

# THIS IS OUR HOME

Paid opportunity for a young artist

We are looking for a visual artist aged 18-29 to create a fabric heritage piece celebrating the past and present Sefton Community

FESTIVAL OF  
**HOPE**

A YOUTH LED  
FESTIVAL THAT  
AIMS TO HIGHLIGHT  
HOPE AND  
HERITAGE IN THE  
SEFTON  
COMMUNITY

To apply please email  
[seftonyoungproducers@gmail.com](mailto:seftonyoungproducers@gmail.com)  
for an application pack

Deadline for submission 31/08/20

UP TO  
1K FEE

Work displayed  
at The Atkinson  
between 17/10-7/11



# Open Call for 'This is Our Home'

## Commission Opportunity for Sefton's Festival of Hope

We are looking for a visual or textile artist based in the North West to create three 5-foot by 5-foot fabric-based maps, which will be displayed at The Atkinson as part of the Festival of Hope **Takeover** project.

The artworks will be displayed in a wooden frame in the style of a house, to celebrate the heritage of the local community in Southport and across Sefton more broadly. Ideally, we are looking for someone who is between **18 to 29 years of age** to work with us.

## 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 **Takeover event** on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October to the 7<sup>th</sup> of November.

We would like the successful artist to work collaboratively with **Shannon Weekes** (the project's lead producer), the local heritage community and The Atkinson to create an **exciting fabric-based artwork that reflects our messages of hope, heritage and empowerment.**

## Why?

For Shannon, the idea of creating an installation reflecting people's homes came from her experience of lockdown because:

**"Each person's story of home is different. Where people feel at home changes, but the feeling of home for me conveys strong emotions. For most, It's the place we began to dream, to love, to care and to hope. With the current situation we find ourselves in, home is the most important place to be. However, for some, home isn't a safe place, or a place we can hope and dream. Some don't have a home at all."**

**"I want to highlight the stories of what young people call home. I want to create an installation that celebrates the ordinary homes, the unconventional homes and each in between. I want to create something that shares snippets of stories**

from the community of Sefton. We all deserve hope, and we all deserve a place to call home."

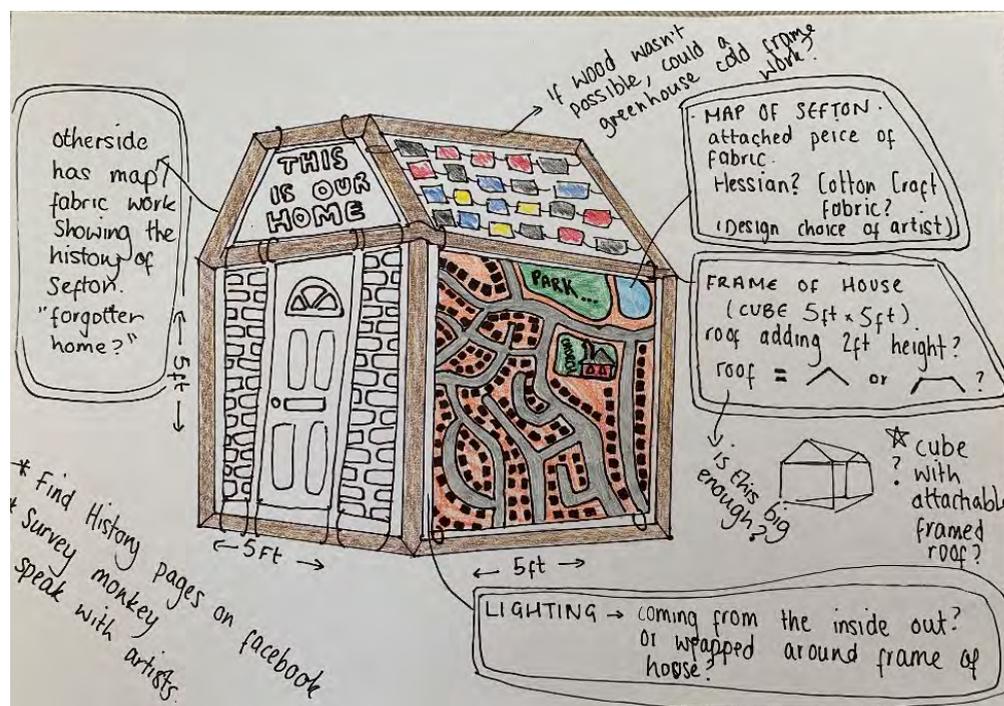
## Artist Brief

We would like to commission a young visual or fabric artist to work collaboratively with us, the commissioners and Sefton's team of Young Producers to create three visually exciting, fabric maps.

We hope to engage the local community in creating the artwork through history pages on Facebook and online consultancy – to create the maps of Southport and Sefton, documenting people's homes and important places. You will be supported by Shannon to incorporate outcomes of this into the works

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 reflect the importance of homelife to people's lives.

Below, we have included a sketch by Shannon depicting an imagined outcome. This design is subject to the chosen artist's interpretation of the brief.



## Remarks from Shannon:

In this project, community and representation of local people and place is important:

"I think this project will create a great sense of community, I want to also provide an opportunity for a young artist based in Sefton to have their work displayed in The Atkinson and be able to create something more relatable for young people about the meanings of heritage and identity. I want all ages to be

able to look at the artwork and find an aspect of their **identity** in it, in some way or another.”

## Outcomes

The development and delivery three fabric maps for the installation

## Timeframe

1. Deadline for application: **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August**
2. Artwork development, community consultancy and sign off, reporting to Shannon and Young Producers: **7<sup>th</sup> September – 4<sup>th</sup> October**
3. Deadline for delivery: **Week of the 5<sup>th</sup> of October (TBC)**
4. Launch of artwork: **17<sup>th</sup> October – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

## Support

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

The frame in which the maps will hang is being constructed on site by a joiner and staff members at The Atkinson, and therefore the successful artist does not need to address this in their proposal.

## Desirable experience

- Some form of qualification or experience in the arts, textiles or fashion industries
- Some experience of working with young people
- Some experience of working collaboratively
- Able to work over video calls
- Able to travel to Southport

## How to apply

To apply, please send a brief proposal (up to 800 words or 5 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 relevant experience
3. Confirmation that you are willing to work collaboratively with Shannon and the Young Producer team to incorporate their heritage research into the outcomes.
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 an audio recording. They should be sent to the festival coordinator at [emmafestivalofhope@gmail.com](mailto:emmafestivalofhope@gmail.com) with the young producer email address [seftonyoungproducers@gmail.com](mailto:seftonyoungproducers@gmail.com) CC'd in with **This is Our Home** in the title of the email.

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

## Artist fee

The budget for this project is: **£750-£1000** (including expenses & dependent on experience). This amount is estimated on the basis of 5-6 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.

## 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](#)

Find out more here: <http://festivalofhope.co.uk/sefton-the-atkinson/> and here: <https://www.theatkinson.co.uk/exhibition/festival-of-hope-2020/>

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.

