

Artist in Residence: Free studio for two years for a Lambeth based creative

Artist Studio Company (ASC) and Lambeth Council are seeking to appoint an Artist in Residence to move into a free ASC workspace in Streatham Hill.

ASC is the leading charitable provider of affordable workspaces for artists and creatives in the capital, supporting thousands of innovators since it was established in 1993.

Earlier this year Lambeth Council agreed to help fund ASC's purchase of its site in Streatham Hill through the Future Workspace Fund and provided a grant of £200,000 through the First Round of funding.

ASC and Lambeth Council are now welcoming applications from the boroughs residents to become an Artist in Residence at ASC Streatham Hill and have a studio free of charge for two years.

Cllr Matthew Bennett, cabinet member for Planning, Investment and New Homes, said:

"I am delighted we have been able to work closely with ASC to deliver our promise to support the artistic and creative sectors".

"We are now looking for applications by Lambeth residents to become an Artist in Residence at ASC Streatham Hill for two years to create artwork which will be exhibited at the Town Hall and ASC. This is an excellent opportunity for local artists and innovators to focus on their work without the uncertainty that often comes from securing studio space, while cementing Lambeth's place as a centre for creativity."

The Future Workspace Fund was set up last year to enable at least 144,000sqft new affordable workspaces over the next five years which will benefit around 640 businesses and support a further 1,900 sustainable jobs in Lambeth's priority sectors by 2025.

The £200,000 funding from Lambeth Council's Future Workspace Fund helped ASC safeguard its site at Streatham Hill studio space and the affordable rents they provide here. It means almost 60 artists will be offered workspace for between 30-50 percent below market rents in perpetuity.

Peter Flack, ASC's Chief Executive said:

"ASC's Artists in Residence Scheme is one of a number of new initiatives we are launching in Lambeth which have only been made possible with the purchase of 47c Streatham Hill.

"Artists and creatives are struggling to afford to live and work in London. This struggle is now even more acutely felt after the pandemic, which decimated the arts. Our city's creative output and culture is envied around the world, but we have now reached a tipping point.

ASC has provided affordable workspace to artists and creatives in the capital for over 27 years. In the past we could do this by leasing low rent, end of life buildings, however with rising property prices these types of buildings are now rare.

Acquiring permanent buildings is the only way ASC can continue to support artists and creatives in the Capital. The purchase of 47c Streatham Hill has secured the workspaces of

57 local artists and protected an amazing creative community in perpetuity. This purchase was only possible with grant funding from Lambeth Council's Future Workspace Fund.

Lambeth's affordable workspace initiatives are exactly what is needed both in Lambeth and across London.

Cllr Bennett added:

"Lambeth Council has a track record in supporting artists and those in creative fields who contribute so much to the richness of our borough. Our long-term strategy is to support these industries by enabling affordable, supportive workspaces for the next generation of creators, artists and innovators."

Lambeth Council will be launching a second round of the Future Workspace Fund in early 2022.

For more information about the Future Workspace Fund visit

<https://lambethnow.co.uk/futureworkspace/>

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