

International Women's Day Friday 7th March - Sunday 30th March



In March 2024 we launched a new project called 'Pitch your Project'. The project aimed to continue supporting creativity and inspiring change by funding a creative, community-focussed, women-led project in Southampton or the surrounding areas. The £2,000 bursary was offered to support a new initiative, or help to contribute to the ongoing work of an existing project.

5 artists joined us to 'pitch their project' to a live audience at GHT. The winners of this bursary were **We Skate Soton**, and the other finalists were **Abeer Kayani and Lizzie Jones, Anna Carr and Alice Louisa**.

Now, one year on, we're inviting We Skate Soton back to GHT to showcase what they were able to achieve with their bursary in this new exhibition. Although they weren't awarded the bursary, we've been continuing to support all of the other projects throughout the year, so we'll be celebrating these projects too and sharing the work they've been doing with Southampton communities.

We are also hosting an exhibition for the first weekend of this exhibition called 'The Homeless Period; Understanding experiences and how to menstruate while homeless with dignity,' which aims to amplify the voices of marginalised groups by utilising creative

methods such as photovoice and in-depth interviews with participants experiencing homelessness, to listen to and understand their perspectives and barriers to accessing basic menstrual care.

We Skate Soton

We Skate Soton is a women-led CIC, which works to create a welcoming space for people to skate together, build confidence and make new friends. The group aims to provide a space in the skate world that is friendly and accepting of everyone regardless of their background, experience, or the type of wheeled sport that they enjoy.

Skateparks and skate spots can be intimidating spaces, especially when you are a woman or girl. They are very often male dominated spaces. We aim to make parks and skate spots feel like a space that we belong in. We do this by hosting regular meet ups, encouraging people to try new things, have fun with each other, and cheer each other on.

We Skate Soton will be building a mini skate ramp in the main gallery space, where they will host skate socials, events, conversations and workshops, along with We Skate Soton merchandise in the GHT shop.

Abeer Kayani and Lizzie Jones

Abeer and Lizzie's project, Plant to Pattern, introduces sustainable natural colour skills to Mencap's Active Citizens Group in Eastleigh. Focused on grassroots understanding of dye plants, colour extraction and application referencing ancient processes and tools.

Workshops ranged from exploring plants in dye garden, colour making and drawing techniques using foraged plant inks, block printing, resist and eco-printing under the guidance of Textile Artist Abeer Kayani and Lizzie Jones. We developed awareness of sustainable practices and importance of keeping planet healthy, the participants can efficiently communicate their learning. The outcomes are beautifully displayed hand printed and dyed textiles alongside technical notebooks by group members.

These items will be on display in the exhibition

Alice Louisa

Alice's project 'Perspectives from a safe space' is a community collaboration between artist Alice Louisa and the women residents at Hope Street, a healing and trauma service for women caught up in the justice system. Alice has been working with families that have suffered the loss of a loved one. These workshops have varied in skills and outcomes,, for example photographs, cyanotypes.

Alice's portraits will be on display in the exhibition.

Anna Carr

Anna Carr's project, Noisy Joy, saw a pop-up series of 7 evening sessions, a bunch of women from around Southampton came together to play, laugh, sing and sound noisily together and take up space, safely held in the walls of the Crawford Room.

Led by Anna, with an ethos of 'wonky notes are welcome here', there were playful sound and movement warm ups & games, simple rounds and soulful songs taught by ear, and moments for gentle improvised experimentation too. Personal stories were shared about earliest memories of singing, times when we found and lost our voices, and a friendly, brave new community was born.

Photos of these workshops and recordings will be contribute to the exhibition

Susmita Bhattacharya

Funded by the Royal Society of Literature and published by Dahlia Books, Susmita's new book 'An Anthology of Flash Fiction and Conversations on Craft by South Asian Writers' was born out of the desire to showcase South Asian talent in flash fiction.

She dreamed of creating a new and unique book of stories, interviews and writing prompts from a range of writers from around the world, and use this book in the workshops we run in the libraries and other community spaces.

Over a series of writing workshops in Southampton and London, including in God's House Tower, members of the community got an opportunity to experiment with flash fiction writing, and engage with the art exhibition of Anna Bunting-Branch that inspired the writing workshop in God's House Tower.

Photos and excerpts of writing will be on display in the exhibition

Key Dates for Your Diary

Exhibition Timeline:

- Monday 3rd February > Volunteer call out and availability check
- Friday 21st February > Volunteer rota finalised
- Wednesday 5th March > Volunteer meeting and introduction to the exhibition
- Thursday 6th March > Exhibition opens to the public
- Friday 7th March > Exhibition launch event including a Skate Jam
- Friday 28th March > GHT Lates
- Sunday 30th March > Exhibition Closes

Associated Events:

- Sunday 9th March, 2pm > Mini Ramp Free Skate Sessions in the Main Gallery
- Saturday 15th March, 11.30am > Level-Up Ramp Skills Lesson
- Saturday 15th March, 2pm > Mini Ramp Free Skate Sessions
- Sunday 16th March, 11.30am > Mini Ramp Free Skate Sessions in the Main Gallery
- Sunday 16th March, 2pm > We Skate Soton Painting Workshop
- Saturday 22nd March, 11am > Basic Ramp Skills Skateboard Lesson
- Saturday 22nd March, 2pm > Mini Ramp Free Skate Sessions
- Saturday 29th March, 2pm > Mini Ramp Free Skate Sessions
- Sunday 30th March, 2pm > Mini Ramp Free Skate Sessions

We're looking for a team of volunteers to join us across our core opening hours to invigilate the gallery space, sharing information about the projects, helping with associated events and collecting visitor feedback.

If you'd like to join our volunteer team for this exhibition, please let us know by:

- Filling in a short online form [HERE](#)
- Emailing hannah@spacearts.org.uk to receive a word document version of the online form
- Emailing hannah@spacearts.org.uk to arrange a meeting or phone call to talk through the role

Please note that these skating sessions may get a little noisy. Please bear this in mind and take it into consideration when choosing your availability!

We Skate Soton will be looking after all skating sessions and will be using waivers to ensure that people who sign up to skate are following the appropriate health and safety rules.

Hidden in Stone and Project Extinction

Friday 4th April - Sunday 1st June



From Dorset to Sussex, under the busy pavements and natural spaces of Britain's South Coast, is a near unbroken sequence of rocks that span 200 million years of Earth's history. Hidden in Stone is an exhibition about shifting continents, changing climates, and evolutionary radiation, led by the Gostling Evolution and Palæobiology Lab, University of Southampton

Told through multiple stories, Hidden in Stone explores Jurassic oceans, Chalk seas, Cretaceous dinosaurs, Tropical Hampshire and the ice age, with several 'stops' along the way. Discover the rich heritage of fossils literally beneath your feet as you wander across the South Coast, from Kimmeridge in Dorset to Hastings in Sussex.

Project Extinction

Alongside fossils and life-sized models of dinosaur skulls and jawbones, you'll also encounter a newly-commissioned, collaborative artwork, Project Extinction, made by BA Fine Art students at Winchester School of Art, University of Southampton (UoS).

Project Extinction is a large-scale flat pack sculpture in the shape of a ceratosuchops dinosaur. Hidden in the the body of the beast are smaller artworks which are individual contributions from the students involved.

Key Dates for Your Diary

Exhibition Timeline:

Monday 3rd February >	Volunteer call out and availability check
Monday 17th March >	Volunteer rota finalised
Wednesday 2nd April >	Crew and Volunteer meeting and introduction to the exhibition
Thursday 3rd April >	Exhibition opens to the public
Friday 4th April >	Exhibition launch event
Sunday 30th March >	Exhibition Closes

Associated Events:

We're working on an associated events programme which includes the following:

- Family workshops
- Creative Writing Workshop
- Talks, Tours and Book Launches

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Volunteering at GHT

FAQ's

Is there a minimum time commitment to be a volunteer?

- No! We're grateful to have you in the team whether you can volunteer regularly or not. We will create a rota around your availability which works with your schedule and other commitments.

How long do shifts tend to be?

- Shifts tend to be between 3 to 5 hours, but this is flexible based on what suits you best.

What if my availability changes during an exhibition?

- That's no problem. We understand that things change and we're happy to be flexible around your other commitments.

What can I expect from a standard day at GHT?

- Our volunteer roles include welcoming the public to the building, chatting to visitors in the gallery spaces and helping visitors to get the most out of their visit. Occasionally we might also ask for your help in gathering feedback or helping with our events.

I volunteered for the last exhibition, but now my availability has changed. Can I still receive updates with what's going on at GHT?

- Of course! We send out monthly newsletters to our volunteer community and we encourage people to stay in touch. It's no problem to have a few months away from volunteering then join us again - there will always be something new to see here!