

Commissioning Brief: Play facilitator at the National Maritime Museum

The Museum

Royal Museums Greenwich is a world-class museum service situated at the heart of Maritime Greenwich UNESCO World Heritage Site in South-East London, comprising of the Royal Observatory, Cutty Sark, National Maritime Museum and the Queen's House. Together we are dedicated to enriching people's understanding of the sea, the exploration of space, and Britain's role in world history.

The Family Programme

The Family Programme provides facilitated and self-led opportunities for intergenerational groups with children under 13 years to engage with the Museum and the collection. The programme enables different generations in a family unit to learn together and from each other, helps adults support children to learn whilst also developing their own confidence to continue learning, and to use the Museum as a resource for encountering different cultures.

Since reopening following the covid-19 lockdowns, the National Maritime Museum has been reviewing the role of play in family life and how we can support this through the facilitated programme of activities for families at the Museum. Across 2021 we experimented with under 5s activities in the grounds, outdoor trails, play in the collection and more. Looking forward, the Museum is looking to experiment further with play, answering a set of research questions, to evaluate a playful programme and lead to a strategic, embedded approach to play in future.

Outline of the role

Royal Museums Greenwich is looking for an experienced creative practitioner to deliver experimental, disruptive and playful activities during the May half-term Family Programme at the National Maritime Museum (30 May to 1st June). The creative practitioner will develop, deliver and evaluate between one- and three-days play activities, either outdoors or indoors.

Activities should be:

- child-led
- offer open ended prompts
- be developed with curiosity in mind, including through materials
- encourage families to explore the importance of playing together, have fun and develop a deeper understanding of the value of play
- help adults gain confidence in participating in child-led play
- Connected to the collections, themes and sites of the National Maritime Museum
- be developed with different learning styles and abilities in mind
- free, drop in

Activities can:

- Make use of a range of materials
- Make use of a range of spaces (with material considerations in mind for certain spaces), including outdoors (subject to other museum activity)
- Be fluid and changeable
- Take risks and be experimental
- Disrupt the day-to-day routine of the museum

Aims and outputs of the project	 To experiment with family activities to discover opportunities to be more playful To facilitate conversations with families to discover how they would like to play in the Museum To question understandings of play To better understand how, and which, Museum spaces can be more playful for a family audience To build confidence in adults to participate in child-led activity Outputs: Between one- and three-days activities develop and delivered as part of May half term. Sessions running between 11am and 4pm, drop in. Evaluation report following half term activities to share learnings and conversations with families about play in the museum.
Skills and Experience:	 Demonstrable experience developing child-led, playful activities for family audiences within a museum, heritage, gallery or similar setting Understanding of the importance of play to children, families, communities and museums. Desire to experiment with the format of family activities to create curious, child-led, creative engagement opportunities Experience developing activities that are accessible to participants with different learning styles and varied abilities. Experienced evaluating participatory activities Strong facilitation, communication and presentation skills Confident working independently Innovative, imaginative, creative and motivated
Timings	30^{th} May $ 1^{\text{st}}$ June Activities running 11am-4pm, with set up and take down outside of these times.
Budget	£100 planning fee (per proposal) £165 delivery fee (per day) £100 fee for writing up evaluation report

Notes	Please send a CV and cover letter to families@rmg.co.uk detailing: how you meet the person specification outlining what approach you would take to developing activities how many dates you would be looking to develop and deliver activities for
Deadline	Midday, Wednesday 13 th April 2022.