



Call for Expressions of Interest - Poets

1. Introduction

Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is one of the UK's top academic clinical centre with 1,100 beds and 7,000 staff and half a million outpatients appointments a year. As well as being the local hospital for the community, providing emergency, medical and surgical care through its hospitals (Addenbrooke's and the Rosie), the Trust is a leading national centre for specialist treatment in organ transplantation, cancer, neurosciences, paediatrics and genetics.

The Trust is home to one of the country's leading hospital arts programmes – [Addenbrooke's Arts](#). Established nearly 20 years ago, Addenbrooke's Arts enhances the hospital environment and aims to improve the experience of patients, visitors and staff through an innovative, stimulating and engaging arts programme. The programme is not funded by the NHS. All activity is paid for by Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust (ACT) and other fundraising and earned income.

2. Expressions of interest

Addenbrooke's Arts is looking to recruit a pool of poets to work on future projects creating poems for, with, and by staff, patients and visitors to the hospital. We are looking for poets to work with us to shape and develop new projects and to collaborate on their delivery and dissemination. In the past Addenbrooke's Arts has hosted poets in residence, published and distributed new poetry to patients in their beds, hosted readings and run staff poetry workshops and competitions.

In particular, we are seeking to identify poets who can collaborate with our partner arts and well-being charity [Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination](#) and their ongoing project for the hospital – Taking Note.. Together we are planning a number of activities from the autumn of 2017 to introduce poetry to the hospital in different ways that uses this project as a springboard. Together we plan to share outcomes from this work widely through our networks including documenting the work online, exhibitions at the hospital and in Cambridge, public readings and events and a possible publication.

It is important that poets have with a direct connection to the hospital – as residents of Cambridgeshire or with a personal connection to Cambridge University Hospitals. We are open to different ways of working with poets and would like to recruit a diverse pool of poets with different experiences to reflect the diversity of the hospital population of visitors, patients and staff.

Poets will need to have experience of either:

- Leading workshops and activities with people unfamiliar with writing and engaging with poetry
- Publication of their work in anthologies or collections
- Working with literature and text in health and care settings

3. **Role of the Poet**

Prospective poets should be open to, and keen on, collaboration and discussion and should understand and be interested in the different requirements and demands of working with patients in a hospital setting. There is a major social component to this commission; the artist(s) should feel that they can apply themselves to thinking about the concerns of patients attending the hospital and should bear in mind the diverse communities that CUH serves. A sensitive and considered approach to engaging with patients and staff will be crucial.

4. **Budget**

Addenbrooke's Arts has a payment structure for artists. This is based on £250/day for a full day of workshops or activities and £150 for a half day. This is inclusive of all costs and expenses (including travel, parking and materials). Occasionally for longer contracts of employment or where the commission is not related to days in the hospital a total fee is agreed with the individual practitioner for the work to be undertaken. We are envisaging a range of different levels of engagement with different poets on these forthcoming projects and consequently a range of time commitments and consequently fees.

5. **Selection process**

Poets are being asked initially to submit an expression of interest in the project. Shortlisted poets will then be invited to attend a meeting to talk about their work.

6. **Timescale**

- Expressions of interest by June 1st 2017
- Shortlisting week of June 5th 2017
- Potential meetings June 13th or 14th 2017
- Project activity September – November 2017

7. **Submission**

Poets interested in being considered for this project should submit the following information by email to **Damian Hebron (arts@addenbrookes.nhs.uk) by 5pm June 1st 2017**

- Curriculum Vitae
- An expression of interest – maximum 500 words on why this work would be of interest to you.