



Business Stories Project - Story Collectors brief

Location: Hounslow, London

Reports To: CPP Visual Arts Producer

Duration: November 2024 - Jan 2025 [est. 6 days total]

Overview

CPP Hounslow are developing a creative project that will explore the stories of businesses along Hounslow High Street, culminating in an art trail and exhibition in March 2025. The art trail and exhibitions will form a creative response to the stories – past, present and future – of Hounslow High Street, its businesses and the communities that use it.

CPP Hounslow are looking to recruit up to four Story Collectors. The Story Collectors will play a vital role in the project by:

- Engaging with business owners to tell them about the project and record their stories
- Photographing the High Street's communities, spaces and businesses
- Researching potential spaces and businesses to participate in the art trail

They will be supported by the project's Volunteer Coordinator and Hounslow CPP Visual Arts Producer and will be provided with any training and resources needed to complete the project. They will also work collaboratively with the commissioned artist, who will respond to the stories gathered.

We are looking for people who are:

- Passionate about Hounslow, its diverse communities and unique cultural landscape.
- Proactive and self motivated
- Excited by the opportunity to engage with business owners and members of the public and listen to their stories
- Interested in photography (although experience is not necessary!)
- Reliable and committed to the delivery schedule.

This trail will open in March 2025. The photographs and collected stories will be used as part of the marketing and interpretation for the art trail, with additional exhibitions at CPP Hounslow's Community Gallery Spaces exploring the work of the story collectors in depth.

Benefits:

- Be part of an exciting, community-focused arts project.
- Gain valuable experience in working with an artist and developing a high profile project supported by CPP Hounslow and Hounslow Council.
- Help uncover and preserve the stories of local businesses and contribute to a lasting community art project.

Whilst this is an unpaid role, story collectors will be compensated with a voucher of their choice at a value of £200.

Schedule and Tasks [6 days total]

- Meet with artist and Story Collectors to co-develop plans for story collecting and identify target businesses: **w/c 2 December 2024 [0.5 days]**

During this meeting, you will meet with the artist, Volunteer Coordinator and Visual Arts producer on Hounslow High Street. This will give an opportunity for introductions, to learn more about the artist proposal and the “story collecting” process. We will also do a research walk along the High Street to identify potential spaces and businesses to engage with and clarify next steps for the first round of story collecting.

- First round of story collecting: **2nd-20th December 2024 [3 days]**

During this three week period, you will begin gathering stories from businesses and space on Hounslow High Street; photographing the High Street; and scoping out potential spaces for the art trail. The aim and scope of this work will be agreed upon beforehand, and you will be supported by the Volunteer Coordinator during this period. At the end of this period, you will be asked to share the materials gathered with the team.

- Update meeting with artist and Story Collectors: **w/c 6th January 2025 [0.5 days]**

During this meeting, you will meet with the artist, Volunteer Coordinator and Visual Arts producer. You will hear updates on the project, including the artist proposal, and provide your updates on the story collecting process. The scope of the next story collecting phase will be outlined, particularly focusing on gaps in our research and firming up plans for the art trail.

- Second round of story collecting: **6-24th January 2025 [2 days]**

During this three week period, you will continue gathering stories from businesses and spaces on Hounslow High Street; photographing the High Street; and firming up spaces for the art trail. You will be supported by the Volunteer Coordinator during this period. At the end of this period, you will be asked to share the materials gathered with the team.