**ILLUSTRATOR-IN-RESIDENCE COMMISSION (STORY BOOK DUMFRIES)**

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| **Organisation** | Wigtown Festival Company  |
| **Contact** | Adrian Turpin: adrian@wigtownbookfestival.com |
| **Date of Issue** | 18 January 2022 |
| **Illustrator-in-Residence****Commission** | Wigtown Festival Company is seeking to appoint an illustrator-in-residence as part of its Story Book Dumfries initiative. This commission will involve work with schools and other community stakeholders, in association with Scotland’s National Centre for Children’s Literature and Storytelling at Moat Brae House.* The residency will start no later than **1 March 2022** and will take place over a period of 28 days. Applicants will be expected to base themselves largely in Dumfries.
* The successful applicant will be expected to work with three local schools (three sessions minimum) and to offer two public sessions to create work on a theme of their choice and to select and curate work for a post-residency exhibition at Scotland’s National Centre for Children’s Literature and Storytelling at Moat Brae House.
* The resident illustrator will also be asked to provide an end of residency narrative report, detailing their approach, the challenges faced and opportunities created.
* Innovative approaches are welcome. Applicants are encouraged to consider how their proposal aligns with the aims of the Story Book Dumfries project, for example, engagement with local SMEs (small businesses). Another alignment they may wish to consider is the residency’s relationship to the national theme year, Scotland’s Year of Stories 2022.
* Support and office facilities will be provided by Moat Brae.
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| **Introduction to Story Book Dumfries** | Story Book Dumfries is an exciting new initiative that aims to establish Dumfries as Scotland’s home of children’s stories – a destination for families and a national cultural resource. Our long-term mission is to bring tangible cultural, social and economic benefits to Dumfries through engagement with children’s literature and the status accorded to the town as the home of Scotland’s National Centre for Children’s Literature and Storytelling at Moat Brae House.In doing this we will:i) work with partners including cultural organisations and SMEs to shape a year-round programme of events, activities and attractions that will be marketed under an umbrella moniker, ‘Story Book Dumfries’; ii) encourage the development of skills, knowledge and resources relating to children’s literature within Dumfries – these are the roots of the project;iii) amplify the impact of and raise the profile of Scotland’s National Centre for Children’s Literature and Storytelling.Story Book Dumfries offers a platform for a wide range of partners who believe in the power of children’s literature to inspire and bring tangible benefits to the community and beyond. Story Book Dumfries will be coordinated by Wigtown Festival Company, in partnership with Moat Brae and other associate partners, as part of Spot-lit, a multinational literary tourism project funded by the EU’s Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme. The launch of the initiative will coincide with Scotland’s Year of Stories 2022. |
| **Objectives for Story Book Dumfries** | **Our overall project objectives are:*** To support the National Centre for Children’s Literature and Storytelling and the visitor attraction at Moat Brae House in fulfilling its huge potential.
* To connect Dumfries’s (and Dumfries & Galloway’s) rich but disparate existing literary assets and family-friendly activities, so that a promotable whole becomes greater than the sum of its parts.
* To engage and enthuse local people and businesses about the power of literature (especially children’s literature) to change lives and bring tangible benefits to the area.
* To create a sustainable network of supporters and cheerleaders for literary tourism in Dumfries, who can take ownership of aspects of the project after Spot-lit funding ends.
* To root Dumfries’s identity as an authentic home for children’s literature by ensuring that (i) local people experience tangible benefits (educational, social, economic) and (ii) genuine expertise relating to children’s literature is encouraged and developed in Dumfries.
* To place Story Book Dumfries within a wider project to position the south of Scotland as a distinct literary tourism destination.
* To take full advantage of the unique opportunities offered by Scotland’s Year of Stories 2022.
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| **About the Applicant** | **The successful applicant will be:*** an illustrator with a track record (e.g. an emerging or established children’s illustrator) or proven interest in children’s literature (e.g. an early-stage career, illustration graduate);
* keen to develop an interest in working with children and young people;
* available to locate themselves primarily in Dumfries during the period of the residency;
* have PVG certification.

The applicant will liaise closely with Wigtown Festival Company to develop the creative concept and direction of their project. The work should be mindful of issues of equality, diversity and inclusion, including geographic, physical and socioeconomic barriers to access, and should be carried out in accordance with whatever Covid-19 guidelines are in place at the time.  |
| **Budget** | The budget is a maximum of **£3,750** (not including VAT). An additional £500 is available to cover reasonable travel and accommodation expenses, which are subject to prior agreement. |
| **Tender Submissions** | Tenders are invited and should be submitted electronically by **5pm** **Friday 28 January 2022** **to mail@wigtownbookfestival.com.**Applicants are invited to send copies of their CV, a brief statement of practice, examples of their work and a short proposal of how they would structure the residency. |
| **Award criteria and tender evaluation** | This contract will be awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous tenders in terms of the following criteria: * Qualifications and experience of personnel proposed;
* Understanding of needs and methodology proposed;
* Cost and value for money for the work proposed to the contracting authority.

The contract will be awarded after evaluation of tenders received based on the above criteria. Shortlisted applicants may also be invited to attend an interview. |