

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

REFRAME: Inspire Schools Project call out

Southbank Centre (London), Midlands Arts Centre (Birmingham) and Factory International (Manchester) launch a new creative digital project for 15 secondary schools

A free, creative multimedia project for KS3 pupils in Birmingham, London and Manchester, aimed at inspiring young people's interests in different creative fields. The *REFRAME: Inspire Schools Project* gets pupils working collaboratively with artist-educators on a digital 'zine', weaving poetry, visual art, and digital skills to create their own online publication, supported by Apple technology. Pupils take their creative brief from the Southbank Centre's artistic programme, which this summer includes the exhibition *Tavares Strachan: There is Light Somewhere* at the Hayward Gallery.

Tavares Strachan: There Is Light Somewhere (18 June – 1 September 2024) is the first mid-career survey of the New York-based, Bahamian artist. Strachan imaginatively expands the boundaries of contemporary art with this multimedia exhibition, celebrating unsung explorers and cultural trailblazers, inviting audiences to engage with overlooked characters whose stories represent and illuminate histories hidden by bias, centred around Stachan's [Encyclopedia of Invisibility](#).

This project is a unique opportunity for pupils to explore their creativity across different mediums, work with world-class artists, and share their work through performances and have their work displayed. As part of the project, participating teachers receive free CPD sessions to develop their own creative and digital skills, and learn how to use them in the classroom.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Over the course of up to five full-day workshops with a professional artist, participating schools create their own zine, utilising different creative skills.
- Students explore Tavares Strachan's work and explore the themes of hidden stories and invisible histories.
- The zines consist of poetry and visual art using digital technology.
- Each zine is a whole-class project, developing skills in literacy, design, and IT.
- CPD training for teachers, along with resource materials, is available.
- Sessions take place both in school and on site at the local arts centre partner.

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The project is suitable for both mainstream and SEND secondary schools. It has been designed for KS3, aimed at pupils who are making their GCSE choices.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

There are a number of ways the school zines will be celebrated and showcased across 2025. These include:

- Young people taking part in the project will contribute to Tavares Strachan's long term Encyclopaedia of Invisibility public project.
- Participating schools will be invited to special events at the Southbank Centre to celebrate their work.
- All zines will be collated together into an online exhibition on the Southbank Centre's website.

TIMELINES AND KEY DATES

- Friday 3 May 2024: Deadline to sign up for the project
- Monday 8 July 2024: Project launch day for schools at the Southbank Centre
- Autumn 2024: Teachers CPD and school workshops
- Spring 2025: Local celebrations and zine publication

If you are interested in signing your class up, please email Holly at schools@southbankcentre.co.uk