

Stories from the Stores – Artist Commission

Are you a storyteller or creative, collective or group interested in opening up new narratives in public museums and introducing new ways of understanding our histories?

We are looking for an artist or creative to undertake research into our collection and displays and find a creative and engaging way to bring out new stories and perspectives. Working closely with the Exhibitions Team at Lincoln Museum and Usher Gallery, the selected artist will research and develop a new interpretative commission to be shown in the Usher Gallery as a key part of the ongoing Usher Gallery rehang work (2023-2028). Through this Arts Council England NPO-funded programme, we are aiming to bring previously untold stories to the forefront and highlight lesser-known artists and artworks in our collection.

More information on the Usher Gallery rehang can be found on the website:

<https://www.lincolnmuseum.com/exhibitions-and-events/view/usher-gallery-rehang-2025-stories-from-the-stores>

We want the commission to focus on storytelling, accessibility and interpretation. This could be a written work, film or sound work.

We are also committed to facilitating accessibility for the broadest possible audience, thinking about ways of ensuring interpretation is open to all, so we want to see this reflected in your commission application.

The successful applicant will be supported in their research processes by the Exhibitions Team, facilitating access to the galleries, objects and archives that are available.

For any further questions on this brief and application process, please email our lincolnmuseum@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Key information:**Timeline:**

Call out launch: w/c 24th November

Deadline: Monday 19th January 2026, 9am

Shortlisting deadline: 30th January 2026

Shortlisted candidates' conversations: 12th and 13th February 2026

*These will be an opportunity for you to meet the team and discuss your proposed project before the final artist is selected.

Final artist selected: Monday 16th February, 5pm

Residency and production period: w/c 23rd February - 24th April 2026

Money:

£2950 Artist Fee for a maximum of 10 days (£295 per day) – to be paid in two halves at beginning and end of project.

£2000 production fee for new work – to be managed by Lincolnshire County Council Exhibition Team.

Please note:

We are fully committed to Lincolnshire County Council's Equality Policy and will proactively offer opportunities to people from different backgrounds as a contribution to developing and maintaining an organisation where differing ideas, abilities, backgrounds, and needs are fostered and valued and where those with diverse backgrounds and experiences can participate and contribute.

Further, candidates who face cultural, social, physical or economic barriers to applying for opportunities in the arts are particularly encouraged to apply. Our selection panel understand our commitment to equality and diversity.

How to apply:

We want to hear how you work, what your research interests are and what experiences you bring to this new commission.

You can apply via written application or through video recording. Please send the video file via a Google Drive link or similar file transferring software.

For all applications, please send up to 5 supporting images.

All applications should include the following:

- An introduction to your practice and details of current projects. (max 200 words or 1 min recording)
- What experience do you have of working with museums and galleries or creating stories that explore new or unusual perspectives? (max 200 words or 1 min recording)
- What would you propose for this new commission (it does not need to be a detailed proposal at this stage)? *Please think about how you could make this accessible to the broadest possible audience e.g. consider subtitles in films and audio options for written word responses. (max 400 words or 2 min recording)