



ST MARY'S  
SHAFTESBURY

2019/20

# Artist in Residence (Volunteer)



St Mary's Shaftesbury



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE**

**The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and a criminal record check with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).**

## **INTRODUCTION**

A unique opportunity has arisen and St. Mary's and we wish to appoint an Artist 'in Residence' volunteer for the 2019-2020 academic year as a fixed-term appointment. The School would like to appoint a 3-dimensional artist working in any medium who would be committed to both their own practice and the continual development of students at St Marys.

This is a volunteer position and therefore will not be salaried. However, single-person accommodation and board could be provided to the right candidate. The aim of the residency is to support an early to mid-career artist whilst they find a way to establish and support themselves in the industry.

## **ABOUT ST MARY'S**

St Mary's Shaftesbury is a Roman Catholic independent girls' school which sits in a stunning 55-acre site in beautiful country on the Wiltshire/Dorset border. We welcome pupils aged 9 to 18 and half of our girls are full boarders, with a good balance of local and international pupils. Based on recent A level results, St Mary's was recently placed in the top 35 girls boarding schools in the UK. We pride ourselves on our exceptionally high standards and strive for excellence throughout the school, a practice which was recently rewarded with the achievement of 'Outstanding in all Areas' in a school inspection.

St Mary's is non-selective which brings a fantastic balance of diversity to the school. Being a smaller school, we pride ourselves on our unique family atmosphere and strong nurturing ethos. St Mary's makes a commitment to each child on joining the school to ensure they reach their full potential. We focus on the individual progress of all our pupils ensuring they perform to the very best of their

ability. By valuing the academic progress of our pupils equally, a culture of enthusiasm for all learning is engendered.

We demand academic rigour, but we also help our girls to focus on individual growth, and self-discovery. Their spiritual development is supported through a strong moral code which they will take forward into their adult lives.

Originally a convent school under the direction of the Congregation of Jesus (formerly the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary), the school is now independent and is owned and managed by a Charitable Trust. Lay staff have replaced religious staff and the Trust has purchased the freehold of the property. The ethos of the school, upon which Governors place great importance, remains in the tradition of the CJ, founded by Mary Ward. The aim is to educate Catholic girls, and those of other faiths, in an environment which nurtures Christian values and prepares them for any walk of life.

St Mary's School was founded in 1945 and is situated near Shaftesbury on the Wiltshire/Dorset border in a small country estate. In recent years, developments have included a purpose-built music school, an indoor swimming pool, new staff housing and an extended Upper-Sixth House. Later additions include a new academic facility, housing the Humanities Faculty and Learning Support with a large Conference Room and a new purpose-built Art complex which opened in 2014. The Governors continue to support a clear vision of development for the future. St Mary's enjoys a reputation for all round excellence, pastoral care and traditional values. Almost all of the Sixth Form continue to higher education.

### **WORKING AT ST MARY'S**

At St Mary's our staff work in an environment which is dedicated in its holistic approach to the development of our pupils to achieve beyond all expectations. It is our responsibility to know every single one of our pupils, in the classroom, on the sports pitch and through broad co-curricular opportunities, and know how we can help them be the best that they can be. We are extremely proud to live by this ethos at St Mary's and believe that all our pupils should be *individually known and individually nurtured*.

### **Our Mission Statement is:**

St Mary's is a Roman Catholic Girls' School, Boarding and Day, founded on the principles of Mary Ward. Her vision and our mission is to educate each individual to the highest standards through fostering traditional values in the spirit of the Gospel. We are concerned with all that a girl is and could become.



## **The Studio**

The studio space is a large area adjacent to the art department that will be a shared space when required with a print room at one end and the studio at the other. There is also potential for an outdoor area where a canopy could be provided should the candidate wish to work outside for larger projects.

## **MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The artist in residence will be required to:

- Commit to 3 full days of timetabled lessons a week during term time which is from 8.30-5pm. However, the studio would be designated for their full use throughout the week, weekends and holidays. During non-timetabled time, the artist in residence will work on his/her own work in the studio space provided.
- Have timetabled contact with a range of year groups from lower III to Upper VI.
- Contribute to open days and other such activities.
- Attend the departmental meeting before the start of the term to discuss the organisation of the term/ year teacher plan/ school community projects and anything else.
- Attend a weekly meeting- with HOD
- Run a club each week, either lunch or after school activity and will also be required to run one activity each half term for boarding students if appropriate.
- Produce a piece of art work based on a theme selected by the department which will be kept permanently at the School and displayed at the end of the year as part of the Artist in Residence exhibition of other works they wish to showcase. Along with pieces that could be sold on site and placed within the magnificent grounds of the school showcasing their work to parents and the community.

## **End of year 'Artist in Residence Exhibition**

During the course of the academic year, based on a theme selected by the department, the Artist agrees to create a piece of work which will be gifted to the school at the end of the contractual period.

As part of the School's commitment to the Artist in Residence, the School proposes to set up an exhibition at the end of the Academic year to show-case all of the Artists work and for these to be available for sale. The Exhibition will include private viewings where parents and the local community will be invited to attend and it will be promoted in the local press. The Artist and School will mutually agree a percentage of the proceeds of the sales to be donated to the School for each item sold during the exhibition period. The Artist agrees for the items in the Exhibition to remain on site throughout the duration of the Exhibition and up to the end of the contractual period.



In addition to this, the Artist may be required to make available their creations for special occasions such as Open Days and Parents Day. Ideally the School would also like to incorporate the works into the Dorset arts week as a further opportunity to display the Artist in Residence creativity.

The successful candidate will be:

- Allocated an agreed fee for materials required to use within a brief
- Provided lunches (during term time)
- Provided with accommodation if required.

### **Application Process**

To apply please submit a letter of application and a written initial statement with their application regarding their art practice and creative intentions addressing the following:

- Why are you applying for this residency and how will it benefit your work?
- What are you particularly interested in exploring as part of the residency? (please describe any specific themes, new connections, research that you are keen to undertake)
- Previous experience and motivation in engaging with communities, e.g. through creative workshops, performances etc.
- How you would propose to share and present work that emerges from the residency, both your own and from a student's point of view.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

An application is available to download from: [www.stmshaftesbury.uk](http://www.stmshaftesbury.uk). Applications should be submitted either through our career website (address above) or sent to Micaila Vivier, HR Manager, St Mary's School, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 9LP. In your application, please make it clear if you have public liability insurance

**Closing Date:** 12 Noon Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019

**Early applications will be welcome – the interview process may be staged and some interviews held in advance of the closing date if there is a large number of applicants for the role as the school reserves the right to interview and appoint prior to the deadline.**