

## **Our Favourite Places: Fundraising Consultant brief**

### **Details**

**Location:** remote or based within Our Favourite Places' Sheffield office

**Type:** freelance individual or company

**Fee:** £2,000

**Timeframe:** January–April 2022

**Contact:** Claire Thornley (Director) [claire@elevendesign.co.uk](mailto:claire@elevendesign.co.uk)

**Deadline:** 12 noon, 6 December 2021

**Interviews:** w/c 13 December 2021

### **Introduction**

Our Favourite Places (OFP) is a small independent organisation that, since 2014, has operated primarily as a platform for promoting arts and culture activity in Sheffield. OFP is now undertaking a research and development project to better understand its audiences and stakeholders, establish itself as a not-for-profit organisation, clarify its mission, and develop new partnerships. We intend to expand on our platform's reputation as a critical but friendly 'way in' to the city's cultural spaces, by creating opportunities for people (particularly young people and people from underrepresented backgrounds) to creatively engage with arts and culture.

In 2014 and 2017 OFP collaborated with Sheffield Culture Consortium on major successful bids through Arts Council England's Cultural Destinations, which supported the development of the OFP website. We have raised funding for events programmes from Arts Council England, Sheffield Town Trust, RIBA, and City of Makers, and also derive some income from OFP product sales. In recent years, the website has been supported by Welcome to Sheffield, Sheffield City Council, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield Theatres, and Sheffield Museums.

We are now inviting experienced fundraising consultants to apply to work with OFP on developing a fundraising strategy for the next two years, including funding to support the organisation's sustainability, OFP website, events and participation projects.

### **About Our Favourite Places**

Our Favourite Places is an independent platform and cultural production organisation focussed on sharing and creating ways in to arts and culture in Sheffield.

#### **Our values:**

##### **Authenticity**

We're positive about arts and culture in Sheffield, and we're honest. We encourage the people we work with to shape and use their own honest voices.

## **Creativity**

We champion arts and culture in Sheffield in imaginative ways. We love working with other creative people and organisations to make things happen.

## **Curiosity**

We don't know it all and we're not set in our ways. We're open-minded, and we value input and ideas from a broad range of perspectives, identities and experiences.

## **Opportunity**

We believe in a fairer Sheffield, where everyone is welcome and able to engage with arts and culture in a way that suits them. We strive to be accessible and open to all.

## **Our aims:**

- Provide a platform for Sheffield-based arts, culture and heritage organisations of all sizes
- Amplify the work of diverse artists and makers from local creative communities
- Represent independent, critical and enthusiastic local voices from all backgrounds
- Raise visibility of the city's combined cultural events and activities among audiences across South Yorkshire and beyond
- Create opportunities for people to engage with and respond to the city through memorable and inspiring cultural experiences and arts activities
- Collaborate with others to share skills, resources and the benefits of the arts
- Contribute to a more accessible and representative creative and cultural industry in Sheffield

## **Our projects:**

### **Sheffield Culture Guide**

An online platform promoting Sheffield's arts, culture and heritage venues and events. Featuring a culture calendar and map, theatre and exhibition reviews, festival guides, monthly culture picks, videos, and interviews with the creative community.

### **Photomathon Sheffield**

A photography adventure for all ages. Encouraging people to look at the city with curiosity and spontaneity. Ending with an exhibition and prizes. Previous editions each year from 2016 to 2019 and a virtual edition in 2020.

### **Sheffield Modern**

An architecture-inspired arts festival. Combining exhibitions, tours, family-friendly creative workshops, commissions, performances, publications, parties, and more. Previous editions in 2018 and 2019.

### **Our Favourite Places publications**

A series of city guidebooks, as well as printed tours and maps on themes of public poetry, street art, heritage, architecture, family-friendly attractions, and more.

### **Purpose of role**

We're seeking a freelance fundraising specialist (individual, organisation or team) to work with OFP on a short-term basis within our R&D project. The aim of this role is to contribute to a new fundraising strategy that will strengthen the organisation going forward, identifying ways for OFP to grow and become more sustainable.

OFP is currently a core team of two working on a part-time basis, alongside a number of freelance contributors. In this role, you'll work closely alongside the small team and in line with OFP's values and objectives, to help shape the future of the organisation.

### **Responsibilities will include:**

- Helping OFP to establish fundraising targets for the next two years in line with its objectives and aspirations
- Sharing best practices with regards to fundraising activities
- Reviewing OFP's initial research into fundraising activity
- Identifying funding bodies and corporates with potential to generate income and sponsorship for OFP, either as core costs or for individual projects
- Drawing on the outcomes of the R&D project to date, including the results of public and sector surveys, to help develop cases for support
- Providing independent advice and support in the development of OFP's new fundraising strategy and business plan
- Contributing to monitoring and evaluation of OFP's R&D project

### **Skills and experience**

The Fundraising Consultant will be expected to have:

- A track record of successful fundraising work and/or consultancy within the cultural sector
- Experience of mentoring or supporting cultural organisations to develop and implement effective fundraising or income generation strategies
- A working knowledge of relevant trusts, funding bodies and grant-making organisations
- Ability to work independently and complete the work within the project timeframe
- Excellent communication skills
- An interest in furthering OFP's values and mission in Sheffield and the wider city region

### **Budget and timeframe**

The total budget for this work is £2,000. The work will be expected to take place between January and April 2022.

## **Application**

To apply, please write a cover letter (no more than 1 A4 page) outlining the skills, experience and approach you will bring to this role, including your proposed day rate and number of proposed days within the budget stated above.

Send your cover letter along with your CV to Claire Thornley – Director:  
[claire@elevendesign.co.uk](mailto:claire@elevendesign.co.uk) by 12 noon, 6 December 2021.

Please also complete our Equal Opportunities Monitoring form online:  
<https://forms.gle/g7KkX4FRyZix7dUHA>

We welcome applications from all backgrounds, identities and experiences. We particularly encourage people from backgrounds currently underrepresented in the arts workforce to apply.

If you'd like to apply in an alternative format or need support with the application or interview, please get in touch.

This role is supported through public funding by Arts Council England.