

Local resident invitation to apply to join Oxford North's Public Art Steering Group

Introduction

Oxford North is a new innovation district being built on land in north Oxford.

As a new place for discovery it starts with people, their ideas and ambitions.

We're here to celebrate and enable them; providing a place for people who want to make their mark on the world and solve some of the world's biggest health challenges.

It's why we're connecting academia and commerce, invention and investment by providing a sustainable place to work, live, learn and socialise.

Public art at Oxford North

As part of the project, we have an ambitious public art programme which is built into the project's delivery.

We have appointed Contemporary Art Society Consultancy (CAS Consultancy) to deliver an exemplary public art programme.

They are working with development partners Thomas White Oxford, Cadillac Fairview, Stanhope and Hill Group, and leading cultural organisations within Oxford.

Through a Public Art Steering Group, they will work with local stakeholders, residents and life sciences professionals to maximise the resonance and potential reach of public artworks. The programme will emphasise Oxford North's character as a new place for discovery for ground-breaking work in science, health, wellbeing and innovation.

CAS Consultancy will research to identify opportunities for an outstanding public art offer, crafting carefully considered briefs to be shared with selected artists through different phases of the project.

The resulting commissions will be high-quality and varied and include permanent public art installations, temporary public art activities and events such as performances, exhibitions, films, publications and conferences.

They will identify opportunities to deliver exemplary public art that engages communities, architecture, landscape and urban design, which will shape the experience of Oxford North as a place of creativity and innovation that offers a high quality of life.

There are four principles which will guide the project: people first; championing sustainability, equity and diversity; defining a City of Oxford Cultural Gateway; and practical and deliverable implementation.

How you can be involved

An Oxford North Public Art Steering Group is being set-up which will include the development partner team, architect and landscape architect, and representatives which include an Oxford-based scientist, key stakeholder, young person, local resident, and cultural organisation.

The group's remit will cover:

- offer advice in the process of creating a long list of artists
- contribute to and review the artist brief/s
- advise the client team on artists shortlists
- support and advise on aspects of each delivery plan implementation
- support ongoing connectivity with established surrounding communities
- safeguard the quality and integrity of the commissioned artworks
- support an equality of opportunity approach to all commissioning.

What we are looking for

As part of our continuing community engagement, we are looking for a Wolvercote resident who has a passion or interest in how public art can create an exemplar place and connect communities to join our Public Art Steering Group to represent the local community. No previous experience is required but an appreciation of any art form would be welcomed.

FAQ

Q: How frequently will the steering group meet?

A: The meetings will be planned every quarter and start as soon as practicable. More frequent meetings may be required to support artist appointments.

Q: How long will the meetings last?

A: They will last between 1.5 and 2 hours and be a mixture of in-person and online – they will be really fun and CAS assures us that time will fly!

Q: When they will be held in the day?

A: Mostly they will be held in the daytime in most instances, but we may need to be flexible depending on people's needs.

Q: Where will the meetings be held?

A: The meetings will be a mixture of on-site and online. On-site will be at Oxford North's marketing suite which is based on Central in between the A40 and A44 between Wolvercote and Peartree roundabouts.

Q: Is there any remuneration for my time?

A: Membership is voluntary, however, we recognise that some participants may benefit from help with travel costs or the expense of leaving work early. We want to ensure that participants feel welcome; please let us know if you face financial barriers to this opportunity so we can find ways to include your voice.

Q: What is the process to consider my application?

A: CAS Consultancy is inviting people to apply via email or post and they will review the application and be in touch. Further details are below.



How do I apply?

Please send your name, address and contact details and short letter about why you would like to be considered to join the Steering Group. Closing date for applications is 23.00 hours on Sunday 18 June 2023.

CAS Consultancy will review the applications and be in touch.

By email: info@oxfordnorth.com

By post: Jordan Kaplan
Senior Art Producer
Oxford North Public Art Steering Group Committee application
Contemporary Art Society, Consultancy
59 Central Street, London
EC1V 3AF

Closing date: 23.00 hours on Sunday 18 June 2023.

Thank you.