

WE ARE FUELLED BY YOUTH

In partnership with



We are *Fuelled By Youth*, a collective of creative young people from across Milton Keynes (MK) who are passionate about art and youth culture. This commission is about Milton Keynes' history-making, archival processes, and how to capture a new youth perspective - both now and in the future.

As young people living in MK, we want a creative and imaginative artist/s for this commission. Milton Keynes is a green, concrete, urban, thriving city. It is well connected and accessible. Created as a new town - an experiment - many new ideas have been tested here. We want someone able to bring a fresh perspective to the archival process; someone with new, innovative ideas!

We are inspired by MK and its history - specifically its unknown history and hidden areas of culture. We invite you to respond to MK as a hidden city; to capture the diverse perspectives of young people here. We are interested in how a new artwork might present a creative approach to archiving. And are looking for someone that is able to think out of the ordinary; able to create a work that is new, engaging, and open - yet has a sense of purpose. Someone that has no preconceptions, comes with the ability to adapt, and can create something accessible, universal and versatile.

Be bold and surprise us!

Tell us about your past work, experiences, skills, availability and any mediums you have used. We really want to get a feel for who you are and how you work.

What work are you most proud of and why?

How do you engage with communities and / or young people?

What does the future of archiving look like for you?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ARTISTS

The Fuelled by Youth (FBY) team seeks to commission one or more artists to produce a new public work which reconsiders, and breathes new life into archiving and archival processes. The team welcomes applications from artists working across both traditional and non-traditional artforms. This includes the diverse breadth of creative practices including visual arts, sound, installation, immersive / new technologies, VR and AR. The final work should be interactive, include engagement with the community, and be able to be presented in a variety of spaces.

KEY TASKS

With support from Offset Projects and the FBY team, the successful artist/s will be required to carry out the following:

- Undertake a period of research and consultation to happen with the wider MK community. During this period the artist/s are expected to engage in the following:
 - Propose and facilitate a series of engaging consultation sessions with MKYC.
 - Connect with the various MK archives, Bucks Archive, and partners within the *MK New City Archive* project.
 - Complete / share a final artwork proposal with partners and stakeholders - Offset Projects, MK Council, the FBY Team and MKYC - by 31 March 2024.
 - Present the final work or a 'work in progress' at one or more MK events - to be agreed.
- Work closely with Offset Projects, the FBY team, project partners and stakeholders.
- Support documentation and evaluation as required.
- Produce the final artwork ready for display.

KEY DATES

Deadline for applications	5pm, Sunday 17 December 2023
Interviews	January / February 2024
Research / consultation	February / March 2024
Artwork proposal shared	End of March
Present work / 'work in progress'	To be agreed
Final completion of work	To be agreed

FEE

The total fee is £10,000 inclusive of VAT, artists fees, travel, accommodation, materials, subsistence, project research and consultation. An additional £5,000 production budget will be made available following an approved artwork proposal.

DBS CHECK & INSURANCE

The successful artist/s must have public liability insurance to cover the activities they undertake with the public. Before working with young people, the selected artist/s will be required to carry out their own basic DBS Check.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply email hello@offsetprojects.org.uk ensuring to include **Archive Commission** in your email subject line. Please include a cover letter and the following:

- A 300-word statement about you and your work
- A separate 400-word statement about how you would approach the commission including how you propose working, consulting and / or collaborating with MKYC / MK's archives.
- Max. 2 web links i.e. website, Instagram, online portfolio etc.
- A max. of 5 images

The FBY team welcomes video applications. If choosing to submit a video application please keep to a max. of 3 minutes in length. Once you have submitted your application please ensure that you complete a **Recruitment Monitoring Form**. This supports Offset Projects to ensure that as an organisation we remain open and inclusive. The information you share is anonymised and managed separately from your application. Shortlisted artists will be invited for interview and asked to supply two references. At least one must have worked with you in a similar capacity within the past 2 years.

Deadline for applications: 5pm, Sunday 17 December 2023

ABOUT THE PROJECT PARTNERS

Offset Projects - Fuelled By Youth is managed by Offset Projects. With a focus on the local, regional, and national perspective of youth communities, and inspired by the entrepreneurship, innovation, and imagination of under 25s Offset Projects champions youth voice and empowers young leaders. Through connecting youth communities with creative people Offset uses the arts as a means to amplify youth opinion and reimagine collaborative arts practice.

MK Youth Council - MKYC are elected youth members of Milton Keynes, who use their voices to represent all young people across the city. Change is made through campaigns, workshops and working with services and organisations on topics that effect young people. MKYC members are part of decision making meetings, projects and workshops to ensure youth opinions are heard as part of the work to improve the lives of young people in the city.

MK City Archive Project - MK City Council is working towards the development of a *New City Archive* - where MK's internationally significant collections on the building of the largest new city ever created in the UK can be housed centrally and made accessible to all. Between 2019-2022 work with specialists *Cultural Consulting Network*, partners and stakeholders resulted in a plan to bring MK's largest, most significant collections together - housed in a new purpose-built archive storage with the potential for other local collections to be included. To help inform what this archive facility would do with its collections, MKCC and its partners have been testing ideas with a range of audiences. They aim to deliver a major archives activity programme over the next 3 years to conclude the activities, spaces and functions a New City Archive will deliver.

