

# Bow Arts: Evaluation Framework Brief



**Deadline for Submissions:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 9:00am

Bow Arts Education is seeking an experienced evaluator/s to review and refine our Evaluation Framework as we enter our next phase of growth. We are keen to ensure that we have effective and efficient systems in place that enable a thorough and robust, yet manageable evaluation of our work. We require meaningful evaluation to learn from and plan internally, and robust evidence of impact to share externally with our partners and clients. The evaluator will work with our team through modelling and training to embed the new framework within our ongoing practice.

**Fee:**

Up to £14,500 (inclusive of all expenses and VAT).

**Duration:**

October 2017 – March 2020

**Context:**

[Bow Arts Education](#) deliver artist-led projects, workshops and training for children, young people and their teachers. We currently work with around 100 nursery, primary and secondary schools per year across London, and reach over 10,000 participants through our work. As we enter the next phase of expansion, the reach of our education programme will extend into new geographical areas alongside the growth of our creative workspace portfolio. This work is supported by a grant from Paul Hamlyn Foundation through their 'More and Better' programme.

**The Brief:**

We have been using our current evaluation framework for the past seven years, and whilst there are many elements that we believe work well and provide us with effective data and information, there are still gaps in the information and understanding that we require. We are particularly keen to build our ability to:

- a) Gather harder evidence of the impact of our programmes on children and young people's attainment in the arts
- b) Better understand the effect of our work on participants' attitudes to learning, and therefore their ability to access the wider school curriculum
- c) Capture the impact of our partnerships on art subject leaders in schools
- d) Understand progression routes for young people, including into the creative industries, and the impact of our work on young people's employability

The evaluation framework should:

- Provide coherent tools that can be used across the breadth of our programme
- Provide both hard quantitative data alongside softer qualitative evaluation, testimonies and stories
- Provide us with simple headline data for monitoring and reporting purposes
- Help us better understand the impact of our work on outcomes for children, young people and their teachers
- Enable us to equip headteachers and teaching staff with evidence-based information that makes the case for artist-led activity in their schools and the wider sector
- Inform our business and financial planning through a deeper understanding of changing trends
- Utilise existing school evaluation tools (assessment and data, school improvement, self-evaluation etc), assessing what is collectable and transferable

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We will strive to strike a balance between gathering meaningful evaluation of depth, integrity and value, whilst keeping processes realistic and manageable, particularly for headteachers and teachers, but also for our team.

## **Approach:**

We propose front-loading the evaluation support towards the design and testing of a revised framework, and subsequent staff training and modelling. We then suggest a lighter touch ongoing mentoring support, and an annual external review of the evaluation undertaken by our team. We propose this approach in order to embed the framework within our practice, and equip our staff to lead the evaluation process going forwards.

## **Indicative tasks and timescale:**

### **1. Year 1 (Sep 17 > Mar 18):**

- a) Review of existing Bow Arts Evaluation Framework
- b) Consultation (internally, and externally with stakeholders)
- c) Develop appropriate evaluation and analysis tools, reworking the Evaluation Framework
- d) Test and refine
- e) Team training and modelling
- f) An independent review of evaluation analysis and grant reporting completed by the team

### **2. Year 2 (Apr 18 > Mar 19):**

- a) Ongoing training / mentoring
- b) Refine and rework framework based on Year 1 learning
- c) An independent review of evaluation analysis and grant reporting completed by the team

### **3. Year 3 (Apr 19 > Mar 20):**

- a) Ongoing training / mentoring
- b) An independent review of evaluation analysis and grant reporting completed by the team

## **How to apply:**

- A **short** CV or company biography, demonstrating your track record
- A summary of your proposed approach, and any suggested changes to tasks and timescales outlined above
- Confirmation of who will be involved, and their roles
- Confirmation of fees and a breakdown of your budget for the work over the duration of the contract
- Contact details for two referees for a similar project or piece of work

Deadline for applications: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 9:00am

Interviews: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October, am

## **Contact:**

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