

Committee(s)	Dated:
Culture, Heritage and Libraries – For Decision	02/07/2018
Subject: City Arts Initiative: recommendations to the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee	Public
Report of: Peter Lisley – Assistant Town Clerk and Culture Mile Director	For Decision
Report author: Nick Bodger, Head of Cultural and Visitor Development	

Summary

This report presents the recommendations of the City Arts Initiative (CAI) which met on 31 May 2018. At this meeting, the CAI considered the following proposals:

1. **Fantastic Beasts / Shine a Light:** an art installation that will use large-scale replica wands from the Harry Potter universe to raise awareness and funds for the charity Lumos.
2. **Untitled / The Deep Sleep:** a theatrical intervention between the sleeping artist and audience.
3. **Tusk Rhino Trail:** a sculpture trail of Black Rhino to highlight the ongoing threat from poaching to endangered species in Africa.

This meeting also considered revised Terms of Reference for the City Arts Initiative (see appendix 1). As part of this, it was proposed that representation of Members on the group be increased to include the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee plus one or two serving Members nominated by the Committee, as well as the Chairman of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board.

A late application was received following the meeting. This was circulated to CAI members for comment and is considered in this report with the applications described above:

4. **Hidden in Plain Sight:** an installation large 'doll boxes' to raise awareness of human trafficking and advise people of how they can help to stop this crime.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Ratify the City Arts Initiative's recommendations in relation to the above proposals as follows:

- **Fantastic Beasts / Shine a Light:** approve the proposed installation to be located between Millennium Bridge and Queen Victoria Street.
- **Untitled / The Deep Sleep:** decline the theatrical intervention, noting that the work was not considered strong enough as a standalone piece and that there is no connection between it and other events and programmes in the City to which it may have been a suitable complement.
- **Tusk Rhino Trail:** approve the proposed installation, encouraging use of suitable locations along the St Paul's to Museum of London axis to support the desire for increased activation along this route.
- **Hidden in Plain Sight:** approve the proposed installation subject to suitable locations being agreed with your Highways Team and noting the concerns of the Director of Communications who fears this will be seen by some as the trivialisation of a serious subject and could lead to criticism on social media. The Director of Communications also raised concerns about the safety of the actors while the boxes are on display and questioned how disruptive viewers would be handled safely and effectively.
- Note the revised Terms of Reference for the City Arts Initiative and approve the increase in Member representation on the group to include:
 - The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee plus **one** serving Member nominated by the Committee, as well as the Chairman of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board; or
 - The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee plus **two** serving Members nominated by the Committee, as well as the Chairman of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board.
- Elect either one or two Members to serve on the group (aligned with the above decision) for the committee year 2018/19

Main Report

Background

1. The City Arts Initiative was established to improve the management of public art in the City. It provides advice to your Committee and other service Committees as appropriate on proposals for new public art, the maintenance of the City's existing public art and, if necessary, decommissioning.
2. Your Committee appointed your Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Mrs Barbara Newman to sit on the City Arts Initiative in the 2015/16 Committee year; this arrangement still stands.

3. At your Committee in May this year, Members confirmed that those occupying the roles of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee and the Chairman of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board have permanent seats on the City Arts Initiative; and that the remaining Member position (for a Member nominated by and serving on the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee) should be elected by your Committee at your July meeting.
4. Apart from officer time handling enquiries and looking after the installations, there are no resource implications other than where specifically noted.

Current Position

5. The CAI met on 31 May 2018 to consider the proposals outlined below excepting *Hidden in Plain Sight* which was considered following the meeting.
6. Full details of all the applications to the CAI are available on request from the Assistant Town Clerk and Culture Mile Director.
7. At the meeting, the CAI reviewed its terms of reference (these are given for information in appendix 1). As part of that discussion, the option for your Committee to nominate up to two additional serving Members per committee year was proposed. This proposal forms part of this report.

Proposals

Fantastic Beasts: Shine a Light

8. The CAI received a proposal for the placement of nine 15ft, fibreglass wands between Millennium Bridge and Queen Victoria Street from 18 October to 13 November 2018; the site is agreed with the Highways and Events team.
9. The installation aims to raise awareness of the charity Lumos which seeks to help some of the world's most disadvantaged children and put an end to the institutionalisation of children across the globe. Following the display, the wands will be auctioned off in aid of Lumos.
10. The wands are an iconic representation of the Harry Potter world and are large-scale replicas of nine wands that form the Wizarding World icon. They will emit a warm, pulsing light at their tip.
11. The global appeal of the Harry Potter Universe offers the City a unique opportunity to capitalise on visitors to the wands to raise awareness of the City as a destination; the installation will also provide added value for visitors to the Lord Mayors Show.
12. Power will be drawn from either the City of London Boys School subject to their approval, or by individual battery packs which will be maintained by the installation team. Discussions on how the School may be more involved with

the installation are on-going, noting that Daniel Radcliffe (Harry Potter) is an alumnus.

13. The CAI recommends that this proposal be approved.

Untitled: The Deep Sleep

14. This is a theatrical intervention between the sleeping artist and audience involving the artist sleeping on a mattress on top of a trailer with footage filmed and projected onto screens surrounding it. Mattresses will be placed on the ground around the trailer for audience interaction.
15. The CAI felt that this work was not strong enough as a standalone piece in Carter Lane Gardens (the proposed site) and noted that there is no connection between it and other events and programmes in the City to which it may have been a suitable complement.
16. The CAI therefore recommends that this proposal be declined.

Tusk Rhino Trail

17. The CAI received a proposal for the City of London to host up to four fibreglass black rhino sculptures as part of a London-wide trail to raise awareness of Tusk Trusts' anti-poaching conservation, education and sustainable development activities.
18. The Rhinos will be decorated/painted by well-known artists with each one being auctioned off at the end of the trail period and all proceeds going to Tusk Trust. They are 1200mm x 750mm x 450mm sitting on a 350mm high plinth.
19. The dates proposed for the trail are 19 August to 23 September 2018; in preference to the sites proposed by the applicant, the CAI recommended that the sculptures be placed along the north/south axis from St Paul's to Museum of London supporting Built Environment objectives to animate the route and drive footfall. Should this not be possible, it is recommended appropriate sites be agreed with your Highways team.
20. The CAI recommended that this proposal be approved.

Hidden in Plain Sight

21. The CAI received a late proposal from the charity One Family to display five, large 'doll boxes' to raise awareness of human trafficking and advise people of how they can help to stop this crime.
22. There will be actors standing inside each box (aged 18+), each representing a different type of industry that people are most commonly trafficked into

including the hospitality sector, car washes, nail bars, domestic work and situations of sexual exploitation.

23. The installation will be for one day only on 30 July 2018, designated by the United Nations as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons.
24. This installation supports the work of other directorates, notably City of London Police and the Department of Community and Children's Services.
25. The project is non-financially sponsored by the UK's Independent Anti-Slavery commission and the UK's National Crime Agency.
26. Your Director of Communications has noted that he fears this will be seen by some as the trivialisation of a serious subject and could lead to criticism on social media. The Director of Communications also raised concerns about the safety of the actors while the boxes are on display and questioned how disruptive viewers would be handled safely and effectively.
27. The CAI recommends that this proposal be approved subject to the agreement of locations with your Highways Team and the concerns raised by the Director of Communications being satisfactorily addressed and approved by the Media Office and your Highways Team (for crowd control and care of actors).

Membership of CAI

28. The CAI reviewed its Terms of Reference at the meeting and it was proposed by those elected Members serving on the group that CAI membership be extended to include an additional Member of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.
29. This proposal would see the Member contingent of the group increasing to five with existing representation as follows: the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, the Chairman of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board and two Members nominated by and serving on the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, to be elected annually.
30. The CAI recommends this proposal for approval.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

31. The City Arts Initiative was formed to support the City's management of public art which supports the delivery of the City's Cultural and Visitor Strategies.

Conclusion

32. This report summarises the discussions of the City Arts Initiative and presents recommendations in relation to the public art applications considered on 31 May 2018.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: CAI Proposal Images 31 May 2018
- Appendix 2: Terms of Reference for the City Arts Initiative, 31 May 2018

Background Papers

Full details of the applications received by the City Arts Initiative are available on request from the Assistant Town Clerk and Culture Mile Director.

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