

## The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge

Schools Training Day

The Bowes Museum

17 October 2017, 9 am – 3 pm



### Who are we?

The House of Fairy Tales is a children's arts charity that has over ten years experience of making events, exhibitions and school projects that create irresistible contexts for brave, curiosity driven learning. We will be bringing a group of artists who have a wealth of experience of super accelerating children's capacity to be brave and curious and who work with and care passionately about education.

### What is it?

We will be hosting a playful and brilliant day of action. We will be exercising our capacities for being brave and curious collaborators. Between us we will be build a 'Brave and Curious Museum' that later in the day we will explore as the foundation for a conversation about how we can bring these capacities to bear in the classroom and how to inspire them in students. We are not school teachers, though some of us have been, and we know that no-one can be better than you at finding ways to bring these capacities into the classroom.

It's going to be adventurous and full of discoveries.

## What will it lead to?

As well as being a day of exploration in its own right it will be the first step in launching *The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge*. We are asking the delegates that come from each school become Brave and Curious Advocates for The Great Turkish Tulips Challenge.

## What is The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge?

The Great Turkish Tulips Challenge is a rich and supportive experiment in bringing bravely progressive, curiosity driven learning into the classroom for two immersive days. We will offer resources, guidance and support in the form of a 'Thinking Kit' and at the end of the project we are planning a very special celebration of the results.

## Why Brave and Curious?

We believe that being *brave* and being *curious* are key capacities for children to develop if they are to succeed in having rich and useful education and working lives. And moreover that building space for the use of these capacities into teaching practice are bound to make it a more satisfying and powerful profession. And in our experience teachers normally have these capacities in spades. At the moment it seems that everywhere we look charismatic speakers and thinkers are telling us about the importance of progressive, project based education and yet the test results oriented education system seems to be offering less and less space for it. It might feel like a square peg in a round hole, if you'll forgive the cliché. So while the policy makers catch up we want to bring everything The House of Fairy Tales have to help you to hack these capacities into the classroom as often as possible.

So what will it mean to be brave and curious in classrooms? How can we celebrate how brave and curious we already are and share that and make it grow? And what support and resources can The House of Fairy Tales offer that will help, and make the brilliant work more visible? The Great Turkish Tulips Challenge is a piece of action research that seeks answers to questions.

## So who should come?

We would like up to two delegates from each school, these should be the teachers who are most enthused about The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge project, the activist teachers. We are asking for one teacher from each school who comes to then take on the role of Brave and Curious Advocate, they will disseminate the spirit of The Challenge, and will coordinate and problem solve the project to success, of course with plenty of support from us. It will mean taking on responsibilities, but will also be hugely rewarding experience.