**REVOLUTIONARY MAKER Project Coordinator**

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

Lead on the coordination of the artist commission REVOLUTIONARY MAKERS for the Learning & participation team. Main responsibilities include;

* Liaising with the commissioned artist
* Coordination of the community workshops, booking spaces, inviting groups, getting materials organised etc
* Report top WOW team on the installation requirements
* Evaluate workshops / projects

BACKGROUND TO COMMISSION

Hull 2017 is leading a variety of projects that engage communities in art and culture and the artistic programme. For WOW Hull we want to commission an artist to lead on an ambitious collaborative craft project that will invite communities to celebrate the history of craft, design and industry in Hull. We would like the artists to be inspired by the rich history of Hull, in particular, the strong women that have led to change, to innovation and to the retelling of stories here in the city. The commissioned piece should challenge our understanding of the city, its communities and its history, and also celebrate craft, pushing the very notion of what craft is.

An important part to this commission is engaging with people. We believe that craft, and the act of making can bring people together through a collaborative act, can bring about health benefits through participation in the arts, and can revive skills and traditions that may have been forgotten and not shared. The artist will develop a way in which groups (traditional craft users and non-traditional) can take part in the commission in their own communities, and invite others to get involved.

Building on the huge success that small communities have had with yarn bombing, we would like to use the skills of knitting and weaving to engage and coral communities across Hull in this large scale commission / installation. The commission, and participation pieces are to be installed in City Hall, ahead of WOW Hull transforming it from a grand Victorian building into a place for creativity, discussion and thinking.

TOPICS TO BE EXPLORED

* Women of Hull (Particularly those with strong craft ties, Shirley Craven)
* Making and Industry in Hull
* Gender Equality

ALINAH AZADEH PROPOSAL

A large, suspended or pinned installation of 500 + small, wearable textile works (badges, sashes, pins, brooches, jewellery, headgear) each one bearing a message / slogan / symbol. Each textile work is to be co-produced with communities across Hull, following a period of creative engagement within those communities. The work would then be installed as part of WOW as an interactive backdrop to the debates, and distributed via a mass gifting session to those attending.

ALINAH AZADEH - BACKGROUND

My work spans live, interactive work, textile, installation, the digital and writing. It acts as a safe and intimate space for the exchange of human story and personal reflection on our social and cultural identities, with a particular interest in social processes of change and conflict transformation.

Two of my main participation strategies are gift and exchange, combining textile-based making with collective ritual and live debate to engage the public on both a material and intellectual level. This began with The Loom (2005), a live installation involving mass participation in the computer-mediated weaving of a 20 metre textile, inspired by my research into women’s key role in the development of weaving, coding and as keepers of our communities stories. I have woven together female histories throughout my practice, from 1+1=3 (a short film on British-Iranian female identity) to Mother Tongue (textile artwork on my own transcultural identity, and currently on show at Glasgow Women's Library as part of Tall Tales Touring.

I would love to continue this thread and also in particular to build on more recent research I made into the Suffrage movement's creative and literary resistance strategies for my textile sculpture/ Banner work celebrating the 'N.U.W.S.S', for Parliament in the Making 2015 in Westminster Hall (interview clip here). This commission would develop the learning from that project, using textile, narrative and live debate firmly rooted in the creative traditions of suffrage and connected to specific craft and design histories of Hull, focusing on women as inspirational and creative agents of social change.

NUMBER OF DAYS (10, tbc) x Day RATE