

HAZ Light Installation Programme BRIEF 3 – Open Call

Background Information

PCC and Plymouth Culture are collaborating as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) programme to revitalise and activate the City Centre Conservation Area. The Civic Centre is an iconic and significant building within the Conservation Area and it is about to undergo an extensive renovation scheme under the ownership of Urban Splash.

The Civic Centre has great significance as a symbol of survival, rebirth, strength, innovation and determination, but its current closure is sending a negative message to citizens which needs to be addressed. It is therefore proposed that we collaborate with artists and technicians to install a series of light-based works/installations into, on and around the building and immediate area (guildhall, civic square, council house). The overall concept is to 'breathe life back into the building and the surrounding area' and for the Civic Centre and square to once again be a symbol of hope and regeneration. We want to use the works to highlight and celebrate the past whilst looking to the future.

To achieve this, we will commission a technically and artistically curated series of installations that complement the stages of the building/regeneration schemes. This will mean starting with small, guerrilla style interventions that build to more extensive, interactive and immersive experiences for the public between Autumn 2022 and Spring 2024.

Brief

Plymouth Culture would like to commission a light-based artwork that celebrates the opening of the Civic Square following extensive public realm work. We would like the work to activate the space so would consider public interaction with the work to be a critical component.

The design for the Square celebrates the architectural heritage and reinstates performance spaces, areas of quiet reflection and communal spaces which we would want the light works to complement. This may mean working in only a specific location within the Square or could expand across the Square depending on the nature of the works.

Given that the Square is intended as a public space and will encourage increased dwell time we would be keen to see how the light-work might support this sort of footfall/dwell time. We would be particularly interested to see proposals that connect light with other elements such as sound, moving image, objects, performance, for example.

Special Considerations

- Works for the Civic Square are due to be completed in July 2023 but any delays may impact on this commission.
- Plans for the redeveloped Civic Square can be found here - <insert link>

- The works must be installed by September 2023 but the duration will be negotiated depending on the nature of the piece and requirements of installations that follow.

Budget

A total budget of £7k is available for this work. This budget must include VAT and expenses, artist fee, production, installation and deinstallation costs. You will have access to technical support from JHAV, technical project managers for the programme, for the development and installation of the work through an agreed number of days.

Plymouth Culture will provide additional support for marketing and documentation which can be agreed at contracting stage.

Process

The submissions will be assessed by a panel of experts and project partners including:

Plymouth Culture

Plymouth City Council HAZ team

Plymouth City Council Civic Square team

JHAV

Public Art Steering group rep

Cultural expert (TBC)

How to Apply

Please submit your proposal to Sabrina Candido sabrina@plymouthculture.co.uk as a written proposal (no more than 2 pages A4) or a video/audio film (no more than 3 minutes long). Submissions must be received by 5pm on Friday 17th February.

Please include within your submission details of:

- Your proposed artwork
- How you will approach the brief
- Outline technical requirements and specifications for the work
- Suggested duration for the works
- The connection and response to the themes of heritage and future city plans
- Likely outputs, outcomes and impact of the work
- Examples of past work including links to websites/artist profile/portfolio
- Budget breakdown

We are committed to creating opportunities that are accessible and inclusive. As such there is an opportunity to submit your application in written, audio or video format. If you feel you may need some extra support with the application process or delivery of the work please contact Hannah Harris to discuss this

hannah@plymouthculture.co.uk

Timeline

Monday 30th January 2023 - Launch of open call

Friday 17th February 2023 - Closing date for open call submissions
w/c 27th February 2023 - Panel decision announced
March 2023 - Artwork development begins
September 2023 - Work installed
TBC - Work deinstalled

