

ROOTED ARTS*

Lead Artist x 2 Brief for *A Passing Tale* in North Lincolnshire

Rooted Arts CIC are seeking 2 creative proposals for '*A Passing Tale*' in North Lincolnshire. Creatives can be from any artform but should have strong experience of participatory engagement.

Background

Rooted Arts CIC, a Lincoln based community arts organisation, celebrates creativity and growth from the ground up. Activity focuses on cultivating mental wellness and championing environmental sustainability through art, promoting vibrant creativity deeply rooted in communities, leading to content Hearts and a thriving Earth. The organisation connects communities to each other and nature, imagining a greener future together.

A Passing Tale is a place-based participatory arts programme delivered by Rooted Arts CIC, journeying along The Viking Way walking trail, on its 50th year of existence. Communities will engage through creative reflection, walking, and environmental storytelling within a series of events and activities. This is a unique opportunity for rural communities to engage in a larger creative project.

We are delighted to be able to offer four artists opportunities for *A Passing Tale* - Lead Artist x 2 and Supporting Artist x 2. This project has been made possible with the support of North Lincolnshire Council and The National Lottery Heritage Fund as part of Cultural Futures, a multi-year project to increase arts, heritage and cultural opportunities for North Lincolnshire.

The Project

We are seeking artists to lead two commissions in North Lincolnshire. Each commission will include 6 days of activity, alongside support artists, tailored to the local area and the artist's chosen practice. These activities will be designed through conversation with residents and delivered in collaboration with local groups. Delivery could include (but is not limited to):

- One full day in a local school, using creative practice to explore nature, heritage and place
- A half-day family event offering intergenerational making and storytelling, exploring The Viking Way itself
- A public workshop event hosted in local village hall or a local library
- A session with a community group (e.g. WI, youth clubs, Scouts/Guides) tailored to their interests and capacity
- Research and studio time for the artists to create the final outputs

There is an additional 0.5 days within each commission for planning and mentoring time, nurturing the development of the supporting artist skills in socially engaged and nature-based practice.

The project will be supported by Chelsey Everatt as Producer, who will arrange the workshop logistics, mentoring as required, lead marketing and overall project management.

The team model of a lead artist and support artist will allow for very local creatives to potentially work with someone outside of their immediate network. The team may have similar practice or differing artforms, depending on what they hope to gain from the residency.

The commission should culminate in the creation of trail-responsive artwork and reflections shaped by local people, exploring themes of nature connection, cultural heritage and environmental care. Outcomes will be shared across other sections of the wider project, connecting communities and building a cumulative archive of collective experience.

A digital blog will document the journey, showcasing imagery, sound, writing and interviews from each segment. Pop-up exhibitions and printed materials will further share the stories gathered along The Viking Way, offering ongoing legacy across the region.

Creatives involved will be supported to connect across commissions, building a peer-led network of socially engaged practitioners with a shared interest in nature-connected and place-based arts. This informal cohort will offer opportunities for exchange, reflection and future collaboration beyond the project's timeline.

The overall project is divided into 13 sections from Barton upon Humber, through the Wolds, Lincoln City, and down through rural Lincolnshire into Rutland.

There are two commissions available in North Lincolnshire, for the areas:

1. Barton upon Humber to South Ferriby
2. South Ferriby to Barnetby

This covers the areas of The Viking Way within North Lincolnshire. Artists should state which area they are focusing on in their proposal. Artists must choose area 1 or 2, and cannot propose a project across both localities.

Visit

<https://www.visitlincolnshire.com/things-to-do/walking/viking-way-01-barton-on-humber-to-barnetby-le-wold-walk/> to see full details of this 7 miles section of The Viking Way.

Timeline and Key Dates

The timeline for this project is as follows:

Date	Activity
Monday 27th April at 1pm	Deadline for creative proposals
28th April - 1st May	Decision making process and commission awarded
5th May - 1st July	Workshops and activity
16th May	Sharing at Lincolnshire Wolds Outdoor Festival*
17th and 18th June	Sharing at Lincolnshire Show* (tbc)
Wednesday 8th July	Sharing in North Lincolnshire

**the artist does not need to commit to being present for these full events but would be encouraged to attend if they have capacity - there may be some additional fees available to cover that time but this is unconfirmed at this stage*

Budget

Each commission has a budget of up to £1950 for the artist fee which should include planning, preparation, workshops, mentoring the supporting artist, finalising and sharing the artwork, with an additional £300 available for materials. This is approximately 6.5 days of work at £300 per day.

Additional funding is being sought to expand the project beyond this initial commission.

Submission

Please email proposals to chelsey@rootedarts.org.uk by 1pm on Monday 27th April, clearly marked '**NLC Passing Tale - Lead Artist**'. The submission should include the following information:

- Outline of your approach to the project including:
 - your vision for working with communities
 - how you'll connect this specifically to The Viking Way walking route
 - which section of the route you're most interested in (1 or 2)
 - what the outcome might be
 - why you are generally interested in the project
- Your experience of supporting/mentoring other artists
- Confirmation you can meet the timeline requirements
- Information about your practice - this could include links to a website, CV, 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.

Rules and Regulations

The deadline is 1pm on Monday 27th April. Any submissions that arrive late will not be considered. The assessment of the submissions will be made by the Rooted Arts team, supported by local communities. 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 targets, outcomes and milestones will be agreed.