



The Commission:

Canterbury Museums and Galleries are accepting proposals from Photographers who will create new community portraits to be included in the upcoming Mirror Mirror exhibition at The Beaney House of Art and Knowledge, Canterbury.

Background:

Public museums and galleries across the country have been tasked by Arts Council England to examine their inclusivity and relevance to the communities they serve. The Beaney House of Art and Knowledge is working in partnership with the National Portrait Gallery as part of the National Skills Sharing Partnership Programme to curate a new exhibition inspired by the Canterbury Museums and Galleries (CM&G) Vision statement to explore:

“Who we were, who we are and who we want to be”

The exhibition in November 2022 will feature portraits from both national and local collections that have celebrated Canterbury, Whitstable and Herne Bay’s notable associations and residents and will look back over time to discover who we have revered and why.

It aims to acknowledge the gaps, the omissions and the forgotten histories and will look to the future to challenge ourselves to discover what equitable representation looks like.

Brief:

As part of this exhibition we are commissioning a photographer to create a community portrait archive. This collection of photographic portraits will be included in the exhibition to show the diverse community of Canterbury district in 2022. CM&G has existing relationships with a number of partner organisations who we would like to invite for inclusion, as well as opportunities for the general public to be photographed. These sessions will take place over 2 days in October at The Beaney. Days of work will be discussed and agreed with the museum on appointment.

Alongside the photographs some information about the sitter will need to be collected, including their name and why they want to be photographed/what they want to be known for. The museum will provide you with consent forms.

The photographer will need to supply the museum with the images on a USB stick, ready for display on a screen in the exhibition. Alongside accompanying text and audio content which must have captions.

The work must be completed and returned to the museum by October 31st.

We are looking for someone:

- With excellent portrait photography skills and creative ideas
- Who is able to make people feel comfortable being photographed and telling their unique stories
- Who is confident and experienced with working with the public
- Who is able to effectively organise their work and work to a strict timeline
- Who can work collaboratively with museum staff.

How to apply:

Please provide:

- A short biography about yourself and your experience (300 words max)
- A statement on how you will approach this commission (400 words max) including:
- A weblink to your portfolio of work with examples of previous portraits
- Your contact details including any website or social media pages related to your work.

Please send applications to thefrontroom@canterbury.gov.uk by noon September 28th 2022.

We aim to contact all candidates with the outcome of their application by September 29th.

The selected candidate will need to be registered for tax purposes, will be responsible for paying their own tax and national insurance contributions and will need to provide a copy of their public liability insurance.

All decisions made by Canterbury Museums and Galleries are final and are not subject to review or appeal.

Payment

The payment fee for this commission is £1200 and will be made by BACS.

Canterbury City Council is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all staff and welcomes applications from all individuals for advertised jobs that match their skills and interests.

We welcome applications from all sections of the community. We particularly encourage

applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnic candidates, and from disabled candidates, as these groups are underrepresented within the Arts field and at Canterbury City Council.