



## **Artist/Makers submissions sought for the design and creation of a Kinetic Sculpture**

**The Friends of St Ann's Well Gardens are seeking to install a contemporary Sculpture in our Sensory Garden.**

There is a maximum budget of **£5000** for the selected artist/maker to design, create and install their work.

### **Background**

St Ann's Well Gardens is a public park in Hove, East Sussex. It has an extraordinary history, including its genesis as a health facility in the mid-eighteenth century and as the site of early experiments in cinema. The Friends of the Gardens have undertaken some successful fundraising to develop the Sensory Garden - an enclosed area which had fallen into disrepair.

In partnership with CityParks Brighton and Hove, we have installed a new path (graded for wheelchairs and buggies) and built a new pagoda and meeting areas. The garden plays host to a number of organised and ad hoc groups - from Tai Chi and Yoga through to professional theatre performances. It is our ambition to extend this programme to include activities for the visually impaired and disabled, those living with dementia and parents and children with additional needs. Our active Gardening Team is presently preparing the ground and raised beds for some truly sensory planting.

Before the pandemic the Friends raised some money from Rampion ( the providers of Brighton and Hove's offshore wind farm ) which is specifically earmarked for a 'Kinetic Sculpture'. For obvious reasons it was anticipated that the kinetic element would be wind driven but we could be open to other forms of natural and off-grid power.

This is the first artist-led installation in our park and we have great ambitions for a landmark construction which will encourage visitors and have particular appeal to the Sensory Garden's target audience.

### **Time Scale**

Closing date for submissions of sketches/ideas **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

We will be in touch with all applicants after the shortlisting process is complete.

We would anticipate that the project will be completed in Autumn 2022.

## **The Brief**

The sculpture should be wind, solar or water powered - it must move without external power sources. Any accompanying or incidental sound should be gentle and soothing.

The sculpture should be made of sustainable materials which will weather gracefully; it should require no or limited maintenance. We will be inviting the selected Artist/Maker to guarantee to maintain the sculpture for 3 years after its erection.

The sculpture should reflect the ambition of the Friends to create a Sensory Garden which supports the promotion of good mental health and wellbeing and provides peace and solace to the more vulnerable members of our community. Unfortunately as the garden is in a popular public park the sculpture should be resistant to petty vandalism. We also suffer, particularly during summer, from anti-social behaviour including drinking and drug misuse. One solution is that the sculpture could be positioned at height. (For example above the entrance archway or on the Shelter Roof.)

The sculpture should adhere to Brighton and Hove Council and CityParks' safety standards for public works and the provision of comprehensive risk assessments will be expected from the selected artist/maker before work begins.

## **What we would like from you**

A preliminary sketch of your ideas and an outline of costings plus a link to previous work. Short listed artists/makers will be given £100 to work up their ideas in detail for review by the Friends' Committee.

We are particularly interested in socially engaged artists/makers who can think of creative ways of involving the park users and neighbouring schools and community organisations in their process. (please note that this activity must be included in the overall budget). We are particularly - but not exclusively - interested in seeing work by artists/makers from minority or marginalised communities.

Submissions, which should be no longer than two sheets of A4 with '**Kinetic Sculpture**' in the subject line should be sent by email to [pippa@fosawg.org](mailto:pippa@fosawg.org)

[www.friendsofstannswellgardens.org](http://www.friendsofstannswellgardens.org)

