



## Artist and Author in Residence – Summer Reading Challenge 2019

### Who we are:

Inspire: Culture, Learning and Libraries is a charitable community benefit society delivering cultural and learning services across Nottinghamshire. The society is owned and controlled by its members. Members are drawn from the community, and all staff become members of the society when appointed. The society is governed by a board of 12 elected and nominated directors, including a staff elected board member.

All members act in the interest of the society to uphold its objects for the benefit of the public of the Midlands;

(a) the provision or assistance in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation in the interest of social welfare and with the object of improving the conditions of life for the public at large and for persons who by youth age infirmity or disablement poverty or social or economic circumstances may have need for such facilities.

(b) to advance the education of people who live work or study in or who visit the area of benefit.

Our full charitable objects can be found [here](#).

Inspire delivers the following services:

- Archives and Heritage (includes Nottingham City)
- Arts
- Learning and Skills Service
- Education Library Service (includes Nottingham City)
- Instrumental Music Teaching in Schools
- Nottinghamshire Music Hub
- Prison Library at HMP Whatton
- Public Libraries
- Records Management for the County Council
- Youth Arts

We deliver services from 67 buildings across Nottinghamshire and 4 vehicles, have over 685 people working for us and have an annual turnover of £17.9M. Inspire has become a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) and receives a £1M investment between 2018 – 2022 from Arts Council England to deliver a cultural programme through the library service.

[www.inspireculture.org.uk](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk)

## Brief

### Setting the Scene:

As part of our 18 – 22 NPO agreement we will commission artists in residence to create and deliver a programme of visual arts and literacy activity in libraries for children and families. Stimulating creativity and imagination, artists will enhance our existing library programmes and influence new directions using their professional expertise and leave a legacy of collaborative work as published, digital or made work.

We are looking for one visual artist and one author/writer (*noting some authors are also illustrators and some artists use words and stories as their practice*).

Last year Emma and Duncan Pass ran comic book writing and illustration/print workshops with 2 schools and 12 library groups to create the Comic Strip Mischief Makers Exhibition.



### The Summer Reading Challenge:

Every year, thousands of families all over the country take part in the UK's biggest reading event for children in libraries, the Summer Reading Challenge, run by the charity [The Reading Agency](#).

The aim of the challenge is to get children to read any six books of their choice from their library during the summer holidays and sustain reading ability and enthusiasm for reading for pleasure in the summer break.

The Reading Agency 2019 Summer Reading Challenge, will have the theme [Space Chase](#) inspired by the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Moon landing, it will be a celebration of discovery and imagination to get children excited about reading, creating and exploring, rather than a scientific/historical retrospective. The reading agency guest illustrator will be [Adam Stower](#).

Over the last 3 years Inspire have delivered visual art and literacy projects in advance of the Summer Reading Challenge period. Inspire have worked with school children to inspire them to take up the challenge and to create a public exhibition, this in turn encourages others to take part. The 2019 Summer Reading Challenge Exhibition will take place in [Beeston Library Gallery](#).

### The Two Project Strands

The selected artist and author will take wide inspiration from the 2019 Summer Reading Challenge theme, Space Chase. Thinking about storytelling, fun, literacy and visual literacy they will develop a programme in collaboration with Inspires Arts Team to:

1. Work with 2 or 3 with schools in the Beeston, Nottinghamshire area to produce artwork and writings suitable as an exhibition in [Beeston Library Gallery](#).

Note:

- a) Exhibition of works produced opens on 16 July until 12 September 2019.
- b) Workshops could be with a targeted year group or the whole school.
- c) Workshops will be held in school and the library nearest the school during the summer term.

2. Create an artist/author residency programme in the 12 Nottinghamshire Libraries named in our NPO agreement to engage family library users with the Summer Reading Challenge, during the school summer holidays (25 July – 30 Aug 2019)

Note: 12 NPO Libraries

[Arnold](#), [Beeston](#), [Bingham](#), [Hucknall](#), [Kirkby in Ashfield](#), [Mansfield](#), [Newark](#), [Retford](#), [Southwell](#), [Sutton in Ashfield](#), [West Bridgford](#) and [Worksop](#)

## Budget

Assuming commissioning one artist and one author the below is **per person**.

Note: Some additional exhibition budget to ensure a quality outcome is available.

### Residency

Prep time 6 days	£810
Delivery 12 days	£2400
(or 24 half days, 12 half days in libraries, 12 half days with schools)	
Travel	£500
Materials	£500
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4210</b>

## Expressing an Interest

Please provide:

1. An outline proposal of how you might approach the project and the Summer Reading Challenge theme. (no more than 1 side A4)
2. Supply credentials in the form of past work, web links and digital examples.

This project is funded by Arts Council England and we welcome applications that contribute to the goals for the Creative Case for Diversity.

We encourage either individual or joint applications and happy to hear from writer illustrators. We are committed to attracting and recruiting diverse candidates.

Thank you for taking the time to review this brief. Submissions should be made by 9am on **31 January 2019** to [arts@inspireculture.org.uk](mailto:arts@inspireculture.org.uk)