Open Call: Cambridge Pride Community Art

Jointly led by: Cambridge Pride and the University of Cambridge Museums (UCM)
Artist fee: Up to £8,000 (inclusive of materials and a written evaluation)
Art specialisms: All media and disciplines will be considered
Project delivery timeline: April to June 2024
Deadline for expression of interest: 5pm, Sunday 14 April 2024

- Are you an emerging artist or creative practitioner/team who values community and socially engaged practice?
- Do you thrive creating community art and interacting with a diverse range of participants and audiences?
- Do you want an opportunity to develop your workshop skills in a supportive environment?

About the project

For Cambridge Pride 2024 (Saturday 15 June), the University of Cambridge Museums (UCM) and Cambridge Pride are partnering for the first time to deliver an interactive activity or display on the theme of queerness and inspired by one of the UCM collections.

To deliver this, we are commissioning an emerging creative practitioner to create the activity or display through a series of community art workshops (minimum of two), culminating at the Cambridge Pride event on Jesus Green with a further workshop and display or presentation (depending on the creative discipline). The community art workshops will be led by the commissioned creative practitioner in partnership with recognised community artist and experienced workshop leader, Hilary Cox Condron.

At Cambridge Pride and the UCM, we pledge to champion equity, diversity, inclusion, anti-racism and accessibility. Due to the theme of queerness being explored, the theme of Cambridge Pride and the identities of the target audience, we particularly welcome applications from members of the LGBTQIA+ community.
About the theme

The creative output should be inspired by the UCM collections, but also reflect contemporary life and lived experience in Cambridge today. It should build on Cambridge Pride’s 2022 community art project, entitled ‘What does Pride mean to you?’, and aim to capture the ethos and aims of Cambridge Pride.

We particularly welcome inspiration from the Museum of Classical Archaeology and the Museum of Zoology, which both run regular tours, Bridging Binaries, exploring a selection of fascinating stories about gender and sexual identity through a range of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer-related objects from across their collections. They both also have their own trail available for visitors to follow independently, which are Queer Antiquities and Pride in Nature.

About the creative output

The project should be created with a beginning, middle and end, and should aim to leave an identifiable legacy for the beneficiaries of the project, including all participants – and you. We expect that this legacy might include confidence building, wellbeing, a feeling of ownership and togetherness.

The community workshops in the lead up to the event should:

- be inclusive and accessible, enabling the participants the opportunity to bring their feelings and opinions to life through the chosen creative medium.

The final output at Cambridge Pride should:

- give Cambridge Pride event visitors the opportunity to participate and share the experience in some way.
- be eye-catching with the scale necessary to have visual impact at a one-day event that attracts visitors from all walks of life across a large, busy event.
- be accessible and family friendly.
- be created with sustainability in mind, including plans for responsible use and disposal of materials if applicable.
- be created to be transported, put-up, and packed away at the one-day festival located on Jesus Green.
About you

We are keen to work with a creative practitioner who:

- can confidently engage and communicate with a range of communities and partners in ways that create an inclusive, friendly and safe environment.
- can engage participants in ways that enable them to contribute their thoughts, feelings and ideas.
- can embrace and bring together a diverse range of themes and perspectives to create a cohesive and representative creative output.
- is particularly looking to build new skills and experience in community art and workshop leadership.

We expect that you will:

- provide clear plans for the creative output, including an agreed budget and agree to regular progress meetings with the internal project lead contact(s) during May and June.
- work with the internal project lead(s) to agree appropriate staff/volunteer support for the project and work with volunteers.
- organise transport, set up and break down at the festival.
- be aware that the commission will be representing the UCM and Cambridge Pride.
- ensure that all Health and Safety requirements are adhered to, including providing Risk Assessments and Method Statements for delivery.
- have a clear enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check or be willing to undertake one.
- have valid public liability insurance, minimum of £2 million.
- provide evidence of your right to work in the UK.

We are keen to document and evaluate the process, so are also looking for someone who is willing to work in partnership with Hilary Cox Condron to:

- embrace the evaluation of the project with a commitment to reflective practice.
- provide at least three instances of shortform written and visual evidence of the project's progress that can be shared via blog and social media on UCM and Cambridge Pride channels.
- support the carrying out of a pre- and post-project questionnaire with the participants to ensure we can identify outcomes.
- provide a written evaluation report that will be published on Cambridge Pride and UCM channels.
About the application process

**Expression of interest:** We are inviting you to provide a short expression of interest by 5pm, Sunday 14 April. Based on the received expressions of interest, we will shortlist up to three applications to progress to the next stage.

**Idea development:** Each shortlisted application will receive a fee of £600 for this stage where they will be required to attend a meeting to discuss their initial idea with Cambridge Pride and UCM staff in more detail before putting together a small project plan (including a provisional budget) and presenting their final idea.

**After informing the successful applicant, we will:**

- ensure maximum community engagement and the promotion of the project to ensure that it has the broadest awareness and take up, including engaging with local LGBTQ+ charities, community groups and stakeholders to ensure we reach out to as many people as possible.
- support and publish the communications necessary to recruit participants and deliver the project across our channels.
- provide a suitable space for each workshop within Cambridge.
- provide a safe, covered space at the Cambridge Pride event, large enough to accommodate the agreed project, and including power and volunteers.
- provide opportunities for platforming across Cambridge Pride and UCM, as well as identifying further opportunities, e.g. media and press.

**Expected timeline for application process:**

- **Expression of interest deadline:** 5pm, 14 April
- **Shortlisted applicants notified:** 16 April
- **Follow up meetings:** Between 17-21 April
- **Final presentations of developed idea:** 3 May
- **Delivery timeframe:** 7 May – 28 June
- **Key delivery dates:** Weeks commencing 27 May and 3 June (community workshops), 15 June (Cambridge Pride), 28 June (project completion, including evaluation write up.)
Fee for successful applicant

We expect that the project fee will be up to £8,000 inclusive of materials and a written evaluation. The successful applicant will receive a fee of approximately £3,150 for approximately nine days of project delivery time (including three days’ workshop/event delivery, four days’ creative preparation following the initial fee for the development of your idea, and two days for evaluation analysis and write up), up to £4,000 for material and production costs, and up to £750 for travel, administration and meeting attendance (based on £30 per one hour meeting.)

This is the first year that we have trialled this creative partnership between Cambridge Pride and the UCM and we are keen to invite applicants using a range of creative mediums, and learn from the process. Therefore, there is a degree of flexibility in the materials and production budget depending on the creative idea.

How to apply

To express interest, please complete our online expression of interest form: https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dcBW70ZIldkDYlm

You will be asked to provide us with:

- a one-page A4 CV or resume for your creative organisation.
- a 400-word or two- or three-minute video or audio proposal outlining how you might respond to the open call including what Cambridge Pride means to you.
- two examples of your arts practice including images (can be links to images from documents).

If you have an informal enquiry about this project, please email Jenny Bull, Acting Inclusion and Engagement Manager: jfb53@cam.ac.uk

About Cambridge Pride

We are a growing, annual one-day event hosted on Jesus Green in Cambridge during Pride Month. We expect 15,000 visitors in 2024 (welcoming an estimated 13,000 in 2023 and 10,000 in 2022). The event is produced by the Cambridge-based Pink Festival Group charity. The charity aims to promote equality, diversity and social inclusion for the benefit of the public. We do this through our values of
Celebration, Involvement and Inspiration. The art project described in this call for artists should align with the charity’s values.

About the University of Cambridge Museums (UCM)

We are committed to finding ways to take our collections out into the community in exciting and inventive ways, as well as taking part in, and supporting community-led festivals and initiatives in the city and region. We support LGBTQIA+ communities and allies, and have a number of initiatives across the collections for both our staff and audiences, including our Bridging Binaries and Museum Remix programmes. Our work includes tours, events, talks and research, as well as ongoing work to update displays and programmes across our collections to better reflect LGBTQIA+ lives both now and across history.

This commission is supported by the UCM’s Change Makers Action Group, a working party of staff championing equity, diversity and inclusion across our organisation.

For more information about the University of Cambridge Museums consortium and the range of collections we work with, please visit our website:

www.museums.cam.ac.uk