

Open call – UK deaf artists for Stagertext 25th Anniversary Commission

Stagertext is going to be 25 in 2025! We are looking to commission a UK based visual artist to create an artwork celebrating our 25th anniversary.

Deadline for applications: 9.00am Thursday 29th May 2025. £2,000 commissioning fee for an original piece of art, plus any agreed additional access and travel expenses.

Job description

Stagertext is looking to commission a UK based visual artist to create a replicable and unique piece of artwork celebrating our 25th anniversary, marking a quarter of century of advocacy and support in opening up arts and culture to deaf, deafened and hard of hearing audiences.

The commissioned work should be an original piece made by the artist that conveys the value of having access to arts and culture such as theatre, that would otherwise be denied if it wasn't for theatre captioning and live subtitles provided by Stagertext. The work should focus on celebrating the uplifting experience of meaningful and rich connection to culture through text based deaf access.

We are seeking a piece of work that can be readily wall mounted or hung and reproduced as prints, postcards, tote bags and t-shirts, with the original work to be sold at auction to raise funds and profile for our anniversary campaign. For this reason, we are not seeking electronic/ digital or 3D/ sculptural works.

Job Requirements

Artist criteria.

You must have:

- Lived experience of deafness
- Personal experience of benefiting from access provision at cultural events such as that provided through Stagertext – this is to ensure the award and campaign are of meaning and relevance to you
- An active artistic practice
- Availability and capacity to deliver the work according to the brief, and in the timescale given, and for the given budget. The selected artist must be able to create a design in 10 – 12 weeks.

You must also:

- Agree to, and be available to attend a central London or Colchester, Essex event to mark the unveiling of the work as part of our anniversary launch in November 2025
- Be able to submit a proposal for discussion and approval by mid-June 2025, with the artistic works completed by end of September 2025.



The selected artist will receive a £2,000 commissioning fee (payable in three mutually agreed instalments) for which to create the original piece of art, plus access and travel expenses.

Job Responsibilities

To apply:

Please submit a proposal of no more than one page, with a sketch and the following:

1. Full name
2. Contact + website/ relevant links
3. A short artist's statement
4. Your lived experience of deafness and deaf access to arts and culture through captions and live subtitling
5. 1–4 images of artwork

Email your proposal to: Stagertext's Head of Advocacy and Engagement, Rachel Jele
rachel@stagertext.org

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