart of Wales Oriel Davies is the largest and most significant visual arts venue in the region and a key gallery of Wales, showing groundbreaking national and international art and craft.

About the Commission

Active, experiential and enjoyable, events will bring together practitioners to create space to connect and take part in the host event. The commission will form part of the highlights for Powys Arts Month and be part of the host event's high profile programme, responding to its overarching themes, ethos and audience.

The aim of each of these commissions is to provide an opportunity for Powys based artists to work in partnership with a leading arts organisation, to present innovative and quality ideas on a national platform.

We are looking for ideas that are simple, striking. Crucially they will be responsive to the heart and ethos of the host event, and would work for a highly diverse and bilingual audience. Your idea can encompass any genre(s), and can be time limited or ambient throughout the day. Your idea will require minimal production and materials -where possible sustainable and recyclable.

This is a small-scale commissioning fund with individual briefs as follows.

Machynlleth Comedy Festival

Dates 2 – 4th May 2014

Budget: £2000

Venue: Machynlleth and its environs.

We would like the commission to respond to the festival taking place in the town and adding to the experience for visitors that weekend. Whether it's a performance or an installation we would like it to reflect the alternative nature of the festival and focus on individual experience.

Hay Festival

Dates within 22nd May – 1st June 2014

Budget: £2000

Venue: Festival Fields Hay Festival site, Hay on Wye

<http://www.hayfestival.com/portal/index.aspx?skinid=1&localesetting=en-GB>

We would like the commission to respond to and reflect both the festival's ethos and audience and be fun.

Oriel Davies

Dates within the month of May 2014

Budget £2000

Venue: the park outside Oriel Davies, Newtown

Oriel Davies is based in the centre of Newtown and faces directly onto the town's central Park, where the commission will be situated. We are seeking commission proposals that respond to the Park. Proposals can be in any media (sculpture, installation, sound, performance art, film etc.) The exact dates of the commission are to be decided but they will take place within May 2014, when the Oriel Davies Open 2014 will be also be showing within the Gallery.

Powys Arts Month also welcomes new projects that have existing support, where our commission funds could be added to other sources of funding.

Awards will be based on the quality of the proposal, the strength of the idea, and the ability to realise the idea in line with the budget; taking into consideration the technical implications, installation and material costs. We are more than happy to offer advice and feedback at all stages of the application process.

Commissioning process

This should be no more than 2 pages of text (please note that proposals that are longer than 2 sides of A4 will not be considered).

What you should include –

- The idea – what you would like to create/present
- An outline of the materials and processes you will employ in order to realise the idea.
- How much (technical) support from the host event you envisage in delivery of the commission.
- An approximate budget for realising the idea, that does not exceed the set amount.
- The significance/relevance of your chosen location to the idea you are submitting.
- The relationship of the idea to the wider public; how will the public experience the work?
- A proposed timeline of how long you imagine the idea will take to be realized.
- Your contact details including name, address, email, telephone and website (if applicable).

You are also welcome to enclose the following supporting information (in addition to the two sides of A4 required above):

- Supporting visuals, photos, sketches, or mock-ups of how you envisage the idea will look. This should not exceed one page of A4. Examples of previous relevant work (if applicable). This should not exceed one side of A4.
- A biography of no more than 200 words.

We are happy to help you with any enquiries. If there is anything in this brief which is unclear, or which you have no experience of, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Sarah Morton pam@powysartsforum.org.uk

DEADLINE : Creative Proposals for commissions must reach Powys Arts Month by 1st February 2014

We expect to be able to confirm the three commissions in late Feb 2014.

Who can apply?

- An individual or group/collective currently based in Powys
- Arts projects based in Powys that encompass any genre(s) that take place outdoors

If you are unsure as to the eligibility of your idea, please contact: pam@powysartsforum.org.uk

T's & C's

On applying for this commission you agree:

- For the first showing of the work to be at your chosen host event as part of Powys Arts Month.
- To be exclusively available to show the work during the chosen host event date.
- To provide evidence that the work is deliverable within the parameters of the project and the budget available.
- To be available to give interviews to the press and media and assist Articulture with our promotion of the project where reasonably required.

