

On Your Doorstep - Ermine Underpass Design Project

Creative Brief

Artists and creatives based in and around Lincoln are invited to apply to work with communities to develop a visual artwork for the pedestrian underpass between Ermine East and West. The artist will need to be available for Stage 1 of the project between 17th - 31st March 2025.

About

Founded in Spring 2024 by Chelsey Everatt, Rooted Arts connects communities to each other, creativity and nature, improving mental wellbeing. Our vision is that vibrant creativity will be deeply rooted in all communities, leading to content Hearts and a thriving Earth. To find out more about the organisation, please visit our website rootedarts.org.uk

In Ermine, Rooted Arts are working in partnership with Alive Church who are delivering work funded through UK Shard Prosperity Fund, focused on engaging with the local community to help develop Sudbrooke Drive Community Centre into a thriving community venue.

The Site

The underpass is a pedestrian footway under Riseholme Road, connecting Ermine East and West residential areas, with ramps at both ends leading down to the underpass. The area struggles with litter and tagging. It is cleaned and maintained by Lincolnshire County Council who are aware of this project.



The Project

This is an exciting opportunity for creatives to work with local communities and develop the design for a visual artwork which would be created within the Ermine Underpass. We are seeking an artist who can work with local communities to develop visual stimuli, drawing from Ermine as a place including (but not limited to): community voice; identity of the place and people; heritage of the area; local stories; and imagining the future. The artist will take the work developed with communities and propose a final design of the new artwork at the underpass.

The artist will work with a range of groups across schools and young people, families, adults and older people. Proposed dates for community workshops are:

- Wednesday 19th March from 3.30 - 7pm
- Thursday 20th March approximately 9am - 4pm
- Friday 21st March from 3.30 - 5pm
- Tuesday 25th March from 12 - 2pm
- Wednesday 26th March from 10am - 12noon
- Thursday 27th March approximately 9am - 4pm
- Saturday 29th March approximately 10am - 5pm

Workshops should involve both idea development for the final design, but also an opportunity for participants to take part in a practical workshop, whether through painting, drawing or another medium.

The project will be documented and shared through Rooted Arts social media and website. Marketing costs are additional to the budget provided and in house design will be created for engagement activities.

Rooted Arts will be responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of the project, but will require some reflection, input and reporting from the creatives.

Beyond Stage 1

The design will be presented back to communities and stakeholders. If approved, the intention is to install the artwork at the underpass, but it will be displayed locally if approvals are not attained. The artist involved in Stage 1 (design development), should have the capacity and capability to be involved in Stage 2 (the installation of the work).

Beyond the visuals, there may also be opportunities to integrate immersive technology including: oral histories about the area, through QR code links; or AR elements of additional artwork created by communities. This is beyond the scope of this project, but may help in developing an application.

Timeline

Date	Activity
24th February	Creative Brief Issued
10th March	Deadline for Applications
12th March	Successful creative contacted and a contract issued
19th - 31st March	Project delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop delivery in communities• Using the ideas and work created to develop a final design
Early April 2025	Final proposed design shared with community and stakeholders (end of Stage 1)
April/May 2025	Installation of artwork at underpass (pending approval) or other site locally (Stage 2)

Eligibility

There are limited criteria for the project to enable as many artists and creatives to apply as possible. However:

- Priority will be given to artists and creatives based in Lincoln, especially those with connections to Ermine the surrounding areas
- You must have valid public liability insurance and if successful, collaborate on producing risk assessments for project activities
- Have some experience of working with communities to develop ideas
- Ideally have a DBS clearance but this can be arranged if deemed necessary

Budget

The budget is outlined as followed for Stage 1:

Artist planning, research and preparation - £600

Artist fee for 5 full days of workshops and consultation - £1500

Final design development after consultation - £600

Materials for workshops and consultation - £300

Total budget for Stage 1 = £2700 artist fee plus £300 materials

The budget covers Stage 1 only - working with communities to create a final design.

The Stage 2 budget is currently £2500 to install the artwork. This may increase depending on the needs of the design and materials required, but further funding would need to be sought.

Submission

Please email proposals to chelsey@rootedarts.org.uk by 3pm on Monday 10th March, clearly marked 'Artist Application for Ermine Underpass'. The submission should include the following information:

- 1) Outline of your approach to the project, how you will work with community groups and what workshops will involve.
- 2) Why are you interested in the project?
- 3) Your CV and details of relevant past projects, including experience of working with communities, creating large scale designs/artwork etc. - this could include links to a website, socials, images, videos etc.

We are also happy to accept the above in audio or video format. Applicants are welcome to contact us on chelsey@rootedarts.org.uk to discuss the project.

Selection will be based on the quality of your proposal, your ability to deliver the work to a high artistic standard and within the timescales and budget, and your passion and interest in working with us on this project.

Applicants will be contacted with the outcome by 12th March.

Rules and Regulations

The deadline is 3pm on Monday 10th March. Any submissions that arrive late will not be considered. The assessment of the submissions will be made by Rooted Arts, partners and the community. We reserve the right to invite creatives to an interview before a final decision is made. At our discretion, after receiving proposals, we are permitted to not commission any work. The decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into, in regards to decisions made. You must agree to this in order to be eligible. However, feedback will be given to all applicants. Once a decision is made, a detailed contract with agreed targets, outcomes and milestones will be agreed between Rooted Arts and the successful applicant.