

The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park



Artistic Policy

Aims

We support a diverse range of artists to be inspired by the Cemetery Park to create high quality, innovative, site-specific works.

We form mutually beneficial artistic partnerships that help us to create positive outcomes for our client groups, especially training and educational benefits.

We host artistic projects that demonstrate strategies for accessibility, widening participation and bringing new audiences into the Cemetery Park, especially local people who have never visited before.

Subject Matters

We work with artists who unlock the joys of nature for urban people, and celebrate the diversity, lives and stories of the people interred here.

We focus on the extraordinary lives of ordinary people, and the untold histories of the people of present day Tower Hamlets and the wider City of London and East End.

We come from a fully inclusive perspective that recognises the wide variety of people in the Borough and we maintain a factual and research-based approach, while accepting that there are many religious and traditional beliefs that can also be welcomed.

We use the arts as an integral part of our education and interpretation work, and art pieces which remain in the park for longer than a month are planned with these purposes in mind.

We particularly welcome proposals that integrate history with biodiversity subject matter.

Design Aesthetics and Tone of Voice

We celebrate life and maintain a highly positive focus, while never glossing over or sensationalising uncomfortable truths, tragedy or criminal behaviours.

We acknowledge that 'the past is a foreign country' (LP Hartley), that standards of behaviour and social norms were different in years gone by, and that people in the past were as diverse and imperfect as people today.

We work in ways that transcend stereotypical depictions of cemeteries and parks, to help us create a fresh and accessible vision of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park.

We respect the memorials and features of the site and their significance to families of the deceased.

Naming structures/installations – if there is to be a structure placed in THCP on a long-term basis and it is to carry a publicly visible name the name must first be agreed by our Trustees before it can be used.

In Scope

Theatre / Performance / Dance, Music and Sound Art

Visual Art / Sculpture / Conceptual Art

Spoken Word Arts and Comedy, Walks and Talks

Park fittings and furniture

Out of scope

Filming and photography – falls within the guidance published by the [Tower Hamlets Film Office](#)

Normal park maintenance activity, park landscaping