

## Facing the Past: Movement Practitioner (Freelance)

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| <b>Contract:</b>   | Movement practitioner                                    |
| <b>Fee:</b>        | £3600 (18 days over approx. 33 weeks/project completion) |
| <b>Location:</b>   | Lancaster and Morecambe                                  |
| <b>Deadline:</b>   | 12 noon 31st October 2022                                |
| <b>Interviews:</b> | w/c 7th November 2022                                    |
| <b>Duration:</b>   | Until June 2023  |

### Context

**Facing the Past** is an arts and research programme to reflect, reveal and redress omissions in the way the City of Lancaster has commemorated its role as the fourth largest slavery port in the UK.

Following the Black Lives Matter, a group of activists, arts and heritage organisations, faith & community groups and academics came together to facilitate a meaningful response to create new agency and awareness of issues of Slavery and the historic black presence in the city.

In 2021, a programme of creative workshops, public consultation and feasibility and scoping resulted in funding from The National Heritage Lottery Fund.

**Facing the Past** was conceived following the vandalism of slave trader memorials in Lancaster Priory Churchyard and community response. Community consultation has led to an arts and heritage programme responding to the pervasive legacy of profit, power and persecution of enslaved Africans in the historic City of Lancaster in meaningful and multifaceted ways.

We are looking for an exceptional freelance movement practitioner to cocreate a community performance event. The performance will bring community groups together to create a piece built on heritage research for wider, incidental public audiences. As part of a network of cultural programming including digital trails, archives, creative consultation, and training opportunities, the event will act as the celebration of new understanding and an important cultural response to the complexity of Slavery issues both historic and connected to the present day.

### The Vision

This co-created event will forge a greater connection to local history and community. Taking place in the heart of the city, communities will work with heritage professionals and artists to develop their own response to Lancaster's links to transatlantic slavery through voice and movement. Although specific to Lancaster, global links may be explored providing new insight into the reach of Lancastrian family wealth and the human costs and suffering as well as crucial information about black agency in the wake of such persecution. For example, content may be anchored to folk songs created by Gambian decedents with links to Lancaster's slave trade in partnership with the Maritime Museum and the National Council for Arts & Culture, Gambia.

## Purpose

There has been an explosion of interest and activity in Lancaster’s Transatlantic Slave Trail with several groups working to raise awareness, educate, research and creatively respond to the injustices of the past and present. The city holds stories of individual slaves, Abolitionists and web of slavery profits. Facing the Past Steering Group are keen to explore the output as a catalyst to challenge the extent to which we change the local knowledge of the city and shift from a ‘didactic’ conversation of slavery into something experiential and community driven. The event challenges many of the constraints that shape how heritage can be experienced. The aim is to encourage new audiences to re- activate their imaginations for debate, positive action and see their historic surroundings in a new light.

## Key Responsibilities

We are keen to hear from inclusive practitioners that use movement to connect to communities and leading to meaningful performance outputs. The post holder will work closely with communities and colleagues to cocreate a performance, supported by the Community Events Assistant and the Festival Director.

- Lead workshops and rehearsals for 3 community groups, collaborating with the Community Events Assistant and Vocal Practitioner/ Workshop Facilitator
- Co-create community movement pieces and aligned to the vocal composition
- Engage with research and heritage training
- Attend regular meetings with the Festival Director to maintain progress and update on any issues arising
- Ensure the health and safety of other staff, participants and the public
- Provide the Festival Director/ Facing the Past Evaluator with monitoring and reporting information

| ESSENTIAL  | DESIRABLE  |
|--|--|
| <b>Experience</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Experience in workshop delivery for community led events or performances with a range of client groups.</li><li>● Experience of delivering a wide range of movement workshops</li><li>● Effectively communicating with colleagues and a range of stakeholders to engage them in co-created projects</li><li>● Proven track record of delivering Project outputs and meeting milestones</li><li>● Supporting rehearsal and public presentation of a project</li><li>● Contribution to the funder evaluation and reporting</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Ability to work with a variety of heritage materials to devise original performance</li><li>● Managing participants and volunteers, adhering to safeguarding</li></ul> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk Assessment of workshop delivery</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>Knowledge</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Understanding of the principals and values which underpin community arts projects</li> <li>● Understanding of workshop design and delivery</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sensitivity to members of the public you may encounter through outdoor work</li> <li>● Understanding of GDPR and safeguarding</li> <li>● Active interest in multi-agency approach to social injustice issues</li> </ul> |
| <b>Skills</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ability to work collaboratively, undertaking task to support smooth teamwork</li> <li>● Self-motivation, ability and willingness to work as part of a team</li> <li>● Ability to work flexibly and adapt to unforeseen problem</li> <li>● Excellent communication skills with an ability to engage with a wide range of people</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Strong written communication skills</li> <li>● Strong ICT skills</li> <li>● Organised with excellent administrative skills</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Qualities</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ability to build excellent relationships and work in a supportive manner alongside colleagues, partners, freelancers, participant, and volunteers</li> <li>● Commitment to equal opportunities, cultural diversity and accessible of service</li> <li>● Accountability and sensitivity to issues and challenges as they arise</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>Qualifications</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Qualification by experience</li> </ul>  |  |

## How to apply and the selection process

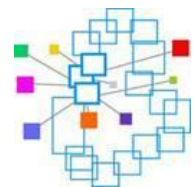
For an informal chat about the role please email [facingthepast@lancasterpriory.org](mailto:facingthepast@lancasterpriory.org). Please send a CV and covering letter no larger than 10 MB to [facingthepast@lancasterpriory.org](mailto:facingthepast@lancasterpriory.org). Tell us how you meet the experience, skills and qualities outlined in the Person Specification. This should be no longer than 2 pages in either Word or PDF. Please keep your CV 2 /3pages of A4 and include two references from recent or current employers/ clients. Please send examples/links to your previous work/projects. All

applications will be acknowledged with an email receipt. Should you be shortlisted, we will invite you to interview. We will assess how you meet the experience, skills and qualities outlined in the Person Specification through the application form and interview.

We are committed to inclusion and diversity within this project and welcome applications from individuals from all backgrounds. You'll be working within a team and supported by a Steering Group from a wide range of ages, economic backgrounds, genders, sexualities, ethnicities, heritages and cultures.

## Fee

A total of £3600 is available. This includes all fees, materials, public liability insurance, expenses, site visit, evaluation meeting, user events, administration, meetings, VAT. The fee will be released in tranches upon invoice and completion of agreed milestones.



Lancaster & Morecambe  
Primary Headteachers'  
Cluster

## Useful Links:

**Lancaster Priory Church**

<https://lancasterpriory.org/>

**Slavery Tree Project**

<https://www.lancasterslaveryfamilytrees.com/>

**Slavery Trail**

[https://visitlancaster.org.uk/wp-content/files\\_mf/1608030019TownTrailinA4pages2020.pdf](https://visitlancaster.org.uk/wp-content/files_mf/1608030019TownTrailinA4pages2020.pdf)

**Lancaster Black History Group**

<https://www.facebook.com/Blackhistorylancaster/>

## Reading Material:

1. **ONLINE (General)**

1. Slavery in the North of England' Melinda Elder, OpenLearn  
<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/history/heritage/slavery-and-the-north-england>
2. Online Teaching pack “the abominable trade: Cumbria’s’ Connections to the History and Legacy of Slavery ”  
<https://cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/542/795/41053132443.PDF>
3. Oluosoga, D., 2015. The history of British slave ownership has been buried: now its scale can be revealed. The Guardian.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jul/12/british-history-slavery-buried-scale-revealed>
4. National Trust, Fowler, Corinne Et Al, Colonialism and Historic Slavery Report, 2020 -  
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/addressing-the-histories-of-slavery-and-colonialism-at-the-national-trust#Download%20the%20report>

## 2. Databases:

1. Legacies of British Slave-ownership, UCL - <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/>
2. Runaway Slaves in Britain: bondage, freedom and race in the eighteenth century:  
<https://www.runaways.gla.ac.uk>
3. Slave Voyages Database <https://www.slavevoyages.org>