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Introduction

In Focus is a new programme run by Photoworks, a charity that works across the UK to promote and develop contemporary photography, supporting artists to make new work and producing exhibitions and events.

In Focus includes a new commission, photography clubs and public events designed for neuro-diverse communities.

The Commission

This commission is an opportunity to make new work supported by the Photoworks team. It is specifically for a neuro-diverse adult with varying levels of additional needs, including those who may be non-verbal or require complex support.

The commission is open to individuals for whom photography is central to their artistic practice. We are particularly keen to support individuals who may not have an advocate or platform for their creative work, for example, people who might be isolated from accessing art opportunities.

There will be an opportunity for the work to be included in an exhibition at Phoenix Brighton who are kindly supporting ***In Focus*** with their gallery space.

Applicants must be based in Sussex, Kent, Surrey or London.

Accessibility

If you require an Easy Read version of this document please contact Claire Wearn at Photoworks on: 01273 643 908.

Note, if you are the support worker, family member or similar, reading this on behalf of the person you support, please replace 'you'/'your' with the phrase 'the person you support'.

There is a word bank at the end of this document that you may find useful.

Budget

All costs associated with developing ideas and producing new artwork and exhibition will be covered. Photoworks will work with you to identify costs and put together a budget (within a given limit).

Additional funds are available to provide creative support or mentoring throughout the commission process.

Funds can support an individual in a number of ways, either as a fee or paying for support workers time, transport, materials or more indirectly through support teams/families. We understand each individual has unique financial circumstances that need to be addressed. The aim of financial support for this commission is to protect and promote a person's ability to make art without affecting their package of support.

Who is eligible to apply?

There are no educational requirements.

You must be over 18 years of age.

The project should include or be related to photography.

You must live in one of these South East regions: Sussex, Kent, Surrey or London

Want to find out more?

If you are unsure if you would like to apply, we will be running two ***Information & Support Sessions*** where you can come and find out more.

You can register for a 15 minute one to one session with a member of the team where you can ask any questions you have about making an application.

Dates and venues are to be confirmed.

To register for your individual session, please email claire@photoworks.org.uk for details.

Unfortunately, we are unable to cover any travel expenses to these events. If you are unable to attend a session in person, then we can arrange a phone or Skype call instead. Please email claire@photoworks.org.uk

How to Apply

Please send us your application by writing, video or audio recording (see details below). Please ensure you include the following information:

1. tell us your idea for the commission
2. explain how this commission would help you to achieve that
3. describe how the opportunity will benefit your artistic development
4. tell us why you like making art with photography
5. share up to 10 images of past examples of your photography artwork
6. complete the anonymous equal opportunities monitoring form

How to send us your application

- **In writing:**

Use the Google form by following this [LINK](#).

- **By video or audio recording:**

Please make sure the recordings are no longer than 5 minutes in length. Please note that production values will not be taken into account.

You can send the file to us using *Wetransfer*, please follow the link [here](#). Email it to: claire@photoworks.org.uk. Please also email Claire with any supporting information (points 5 and 6 above)

If you do not have internet access or have any queries with the application methods, please contact Claire Wearn at

Photoworks either by email: claire@photoworks.org.uk or calling 01273 642321.

Deadline for applications: 5pm, Friday 3rd May

Notification if shortlisted: Friday 10th May

Photoworks is an equal opportunities employer. Please let us know in your application what we would need to put in place to ensure that any access requirements you have are met through the selection process.

Selection

Staff at Photoworks and Project Art Works will be looking through all the applications and deciding on a shortlist of 4 people.

Photoworks has skills in photography and working with people/artists to make new work. We are looking for people that show an interest in photography where Photoworks could help progress their practice.

If you are not shortlisted, a member of Photoworks will notify you and your support worker by email.

Shortlisted candidates

Photoworks will not be conducting interviews for this commission. Instead the 4 shortlisted candidates will be asked if we can visit them either in their studio if they have one, or at home or a setting they feel most comfortable in.

You can have your care or support worker with you throughout. We will visit you for no longer than an hour and will ask to see some artwork that you may have made in the recent past. We will also ask you some more questions about your ideas for the commission.

If you are unsuccessful, then a member of the Photoworks team will call you or your identified support person and have a conversation to share constructive feedback.

Key Dates

All dates are for the year 2019

Deadline for applications	Friday 3rd May, 5pm
Shortlist selection notified	Friday 10th May
Home/studio visits for shortlisted candidates only (with member of PAW)	21st and 22nd May
Final selection	Friday 24th May
First meeting with Photoworks team	TBC
Making period with mentoring and support	June to early September
Production and gallery installation	September/October
Presentation of final work	19 October - 3 November

Frequently Asked Questions

If I am shortlisted, who will visit me?

Home or studio visits will be made by the following people:

Shoair Mavlian, Director, Photoworks

Claire Wearn, Project Manager, Photoworks

and a member of staff from Project Art Works

If I am selected, who will support me through my commission?

This commission is all about providing the support you need to make work. Provision will depend on your specific support requirements and we will discuss it with you should you be selected.

My support worker is not an artist, will I receive any access to artist mentoring?

Photoworks will assess this based on your specific application but will aim to provide some artist mentoring throughout the process.

Who will help me manage the budget?

Claire Wearn at Photoworks will support you with this.

About 'In Focus'

In Focus is the Photoworks project that is part of a wider programme called Explorers; comprising awareness-raising activity, commissions, exhibitions, seminars and events developed by Project Art Works in partnership with Photoworks and other cultural partners. The programme is developed with and for neuro-diverse communities, placing them at the heart of social, civic and cultural activity.

In addition to this commission opportunity, Photoworks is delivering three artist-led projects with social care providers in Brighton & Hove and East Sussex for adults with additional and complex needs. Each project is tailored for artists and social care practitioners to help support adults who want to work with photography.

For Photoworks, the projects will enable us to test new ways of working, inform our future activity in this area, create a team of appropriately experienced associate artist facilitators, develop social care networks and increase the diversity of our audiences.

About Project Art Works

Project Art Works is the UK's leading visual artist-led organisation working with people who have complex needs and the people, systems and services that support them. We run a regular year-round programme from our studios in Hastings and in the region for adults, young people, children and families. We also collaborate with major cultural venues from across the UK to put on exhibitions and other inclusive cultural events.

Established in 1997, Project Art Works has worked with thousands of people with complex needs and continues to offer

advocacy, support and friendship to them and their families. For more information visit projectartworks.org

About Photoworks

Photoworks is a charity that works across the UK to promote and develop contemporary photography. We do this by supporting artists to make new work; by producing and curating exhibitions and events that can be enjoyed by a wide audience; and by publishing writing about photography both in print and online. Learning and engagement is at the centre of what we do. Our award-winning learning programmes are aimed to break down barriers and invite everyone to participate – regardless of their background or ability.

Founded in 1995, we are a registered charity (1053208) and Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation. As a non-venue-based organisation, we partner with organisations and venues across the UK to deliver our programmes. For more information visit photoworks.org.uk

About Phoenix Brighton

Phoenix Brighton was established by artists in 1995. Since then it has been providing affordable studio space and presenting a year round programme of contemporary exhibitions, arts courses and events. Today it is the largest visual arts organisation of its kind in the region, managing work space for over 100 artists and serving as a hub for visual arts production, discourse and learning. Based in central Brighton, it brings together professional artists and the wider public in a welcoming and creative environment.

www.phoenixbrighton.org

Word Bank

<p>Artist (or Maker)</p>	<p>Someone who makes art</p> <p>You do not need to call yourself an artist, and you do not need to make art full time to take part in our commission</p>
<p>Artwork</p> 	<p>An artwork can be something you see, hear, touch or feel, which can express a specific idea or feeling</p>
<p>Additional Needs / Complex Support Needs</p>	<p>Someone who needs support from other people to be able to live their life as fully as possible</p>
<p>Commission</p>	<p>An agreement between an artist and an organisation to make some art for a specific place or time</p>
<p>Exhibition</p> 	<p>A sharing of art with other people</p>

Mentor	An artist to support you in regards to your artistic ideas
Neuro-diverse	Someone who may think in a different way to most people
Non-Verbal	Someone who does not use spoken language to communicate
Photoworks 	An arts charity in Brighton that supports people to make and enjoy photography
Photographer 	At Photoworks, we work with artists who make photographic images

Images taken by: Nigel Green, Claire Wearn, Lindsey Smith (in order of appearance)