



September 2021

Dear Students, Parents, Heads, Teachers and Youth Group Leaders,

In July I sent out a letter to alert you to the chance for your school or youth group literally to make history! Now here's information to kickstart the opportunity.

To recap, Actor Andy Serkis (who famously played Gollum in Lord of the Rings and Klaw in Black Panther), film producer Jonathan Cavendish (producer of memorable movies like Bridget Jones Diary, Bridget Jones Edge of Reason, and Breathe) and I are inviting your school or youth group to enter a competition to initiate the idea and design for an artwork/statue that celebrates and commemorates an unsung hero, heroine, or group living or dead, whose story has never been properly told.

The winning entry will then be created and memorialised on a plinth, unveiled in Spring 2022, as part of the Coventry City of Culture celebrations; and runners up will be shown virtually on screens, on the side of the Plinth.

Initially, we will require a short statement that can be in writing, video or audio, to tell us:

- why you have chosen that particular person or group, some details of their achievements, and
- why you feel they need to be recognised;
- who might oppose your suggestion;
- what they would say against the memorialisation; and
- how you would convince them that this is the right person or group to be celebrated.

We will then invite shortlisted entries to a creative workshop in the Autumn term to discuss their proposal and receive advice on how to design and present their suggestion in model format.

Relevant information about the competition and the timetable relating to registration of interest, submission of applications and the workshop date are all available on the Gallery of Living History website; and you can find the link here <http://galleryoflivinghistory.com> .

You will see that we prefer entries to come from small teams; and that the first stage is for them to register an interest by 24th September, through the website. Then following that, we will look forward to receiving the team's formally submitted entry!

Best of luck!

Yours,
Margaret

Margaret Casely-Hayford CBE, Director,
Gallery of Living History

