

Let's Create: Freelance Group Facilitator

Job Title	Let's Create group facilitator (Freelance)
Accountable to	Arts and Wellbeing Lead
Location	WHALE Arts, 30 Westburn Grove, Edinburgh
Duration	6 weeks with possibility of extension, funding permitting
Hours of Work	4.5 Hours per week (+ additional 6.5 hrs evaluation & reporting at end of period)
Rate of Pay	£25 per hour, paid on receipt of invoices.

Let's Create – a bit of background.

Let's Create is a therapeutic art group for women, many of whom struggle with mental ill health. The focus of the group is on building confidence, self-esteem and self-worth; building friendships, reducing social isolation and forging community connections. This is achieved through a combination of creative workshops and by coming together to share food.

The group was initially set up through Tasting Change, a multi-agency partnership project with the broader aim of addressing issues of food insecurity in Wester Hailes. The group proved to have a significant impact on participants mental health and wellbeing and as such, WHALE Arts is committed to incorporating Let's Create into its core Arts and Wellbeing program.

The Broomhouse Centre has been a huge advocate of the Let's Create project and recognise the value of making and sharing food as a connector and a way to bring the group together and in offering opportunities for developing important life skills. The Broomhouse Centre have agreed to fund Let's Create for a six week period over the summer while long term funding is secured.

Summary of Post

We are seeking an experienced creative practitioner to facilitate (plan and deliver) Let's Create sessions. The group facilitator will work with group members to co-design creative activities which fit with the facilitators own creative skills and the interests of group members.

The sessions consist of a creative activity followed by a shared meal with the group. The meal, usually a healthy soup is prepared by the group facilitator with help from group members at the beginning of each session.

There is a small budget for food materials and it is the responsibility of the group facilitator to source any necessary materials and ingredients prior to the sessions.

The facilitator will also be responsible for keeping a record of attendance, evaluating the sessions and producing a final report which should highlight the positive outcomes achieved through partaking in the activities and sharing of food.

About WHALE Arts

As a community-led arts charity and social enterprise, WHALE Arts' mission is to be the creative heart of a vibrant, thriving community. Since being set up by local people in 1992 WHALE Arts has firmly established itself as the cultural anchor organisation for Wester Hailes.

WHALE acts as a conduit between our community and creative opportunities through the direct delivery of projects, programmes and events and by connecting our community with city and national cultural partners. We provide arts activities for over 1,300 children and adults a year. We are based in the purpose-built WHALE Arts Centre– a unique community asset that provides a range of high-quality creative spaces for our community.

About The Broomhouse Centre

The Broomhouse Centre & Enterprises is a community development trust, run by local people, supporting community-led development in Broomhouse, Parkhead and Sighthill. Our mission is to create opportunities that make a positive difference to the lives of our community, and through SW Edinburgh, to enable them to flourish, thrive and achieve their highest potential.

We are in the exciting position of completing the construction of our new Hub in Broomhouse and it will create a new heart for the existing and emerging communities. Our vision is to enable the amazing people, young and old, who engage with our work to flourish through a sense of community and enriching experiences. Working in partnership with other like-minded organisations enables us to open doors, and forge innovation and positive outcomes, for people who use our services.

Main Activities and Key Responsibilities of the role are to:

- Work closely with the Arts and Wellbeing Lead and Let's Create group members to develop a series of creative activities and food sharing sessions - both indoor and outdoor.
- Plan, prepare for and deliver a series of creative activities and food sharing sessions - both indoor and outdoor.
- Support and encourage group members to participate in sessions.
- Have responsibility for Health and Safety during sessions.

- Communication with participants.
- Monitor, document and evaluate participation using WHALE Arts' systems and participative methods.
- Work with the Arts and Wellbeing Lead to ensure all project funding requirements are met, reports completed and effective communication maintained with funders.
- Take part in relevant training as appropriate to the role.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential skills/experience

- Educated to degree level in arts, education, community work or mental health - or able to demonstrate equivalent experience.
- A commitment to and understanding of the importance of best practice in community-based arts programmes.
- Experience of developing and delivering engaging creative workshops in a community setting.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, able to work without supervision and as part of a team.
- A high level of flexibility and the ability to respond to the needs of individuals and the group as a whole.
- The ability to respond calmly when faced with challenging situations.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Be a registered member of the PVG scheme.

Desirable skills/experience

- Knowledge and understanding of issues affecting women with mental health problems and best practice to support participation.
- An understanding of group dynamics.
- Experience of working creatively with adults with mental health problems.
- High levels of compassion, empathy and a non-judgemental attitude.
- Experience or interest in nutrition, healthy eating and the value of sharing food.

WHALE Arts Agency operates an equal opportunities employment policy. Job descriptions cannot be exhaustive and the post-holder may, from time-to-time, be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities.

Application Process:

Apply in writing or by email, enclosing/attaching:

- An up to date CV detailing relevant education and employment experience.

- A covering letter demonstrating how your skills meet the Essential and Desirable Skills criteria of the job description.
- Details of two referees, including your most recent employer.

Applications should arrive at WHALE Arts Agency **no later than midday on Tuesday 25th June. Interviews will take place on Tuesday 1st July.**

The successful candidate will be appointed to the role subject to confirmation of PVG Scheme Membership.

Contact Details:

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