Project Summary:

For over twenty years, Venture Arts has been providing a positive space in which learning disabled people make great art and play a valued role in the region’s vibrant and diverse culture. Our unique artistic programme includes a number of artist-led projects, and we showcase the work of artists in large collaborative exhibitions in some of the region’s most prestigious arts venues. We focus on nurturing talent, and enhancing overall wellbeing through the arts. We believe this plays a very real and tangible role in transforming lives and in reducing isolation and marginalisation. Our work enriches people’s lives not only through the learning and participation but also through giving people new cultural experiences: seeing the work of other artists, joining in on exhibitions, making great art and collaborating with others.

Between June and August 2019 we intend to present several events and prepare for more in the autumn showing the work of learning disabled artists and this project would see a student get involved with working at the heart of a small organisation, helping to organise a variety of summer events notably our Hulme Is Where the Arts Is Festival. The student will be involved in assisting the partners to stage this event. From Venture Arts perspective the candidate will work with local artists and makers to co-ordinate stalls, will help with marketing and work with Venture Arts artists to deliver open community arts workshops throughout the day.

What will the Scholar do?

Week 1 – Shadow Venture Arts artists in the day to day running of our core programme of visual arts workshops
Familiarisation of all policy and compliance surrounding the organisation.

Week 2 – Meet with the VA team to discuss plans for Hulme Is Where The and begin contacting partners, speakers etc.
Work with partners Hulme Community Garden Centre and ZArts to co-ordinate Hulme is Where the Art Is

Week 3: Work with VA’s Digital and Comms officer to deliver marketing campaign and assist where relevant

Week 4: General event co-ordination and organisation – Launch Hulme Is Where the Art Is

Week 5: recap, review and evaluate experience and events.
Undergraduate Community Scholarship

Skills required by the Scholarship holder:

Ideally a student who will have the following:

- A great communicator, both written and verbal
- An understanding of visual arts
- Excellent organisational skills.
- Previous experience of organising/being involved in arts events on a voluntary basis.
- A great team player who can work equally on their own initiative
- A positive, bright, can-do attitude.
- An affinity or desire to work alongside learning disabled people.
- A commitment to equality of opportunity

How will your project benefit the Scholarship holder and your organisation?

The Scholarship holder will gain invaluable experience of working within a small arts organisation and hands on experience of organising two very different sorts of events.

- They will build networks with the Manchester artistic community
- They will gain experience of arts marketing and audience development
- They will gain an understanding of the opportunities and challenges that exist within the arts at the moment including developing a knowledge of arts in Manchester and arts based directives such as the Creative Case for diversity
- They will gain experience of working with more marginalised communities and take on an asset based approach to organising events.
- They will gain an understanding of the fundraising landscape in the arts.

This would be an excellent opportunity for anyone who wants to pursue a career in arts management, arts marketing or event management.