

OPEN CALL

Are you a visual artist based in the North West of England?

The Festival of Hope Sefton is looking for an artist to create an exciting work to celebrate the Skate Park in North Park, Bootle.

This is a paid opportunity to create an artwork that represents hope and heritage influenced by the community who uses the park.

The process will be documented and made into a film, screening at The Atkinson in Southport on the 24th of October-7th November.

Deadline: 23rd August 2020

Delivery: 31st August - 2nd October

Artwork Launch: 3rd October

To apply please email seftonyoungproducers@gmail.com for an application pack

The Skate Paint



Open Call for 'The Skate Paint'

Commission Opportunity for Sefton's Festival of Hope

We are looking for a visual artist based in the North West to create a large-scale, striking painting/mural for the Skate Park in North Park, Bootle.

Who are we?

We are Sefton's team of Young Producers working on a 'Festival of Hope'. We are organising an online and socially distanced IRL event made by and for young people, encompassing themes of hope and heritage in relation to Sefton. **Empowerment** is an important theme of our festival; **we want young people's ideas to be listened to and heard.**

We are leading on a variety of projects aiming to encourage community participation and engage with young people in our local heritage organisation, The Atkinson, culminating in a socially distanced **Takeover event** on the 24th of October to the 7th of November.

We would like the successful artist to work collaboratively with **Greg Hodge** (the project's lead producer), the local community of skate boarders and BMXers and Sefton Council's 'Green Sefton' to create an exciting paint-based artwork that reflects our messages of **hope, heritage and empowerment.**

Why?

We are creating this **project to celebrate one of North Park's skatepark in Bootle** – for young people and by young people. For Greg, the project's lead producer, when first seeing the skatepark in February 2020, it was filled with dirty rainwater and **'seemed forgotten'** and **unusable to the local community.** **That's** when he had an idea to work with somebody to:

'Create a new, vibrant piece of artwork representing heritage and hope, not only for skateboarders, but for other young people to enjoy and express their creativity.' – Greg Hodge

Artist Brief

We would like to commission a **skilled visual artist** to work collaboratively with us, the commissioners, Sefton's team of Young Producers, in partnership with Sefton Council and Green Sefton.

We hope to engage the **local community** in the design of the artwork through social media and online consultancy – to find out what kind of imagery is relevant to the young people who use the park; and what **their hopes and visions are for the future.**

Therefore the artist should be **skilled in collaborating with young people and online collaboration.**

Although we want the piece to have **long lasting legacy in Bootle and Sefton**, the successful artist should be also be aware that the project lends itself to the continued decoration by skaters and artists of the park after their design is realised and should therefore incorporate this into their plans.

Hope and heritage – and the artist's interpretation of these themes – must be central to the application, and may go so far as representing **Sefton's past, present and future. Especially** after the last five months of **lockdown**, it is our priority to reflect the **unity and togetherness** that has been awakened during this time.

About North Park

North Park is situated close to Bootle New Strand station and is surrounded by streets/houses from all angles. North Park is a busy and well used park. Below we have included two images of North Park, one from the present day and one from 1947.



Reflecting on the heritage of the local area using images or local people's memories like this is something that the successful artist could possibly draw on to make it special and specific to North Park.

Remarks from Greg

“What this project is all about is giving something a **‘new lease of life’** and I think it couldn't be more relevant today. **‘Upcycling’** is something that a lot of people are doing in order to stop waste and consumerism. This is a perfect example of how **something forgotten can be reinvented** into something that will give back to the **skateboarding community** and the community of North Park.”

“I hope this project **creates a safe and creative place for young people** to connect with like-minded beings and carry on creating art pieces after the project is finished. **There isn't a rule saying, ‘Don't Touch the Art’**, that's not what art is - **art is expression of mind and freedom and the park is theirs.**”

Outcomes and Timeframe

We expect the artist to develop and deliver an ambitious and exciting visual design for North Park's Skatepark.

1. Deadline for application: **Sunday 23rd August**
2. Artwork development and community consultancy, reporting to Greg Hodge and Young Producers: **Monday 31st August – Tuesday 29th September**
3. Proposed delivery dates (TBC): **30th September, 1st and 2nd October**
4. Launch of artwork: **Saturday the 3rd October**
5. Film Screening: **24th October**

Support

The artist will report to the project's innovator **Greg Hodge and Sefton's team of Young Producers** via the team's email address, who will approve all designs. The group are supported by the Festival Coordinator, Hope Hub lead and Project Producer, who will support the artist as necessary.

If required, volunteers will be recruited to support the successful artist to complete the design and this will be undertaken in line with social distancing measured informed by the government and appropriate national bodies.

Desirable experience

- Experience of working with young people
- Experience of working collaboratively to co-create projects
- Able to work over video calls
- Experience of design, development and delivery of artworks in the public realm
- Able to install in a safe, socially distanced manner (guidance will be provided)
- Able to travel to Bootle and Southport
- Have Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance or be willing to obtain it

The chosen artist must be willing to apply for an Enhanced DBS Check. Due to the short time frame, having an up to date DBS check in place would be preferable.

How to apply

To apply, please send a brief proposal (up to 800 words or 3 minutes if recorded) and a 2-page CV or brief visual portfolio detailing your relevant experience.

Your proposal should include:

1. What you are proposing to do and how it will respond to the theme of Hope and Heritage
2. A description of what you feel you would bring to the project and your experience in co-creation

3. How you will ensure that the local community is incorporated into the final piece
4. Confirmation of your availability to complete the project in the timeframe
5. A budget breakdown including your daily rate

***You may also want to illustrate your idea using 1 image or sketch of what you are proposing.**

Applications can be written, filmed, or audio recorded. They should be sent to the festival coordinator at emmafestivalofhope@gmail.com with the young producer email address seftonyoungproducers@gmail.com CC'd in with The Skate Paint in the title of the email.

Any questions can be sent to **Greg Hodge** and **Emma Curd**, who you can also arrange a phone call with via the above emails.

Artist fee

The budget for this project is: **£2500-3000** (including expenses & dependent on experience). This amount is estimated on the basis of 10-12 days of development and delivery, including the materials budget. The fee covers all work relating to the project, the artist will work on a self-employed basis.

Selection process

The commission will be selected through an open call. Artist applications will be shortlisted by a panel of Sefton's Young Producers who will then be in touch to ask any further questions, if necessary, before selecting a final artist. **Applicants will be notified within a week of applying.**

Background for The Festival of Hope and Hope Streets

The Atkinson, in collaboration with Hope Streets, Curious Minds and Blaze, is working with a group of Young Producers to create the **Sefton's Festival of Hope** a pioneering festival that places young people at the heart of design, making, programming & production. Follow us on Instagram using the following tags: **@festivalofhopesefton** and by using the hashtag **#festivalofhopesefton**

The Festival of Hope is co-produced by **Blaze**, a youth led arts charity that exists to support the next generation of creative producers. Part of a larger project called Hope Streets, supported by **National Lottery Heritage Fund** as part of their **Kick the Dust** programme.

