**The Voice of Sandwell**

Are you a creative person living in, or well connected to Sandwell? We are

looking for a Creative or Collective to work with a local filmmaker to produce a film that captures the Voice of Sandwell. What does it mean to live here? Who are the people and creatives of Sandwell? What could the Arts in Sandwell look like?

**The Project:**

We are looking for a writer, artist or creative who has a strong connection to Sandwell to explore the talent, history and potential of the six towns. We will support the artist as they pull together local stories, heritage and art to inform their work. The artist will collaborate with a local filmmaker to create a piece of media involving audio or visual recording of the artist performing or discussing their work. The commissioned piece will be used by Sandwell CEP to inform the development of arts and culture within Sandwell.

**Sandwell CEP:**

Sandwell Cultural Education Partnership (SCEP) is a partnership of sector professionals, cultural enthusiasts & creative advocates who are working with children & young people (aged 0–25yrs) in Sandwell. Our membership consists of organisations, individuals and local authority services to come together to develop a more joined-up local arts and cultural offer for children and young people. Sandwell Cultural Education Partnership (SCEP) was developed as a response to the National Cultural Education Challenge and Sandwell Council’s Vision 2030.

Sandwell Cultural Education Partnership (SCEP) will become the strategic partnership for arts, cultural education, heritage and creative media/technology in Sandwell (West Midlands).

**The Midland Metropolitan University Hospital’s Arts Programme:**

The Midland Metropolitan University Hospital (MMUH) will deliver a unique model of careto improve health in the local area, serving 530,000 people across Sandwell and West Birmingham area each year. The new hospital will offer world class maternity, children’s and inpatient adult services, vastly changing the health of the local population. But we’re committed to changing the direction of peoples’ lives through education, training, creativity and new ways of thinking. And to do this we need to make it more than a hospital. Our Art in Hospital programme will enable our staff, visitors, artists and community to have a cultural asset at the heart of our community in Smethwick with a purpose built 88m gallery, one of the biggest in the region situated at the heart of the hospital building and open to the public accompanied by further places to learn, play and grow at Midland Metropolitan University Hospital, where our extraordinary and diverse communities can convene for the common good through art and creativity.

**The Commission:**

We are asking for a response that captures the voice of Sandwell. This can be in any Art form. From your commissioned work, we will ask you to work with a filmmaker to create a film that is inspirational and looks towards the positive growth and development opportunities for Sandwell and the community. We want to hear about the people, the history, the landmarks, or the stories to unlock and showcase the talent and potential of the borough.

Your work should be informed by your own knowledge of the area as well as research into the local history and stories of Sandwell. These can be from residents, gathered through informal interviews, conversations with friends, family, professionals, or strangers. Sandwell CEP can support you in the research process.

If you are submitting prose or a written piece, it should be 500 words or the equivalent of 3 - 4 minutes long when read aloud. If you are creating a script, poetry, spoken word, or other, it should also be 3 - 4 minutes long when performed. If you are creating artwork you should be able to speak about the art and your process in relation to Sandwell for 3 - 4 minutes.

As part of the fee, we ask that you collaborate with a local filmmaker to create a high quality piece of film that may feature you performing or discussing your work. No film production experience required. You will need to attend at minimum one day for filming or audio recording, as well as planning meetings and collaborative meetings. We may also ask you to attend an in person event in June.

**The Fee:**

The fee for this piece of work is £1000, inclusive of any travel costs, research and production.

Sandwell CEP will manage the promotion and sharing of the written piece, and the film produced from it. Sandwell CEP can also support your research process, sign post any relevant information or events, and will be on hand to answer any questions throughout the process.

**Timeline:**

We are working to a tight timeline, but hope that with our support you will be able to meet each deadline.

Applications close on 6th May 2022, 12 Noon. We will be informing all applicants on 9th May 2022, and if you are successful we would like to have a brief conversation during that week. Between this conversation and the 12th June, you will be in conversation with the filmmaker.

Your final piece will be due Wednesday 1st June 2022, 12 Noon.

Filming or recording will take place on a date agreed by you, SandwellCEP, and the filmmaker no later than the 12th June.

**How to Apply:**

To apply, please complete this Form: <https://form.jotform.com/221103513286041>

In the form, you will be asked to provide:

* your details
* your connection to Sandwell
* an outline of your proposal
* a brief description of your intended approach
* your creative CV briefly detailing any creative or community work that is relevant to the skills or content of the commission

You will then be asked to complete the monitoring and evaluation questions. This is completely anonymised and will not be connected to your application. You can answer Prefer Not To Say if you choose.

If you have any questions, please get in contact at: Heddwen@SandwellCEP.co.uk