

NEW ARTS COLLECTIVE - Bath & local areas



The Basics:

We are looking for artists and crafters to join a collective within the areas local to Bath. The kind of people we are looking for are people who are passionate about making!! We embrace art in all forms but specifically are looking for people who use manual skills to create their work. By this we mean people who use their hands and their minds to make art; whether your work is made with a paintbrush, a sewing needle, a scalpel, a video camera, a graphics pen, found items or recycled materials; we'd love to hear from you.

You do not have to have any formal arts training, prior membership in a collective or any kind of experience. Just passion and enthusiasm and a love of creating!

If the above describes you and live in any of the areas listed below please read on!

We are looking for people from the in and around following areas:

- Bath
- Keynsham
- Warmley
- Whitchurch
- Central & South Bristol
- Peasdown & Radstock area
- Chippenham
- Corsham & Box
- Melksham
- Trowbridge

What is an Art Collective for?

The purpose of an art collective is to bring together people who like to make things and to work towards common aims such as putting on arts/crafts exhibitions, attending events, collaborating on market stall selling, community art making etc...

Some of the above things can be expensive, daunting, inaccessible and unviable options for individual artists to do alone; in a collective it is far easier to pool together talent, knowledge, experience but also to raise funds and resources. Also, the chances of growing individual artistic profiles in a community is far higher through broader public exposure.

The Benefits of joining an Art Collective:

- Inspiration and support from fellow artists/craft makers
- Opportunity to show & sell your work to the public
- Experience and fun
- Opportunities to attend art events
- Exposure for your arts/crafts on the group website & Social Media

What the Art Collective would not be for:

- Individual Art Coaching - Those who join would be expected to already be making art/crafts and not is not intended for those who are looking for people to teach them new skills. As a collective there would be plenty of opportunity to learn from the knowledge and experience of each other but equally contribute to the 'creativity pool'
- Profit for the collective as an organisation - This collective is a not for profit group. That doesn't mean artists & crafters wouldn't have the opportunity to sell their work! On the contrary, there will be opportunity for individual profit. The collective however would not ask any membership fees from you or any money other than relative contributions towards the costs of events of which you are part of.
- Free marketing opportunities - All artists will be eligible to be featured on our website and any marketing we do as a group. However, this is a perk that comes with being an active member of the Collective and not for people who join just to be featured.

We would expect all members to join in with activities, events and meetings on a semi-regular basis. However, this would of course be very flexible around other life/work/family commitments!

What can I expect from the Arts Collective in 2016?

To begin, this summer we will be looking for people expressing interest and taking applications. Once we have got a good amount of people together we can begin by having a meet up and deciding on a name!

We will look at the first call of business which would be to plan and run a pop-up exhibition in early 2017 and putting together a website for our collective with individual profiles of our members and a place to feature and sell work.

Who is currently in the Arts Collective?

There are currently 3 members of the collective but we are looking to grow and expand on this. The current members between them have plenty of skills, knowledge and experience in the Creative Industries and assure prospective members you'd be in good hands! The idea is that eventually the collective will be democratically run by all its members together! At present the the main point of contact is Laura at L.A.Coats Art - Fine Arts & Design.

Laura works as an office monkey but also owns her small freelance art & design business in Chippenham, Wiltshire. She has a BA Hons Fine Arts Degree and is experienced in funding applications, project management, budgeting, arts proposals, risk assessment and administration. Also, she has public liability insurance up to the tune of £5,000,000 so any exhibitions or events would be covered for any unlikely mishaps!

To register your interest please visit www.lacoatsart.com/joincollective or email lacoatsart@gmail.com for more information.