

Agenda Item No: 8

Report to: Museums Committee

Date of Meeting: 3 December 2012

Report Title: Forthcoming Museum projects

Report By: Cathy Walling
Museum Curator

Purpose of Report

to inform members of forthcoming additional projects

Recommendation(s)

1. the report is for noting

Reasons for Recommendations

Introduction

The following projects will be taking place at the Museum in the first part of 2013, although some are dependent on external funding still to be confirmed.

World Stories

HMAG has been successful in receiving a grant of £5,000 (funded by Arts Council England) to develop a second stage project, following on from the work done this year as part of Stories of the World. We aim to work with young people to explore & develop strategies to encourage greater engagement with the museum by 14-24 year olds. This consultation will be facilitated by youth engagement specialists and will include a range of activities & practical workshops. The deadline for completion of the project is end of March 2013.

Ethnographic Imaginings Recordings

The £750 cost of recording John Agard, Grace Nicholls & Imtiaz Dharker reading the poems they wrote inspired by the Museum's World Art collections will be met by Word County, the original commissioner of the project. Once the recordings have been made, they will be made available on the HMAG website and give us the opportunity to explore the use of QR codes within the gallery. There is currently a display of the poems on the First Floor Walkway at the Museum (until 24 February 2013).

Brooke, Badham & Beyond

The Museum will be working with over 70 students from Sussex Coast College Hastings on a project to develop new work inspired by the collections of watercolours by W H Brooke and E Leslie Badham. Students on the First Diploma, Future Artists and Level 3 Creative Media courses will be given a brief from which they'll develop work in a range of media, observing and exploring Hastings almost another hundred years on. When completed, a selection a work will be presented in the smaller exhibition gallery from 20 April – 7 July.

Effective Collections: Working with World Art Collections

Hastings Museum is one of 5 museum partners in a bid currently under consideration by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation. If successful, it will provide curatorial expertise and professional support in developing projects with local source communities. We have selected the Eastern European costume & jewellery collections as the focus for our project, with the community engagement aspect reaching out to the town's increasing communities from this region. There will also be capacity to research the South American ceramic collections, which is potentially of some academic interest.

If successful, this bid will enable the Museum to access around £10,000's worth of curatorial and outreach support, activities, training, publicity & dissemination. The bid has been developed by a freelance museum professional and the outcome of the application is due end November 2012.

Hastings Schools Heritage Project

Hastings Museum will be a major partner in a new schools & heritage initiative, is a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund is successful. The bid has been compiled by Culture Shift (a CIC company which has developed out of Creative Partnerships, Hastings & East Sussex) and Education First (which has developed out of the Excellence Cluster). It aims to link 10 schools with local heritage topics, bringing in creative practitioners and heritage partners to encourage schools to use local heritage more and to develop the support that the sector can offer. The project won't bring much money for the museum to deliver activity, but will be extremely useful in raising its profile among local education providers, whilst the involvement of Education First will ensure that the learning is embedded. The outcome of the bid will be known in January 2013.

Wards Affected

Castle

Area(s) Affected

Central Hastings

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	Yes
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	Yes
Local People's Views	No

Background Information

Officer to Contact

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