

Easy Read Training Information Pack

Creative Practitioners - Creative Approaches to Work: Making Neurodiversity Your Business

About Venture Arts

Venture Arts is an arts organisation working with learning disabled and neurodivergent artists.

We support people to develop their creativity, skills and confidence.

We believe creativity can help people make positive changes in their lives.

Meet the team

These are some of the people you will meet and work with during the programme. We're here to support you throughout the opportunity.



Amanda Sutton
Director of Venture Arts



Lucy Niemczyk
Programme Producer

About the opportunity

We are looking for **8 neurodivergent creative practitioners** to join the **Creative Approaches to Work** programme.

You must be:

- Aged 18 or over
- Living in Greater Manchester

The programme will help you develop your:

- Creative skills
- Confidence
- Facilitation skills
- Experience of working with groups

You will learn how creative activities can support other neurodivergent people to build confidence and move towards work.

This part of the programme will run from **Oct 2026 to December 2026** and aims to give you the tools to use your creative experience to build opportunities for other ND young adults.

Participant Support Payment

A payment of **£1,200** will be made available to each creative practitioner taking part in the programme.

Information about the funding arrangement and payment process will be provided later in the process.

What will I do?

You will take part in **8 training sessions**.

The sessions will take place over **4 weeks between October and December 2026**.

This is **not a full-time course**.

The sessions will take place at set times across **2 days each week**.

We will do our best to make the dates and times accessible for everyone.

You will:

- Develop your creative skills and ideas.
- Learn about barriers faced by neurodivergent young people.
- Explore how creative activities can build confidence and skills.
- Develop your skills in working with groups.
- Work with creative professionals and arts organisations.
- Visit creative venues across Greater Manchester.
- Help us develop creative activities for future programmes.

You will have support throughout the programme.

After the programme

After completing the 8 training sessions, you **may** have the opportunity to help deliver a **6-week creative programme**.

This will be for around **10 neurodivergent young adults aged 18–30**.

The programme will use creative activities to help neurodivergent people develop skills and confidence to move towards employment.

This second part of the programme will run from **January to May 2027**.

This opportunity is **not guaranteed** for everyone who completes the 8 training sessions.

Who are we looking for?

You should have some experience of working with groups through creative activities.

For example, you might have:

- Led or helped lead a creative project
- Helped run a workshop
- Worked with groups through creative activities
- Supported a community project

Your experience can come from:

- Paid work
- Volunteering
- Education
- Community projects
- Your own life experience

You do **not** need to be a professional artist or experienced facilitator.

You do **not** need:

- A university or college qualification
- An agent
- Lots of professional experience
- A large portfolio
- Lots of paid work

What is a creative practitioner?

A **creative practitioner** uses their creative skills to work with other people.

You might work with:

- Drawing, painting or visual art
- Photography or film
- Music or singing
- Theatre or performance
- Dance or movement
- Writing, poetry or storytelling
- Digital art or animation
- Craft, textiles or fashion

We are looking for creative practitioners who share our belief that art can support social change.

What support will I get?

You **do not need** to be an expert.

We will support you with things like:

- Planning activities
- Developing creative ideas
- Working with groups
- Communicating with participants
- Building your confidence
- Reflecting on your work

Is this opportunity right for me?

This opportunity could be right for you if:

- ☐ You are neurodivergent and live in Greater Manchester.
- ☐ You have a creative practice or artistic identity.
- ☐ You have some experience of facilitating or working with groups.
- ☐ You want to develop your creative and facilitation skills.
- ☐ You are interested in working with other neurodivergent people.

You will need to be able to take on the main responsibilities of facilitating a session for a group of people who may have support needs of their own.

If you need **continuous one-to-one support throughout a session**, this opportunity may not be the right fit for you at this time.

This does not mean you cannot become a facilitator in the future.

If you are unsure whether this opportunity is right for you, please contact **Lucy Niemczyk (Programme Producer)** lucy@venturearts.org.

How to get involved

Choose the format that works best for you:

- **Video:** up to 5 minutes
- **Audio:** up to 5 minutes

- **Written:** up to 1 side of A4

Please answer these questions:

1. About you

Who are you, where are you based, and what would you like us to know?

2. Your creativity

What kind of creative work or art do you do?

3. Working with groups

Have you led or supported a group, workshop or activity? Tell us what you did.

4. Why this programme?

Why would you like to take part? What would you like to learn or develop?

Send your information

Email your submission to: lucy@venturearts.org

Deadline: 10am, Thursday 1 October 2026 - Late submissions will not be considered.

Email subject line: Creative Practitioner – Creative Approaches to Work

Please include:

- Your full name

- Your phone number
- Your submission as an attachment

If you are sending a video or audio submission, just attach the file to the email.
You do not need to include your contact details in the recording.

Before sending, check:

- ☐ I have answered all the questions
- ☐ My submission is within the time/length limit
- ☐ I have included my contact details in my email
- ☐ I have attached my submission to my email
- ☐ I have emailed it to **Lucy@venturearts.org**

What happens next?

1 October 2026 by 10am

Submission deadline.

4 October 2026

We aim to let everyone know the outcome of their submission.

Week beginning 7 October 2026

Shortlisted candidates will have an informal chat with the team, online or in person.

12 October 2026

We aim to make offers.

November 2026

The programme aims to start.

Questions?

If you have questions or are unsure whether you meet the criteria, contact:

Lucy Niemczyk

Programme Producer

lucy@venturearts.org

We are happy to talk to you about the opportunity.