



Art in the Streets Commission December 2020

As part of Sunderland Culture's Great Place programme, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England, we are launching an open call to independent creative practitioners, artists, producers and cultural or heritage organisations based in Sunderland and North East, to apply for the following commission opportunities.

The commissions come as a result of ongoing work that has taken place through Sunderland Culture's Unleash The Coalfields, Health and Wellbeing programme. The programme sets out to explore the creative and cultural impact on individuals and communities, using arts, heritage, culture and creativity.

About The Commissions

Our project 'Unleash The Coalfields' has worked in partnership with Sunderland's Coalfields community for the past two years. Through community collaboration, we have worked with artists, local businesses and community groups to produce ambitious high-quality projects and events such as Hetton Carnival's Great Place Village and 'Looking out, Looking In' - a socially distanced art exhibition.

In the winter months, traditionally households may have been visiting Sunderland illuminations, taking trips to visit Santa and we'd be connecting in our communities through parties and celebrations. Yet sadly in these testing times we find ourselves unable to attend the cultural and creative events and opportunities that would ordinarily have been on offer. The aim of these commissions is to bring some joy, light and hope to our Coalfields community. Using high quality arts and culture, we want to bring art to the streets and in turn, lift spirits and improve wellbeing of those people and communities who may be most isolated at this time. In February to March 2021, we would like to deliver two commissions by two artists or organisations exploring the themes of 'light' and 'hope.'

The commissions could be theatre, music, film, dance, fine and digital arts, circus and more. It could be a performance on a truck through the streets, it could be a light installation in an outdoor hidden location, large-scale projected images/photographs on buildings, art in bus shelters – the possibilities are endless!



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We are particularly interested in artists or organisations who:

- have taken time to consider how to reach some of the most isolated members of the community (ie. people who may be housebound, for example)
- are innovative, professional and passionate about delivering high-quality artwork(s)
- are sensitive and thorough in their approach to the health and safety considerations at this time

Budget

Each commission has a total budget of £2,500. This is inclusive of VAT and expenses.

Eligibility

To apply for the Sunderland Culture Coalfield Art in the Streets commission you must meet the following criteria:

- You must be at least 18 years of age
- You must be either an independent creative practitioner who lives or works in Sunderland/ North East or a representative of a cultural organisation based in Sunderland or the North East.
- Creative practitioners must work in an Arts Council England supported art form, which are music, dance, theatre arts, visual arts, literature, combined arts or museum practice.
- You must have a UK bank account in the exact name you are applying in (if you apply as a small group of practitioners, one person should submit the application and take the lead on managing the grant, and should provide their bank details)
- You must be able to demonstrate a professional track record of working as a creative practitioner/organisation
- You must be able to evidence your connection and commitment to the cultural development of Sunderland and the wider North East of England.
- You must be committed to providing quality services
- You must be experienced in working on community arts programmes
- You must have experience of working with vulnerable members of the public
- You must be able to present evidence of Public Liability Insurance and a current DBS



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- You must be committed to working within Sunderland Culture's Safeguarding Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Equality and Diversity Policy guidelines.
- You must be willing to complete a full risk assessment prior to the programme commencing
- You must be able to commit to the dates given in the brief

How to Apply

To apply for a Sunderland Culture Coalfield Art in the Streets commission please provide the following information by 9am Friday, 8th January 2021:

Individuals

- An up to date CV, including contact details
- A statement about your work to date (up to 300 words) - please send any web links etc.
- Project Outline: Tell us about the creative activity you want to undertake and how you propose to deliver it (up to 300 words)
- Tell us about your experience of working with communities (up to 300 words)
- Tell us how would you consider those people who are most isolated in the community? (up to 150 words)
- Tell us how would you consider the health and safety implications of your proposal? (up to 150 words)
- A full budget breakdown
- A brief timeline
- A professional reference

Organisations

- Full contact details
- A brief statement of how your organisation is constituted and managed
- A statement about the organisation's work to date (up to 300 words) - please include any web links etc.
- Tell us about the creative activity the organisation proposes to undertake and how it will be delivered (up to 300 words)
- Tell us about your experience of working with communities (up to 300 words)



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- Tell us how would you consider those people that are most isolated in the community? (150 words)
- Tell us how would you consider the health and safety implications of your proposal? (150 words)
- Full budget breakdown
- A brief timeline
- A professional reference

Key Dates

Deadline for applications: Friday 8th of January 2021 (9 am)

Shortlisted artists notified: Tuesday 12th January 2021

Zoom interviews: Tuesday 19th January 2021

Other Formats

If you would like to request this document in another language or the large print version of this document, please email vicki.kennedy@sunderlandculture.org.uk

More about the project

Sunderland Culture

Sunderland Culture was formed in 2016 to bring together the cultural programmes of Sunderland City Council, University of Sunderland and Music, Arts and Culture (MAC) Trust into a single, independent, organisation and to realise the ambition of a city brimming with creative potential.

Sunderland Culture works in National Glass Centre, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Arts Centre Washington and The Fire Station, and delivers programmes of cultural engagement and events across the whole city. It works across the city to ensure the power of great art, culture and creativity is harnessed for the benefit of Sunderland, its residents and visitors. Sunderland Culture's mission is to improve life for everyone in Sunderland through culture. Sunderland Culture is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.



Great Place Scheme

Sunderland Culture's Great Place scheme is a key plank of Sunderland's cultural renaissance and will ensure that the city's communities are at the heart of this change – making connections and effecting tangible difference to people's lives in the future.

Since it launched in 2018 our Great Place scheme has developed sustainable and replicable city-wide strategies to use culture to address many of Sunderland's complex economic, social and cultural issues, particularly around socio-economic disadvantage, health and wellbeing, aspirations of young people, community cohesion, low growth in creative industries, heritage buildings at risk and profile of the city.

Sunderland is one of 16 pilot Great Place schemes funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England.

Equality & Diversity Statement

Sunderland Culture recognises the diverse nature of our visitors, staff and community through a proactive approach to equality and diversity, embracing a culture of mutual respect. As an organisation with high profile local, national and international status venues, we aim to act as an exemplar of good practice and to influence our partners and community in sharing our values.

We celebrate and value the diversity of all visitors and communities. We are a diverse community that values and promotes equality and diversity. We actively seek to promote and support the work of artists from diverse backgrounds and to enable visitors from diverse and/or disadvantaged backgrounds to enjoy and participate in our work. We do not tolerate discriminatory practices of any kind. In line with our strategic aims, we work to continue to deliver a positive environment for the conduct of all our activities, where all members of our community treat one another with mutual respect and dignity. Through our policies and practices we work to ensure that all visitors, students and staff are welcome in our community and do not face discrimination with regard to any aspect of their identity, such as age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, economic status, marriage/ civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief or sexual orientation.

We will ensure that this commitment is demonstrated through our governance structure, staff recruitment and training, learning programme, arts programme and audience development activities. We will support the priorities of the Creative Case for Diversity through the strategic priorities of the organisation as will be evidenced through the delivery of our arts programme.



Health & Safety Policy Statement

Sunderland Culture is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of its employees, and any persons whose health and safety may be affected by our activities, in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, and so far as is reasonably practicable.

Sunderland Culture is also committed to limiting the negative impacts of its activities on the environment and maximising the positive impacts. Sunderland Culture seeks to:

- continuously improve the working environment
- provide a safe and healthy working environment and safeguard the health and safety of its staff and visitors
- promote and put into effect policies which safeguard the environment
- comply with relevant health and safety legislation
- prevent injury and ill health in the workplace