

# stellar projects

## **Nightfall 2021: Artwork for light trail Commission opportunity for a disabled artist or disabled-led collective/creative company**

### **Summary**

Nightfall is a magical family-friendly outdoor event which will take place at Stewart Park in Middlesbrough from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December. It is a self-guided trail of light-based artworks complemented by music, storytelling and performance. The event is enhanced by beautifully decorated dwell areas where visitors can participate in hands-on workshop activities, take a break and share some warming refreshments. A high quality, playful and engaging visitor experience is at the heart of what we will deliver and our aim is to create a joyful atmosphere of connection, of families sharing an experience together.

As the result of an organisational and artistic review of our work, Stellar Projects has made a commitment to improve the inclusivity of disabled people. This commission forms part of our plans to ensure that disabled people are included in our work as artists, audiences and participants.

Nightfall is produced by Stellar Projects. It is funded by Middlesbrough Council, Arts Council England and Tees Valley Combined Authority.

### **The opportunity**

We are seeking a disabled artist or disabled-led collective/creative company to create an artwork for the Nightfall light trail.

We are looking for an artwork that:

- relates to the Nightfall theme and is colourful and joyful in tone
- is suitable for audiences of all ages, including children and families
- is of a high artistic standard and suitable for presentation in the outdoors in December
- will appeal to audiences of all ages
- is impactful within a woodland trail

- is a new piece of work or an adaptation of an existing idea (but it must relate to the Nightfall theme).

We welcome ideas from a range of artistic practices – the artwork could be a sculptural form, a sound piece, projection etc as long as it could work as part of an outdoor light trail. The artwork could include opportunities for audience interaction, but please consider how Covid guidelines could be followed in relation to any interactive elements.

Artists should consider the use of environmentally responsible materials, including LED lighting where possible.

The selected artist/company will be required to provide Health & Safety documentation for the artworks including Risk Assessments and Method Statements and will also be required to provide evidence of £5million Public Liability Insurance. We realise that some of these areas may be new for some artists and we are therefore able to offer support to develop the required documentation.

### **Who is this commission for?**

Applicants should:

- be professionally-established disabled artists or collectives/companies that support disabled-led work
- have previous experience of producing work for a similar type of event in the outdoors
- *or* be an artist with relevant experience who is looking to transfer their practice to working in the outdoors
- be based in England, Scotland or Wales.

Stellar Projects use an inclusive definition of disability which is based on the Social Model, focusing on the disabling barriers imposed by society, embracing all physical, sensory and invisible impairments, learning disability, mental health, neurodivergent and fatigue conditions. We invite you to apply if you identify as such, and/or have experienced access barriers.

### **Nightfall information - theme**

The theme of this year's Nightfall is *A Stellar Rainbow*. Our intention is to bring a world of colour to the night skies of Stewart Park and provide an escape to the grey that we have been experiencing during a challenging year. We will celebrate the colours hidden deep within the night, inspired by colourful stars, comets, planets and nebulae, transforming the familiar park environment for visitors and highlighting the beauty of the evening time.

The artwork should be uplifting in tone and be suitable for a wide range of ages. Words to inspire the work include: entertaining, joyful, magical, enchanting, curious, playful, humorous, dramatic, thought-provoking.

### **Route and artwork location**

The Nightfall route takes visitors through a section of Stewart Park which has lots of areas providing interesting backdrops and locations including: woodland sections, ponds, a folly, grassed areas; ending in the Victorian courtyard of Askham Bryan college which is surrounded by Grade II listed buildings. The Nightfall route is accessible and accessible facilities, including toilets are available. We have identified a potential woodland location for the artwork – the exact location and accessibility will be discussed and agreed with the selected artist(s).

### **Target Audience**

Nightfall attracts a predominantly family audience, including children of all ages. Most visitors attend the event in groups, with family and friends. The artwork must reflect our commitment to attracting audiences of all backgrounds and ages and our intention to create joyful, playful shared experiences.

### **Fee**

The fee to create the artwork is £4,000. The fee is inclusive of all design and creation costs and materials. Crew will be provided to assist with the installation and derig of the work and production/technical support during the event will also be provided. There is additional budget available for access costs, travel and accommodation.

### **Application process**

To apply for this commission, please send:

- a CV/biography detailing your previous experience and any similar projects you have undertaken
- a summary of your idea and creative response to the brief
- supporting images (max 5) and/or link to a website where we can see images of your previous work

Proposals can be sent in a range of formats, including written, audio or video files.

Applications should be emailed to: [hello@stellar-projects.co.uk](mailto:hello@stellar-projects.co.uk)

Applications will receive an email confirmation. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact us to check that your application has been received.

We want to ensure that our application process is as accessible as possible, and that the way we work and our working environment actively removes access barriers. If you would like to have a conversation about access, please contact [lyndsey@stellar-projects.co.uk](mailto:lyndsey@stellar-projects.co.uk)

## **Timescale**

- Deadline for applications: midday on Friday 27 August
- A production schedule will be agreed with the selected artists. The artwork will need to be installed at Nightfall by Wednesday 1 December

More information about Nightfall can be found at [www.nightfallfestival.co.uk](http://www.nightfallfestival.co.uk)

Further information about Stellar Projects can be found at [www.stellarprojects.co.uk](http://www.stellarprojects.co.uk)

Event location – Stewart Park, The Grove, Marton, Middlesbrough, TS7 8AR