

Intro

Calling all artists and makers! We're seeking a cohort of **up to ten local artists** to collaborate with us over a **12-month period**. We hope to bring together makers working across a variety of mediums and styles—artists whose work will resonate with our visitors and reflect the many facets that make GHT unique. For this cohort, we're especially keen to work with artists who want to get to know the venue and help shape a shop offer that compliments everything we do.

Last year we had an overhaul of how we run our artist shop. In response to an appetite we were feeling from local artists to sell their work, and a desire from us to meet and support more local artists and makers, we moved away from open-ended agreements and created a new structure where we recruit a small cohort every year and work with them, promoting and selling their work for a fixed-term, year-long contract instead. Supporting fewer artists for a shorter length of time has given us the opportunity to get to know them better and allowed us to find more ways to bring them into the creative community at GHT.

Almost a year on, we're delighted with how this new structure has played out, and now we're ready for the next! Since 2026 we've been learning and growing as an organisation and as a venue and we have a lot to look forward to in 2027 including:

- **Extending our opening hours** - from April - October we're open 5 days a week to support a collaborative effort in Southampton to develop the cultural offer to tourists visiting the city
- **Extending our shop's footprint** - We're trialling a new experimental part of the shop '*framework*'. This will be placed on the walls of the cafe extension and we're inviting 2D works to be part of this experimental new exhibition / shop display.

- **Getting ready for our 25th anniversary** - 2027 marks 25 years since 'a space' arts was established as a visual arts charity, so we're getting ourselves ready for a year of opportunity, reflection and further growth.
- **Bringing our new vision, mission and values to the fore** - as we approach our anniversary year we're excited to be reflecting on what makes us 'a space' arts leading us to revise and refresh our vision, mission and values. We're now working to ensure that everything we do embodies these values.

Why Sell With Us?

- **Get your work out into the world** - so far this year, we've welcomed an average of **1,276 visitors each month** — and we haven't even reached our busiest time of year yet
- **Put your work to work** - on average, artists in this year's cohort have earned around **£40 per month after commission**. Every sale is a little vote of confidence in your work — and a nice bonus for your pocket, too.
- **It could be the beginning of something bigger** - the shop isn't just a place to sell your work. Artists from this year's cohort have gone on to run workshops, take part in Markets and become part of a thriving creative community in Southampton.

Key Info:

Length of engagement:

12 months, from January 2027 - December 2027.

Please note that as we trial *Framework* for the first year this will be managed slightly differently, inviting artists to display their works for 3-month periods.

Recruitment Timeline:

8th September - 19th October	>	Applications open
20th October	>	Selection
11th November, 6pm	>	Start up meeting at God's House Tower. Meet the other artists and find out more about working with us.
5th January	>	Work delivered to GHT for set up of the new shop
14th January	>	GHT reopens after winter break
22nd January, 6pm	>	Launch event of new shop and our new exhibition

Commission:

A standard 40% commission will apply to all sales.

Sales and Reporting:

You will receive a monthly sales report to keep you updated on how your sales are going and we'll invite you to submit invoices at least every other month. We'll be monitoring sales across the shop, and we'd like to maintain an open, ongoing dialogue about what's working well and what may benefit from adjustment.

We encourage artists to be open to this collaborative approach, as working together to refine our shop offer will help ensure the best possible outcomes for everyone involved.

Minor details:

Where necessary items should be wrapped or packaged so that they're kept safe and are easy to transport. All items should be clearly priced.

To apply:

To apply please send us an artist bio and statement containing the following information:

- Your selling experience - whether you have sold your work commercially before, online or in a similar gallery shop, and whether you are currently selling your work in other places.
- What you hope to gain from selling your work at GHT.
- Whether you're able to replenish or renew stock regularly.
- Whether there is anything else you might want to contribute to our programme during your year with us (eg workshops, activity sheets for young people, demos, talks or anything else).

Please also give as much info as possible, with quantities and prices, about the items you'd like to submit for the shop as well as links to your website, online shops, socials or portfolio.

If you're a printmaker or painter, please let us know if you would like to be considered for *Framework*. This will be looked after slightly differently to the shop.

You can send this information to us in whatever format works for you.

Please send your application, or any questions to Hannah
hannah@aspacearts.org.uk.

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Monday 19th October.

FAQ's:

Who can apply for the shop?

- Printmakers, painters, jewellery makers, ceramicists, illustrators, poets—all artists are welcome to apply for our 2027 cohort.

Do you only consider Southampton based artists?

- While we prioritise Hampshire-based artists, in line with our mission, we are open to applications from artists further afield.

What sells best in the GHT shop?

- In terms of quantity; low cost cards, postcards and mini prints, but in terms of income; jewellery and larger prints have been our biggest sellers in the past year.

Is there anything you won't stock?

- No! We're interested in a real mix of mediums.

How is my stock displayed?

- Each artist will be given a designated space in our shop to sell their work, with an accompanying cupboard to store their stock. We also have collective print racks which artists can use to display their stock too. Our team will regularly rotate your stock to assure that each piece gets an equal chance to shine.

What would happen if my situation changes and I can no longer stock the shop?

- We'll do our best to support as best we can, but if things change and you need to leave before the year is up we'll support this and return your work to you.

