



Lincolnshire  
One Venues

Lincolnshire One Venues

Art / Language Commission 2013/14

## Background

Lincolnshire One Venues (LOV) is a collaborative group of ten arts venues that are working together to raise the profile, status and quality of arts provision in Lincolnshire.

It is made up of eight performing arts centres (South Holland Arts Centre (Spalding), Gratham Guildhall Arts Centre, Stamford Arts Centre, Trinity Arts Centre (Gainsborough), Lincoln Drill Hall, Lincoln Performing Arts Centre (University of Lincoln), Terry O'Toole Theatre (Hykeham) and the Riverhead Theatre (Louth)) and two visual arts venues- **The Collection (Lincoln)** and the **National Centre for Craft & Design (Sleaford)**.

LOV was successful in securing support from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation (PHF) to facilitate a programme of activity to encourage young people to engage in the arts as participants, audiences and leaders.

This commission is funded through LOV and the PHF specifically for the visual arts organisations in LOV.

## Outline

The National Centre for Craft & Design (NCCD), The Collection and LOV Young People's Programme wish to jointly commission an artist or artists group to undertake a residency at NCCD and The Collection over 6 months from October 2013 – March 2014.

More information on the venues and the young people's programme can be found at the end of this document.

The residency will result in the artist creating a new piece of work for LOV in response to a series of workshops, run by the artist, with young people from the county.

The work produced and workshops must:

- Relate to or involve the written word
- Explore and reflect the voice of the young people and their response to culture/creativity within the county
- Encourage the young people to create their own artworks/diaries/blogs to express their experiences.
- The final work will be exhibited at NCCD and The Collection and/or a site chosen by the artists (depending on the form the final work takes)

The artist would be required to document the workshops and creative development process online via a blog – using text, video etc as well as social media – linked to the venue websites and LOV website.

The young people will also be working with a series of artists in different mediums to enable them to create their own work, in parallel to the commissioned artist. The experience will

encourage them to reflect their opinions and own voice within their work and give them the skills and experiences to choose the right medium in which to do this.

These workshops will include:

- Screen printing
- Film making/video blogging
- Sign writing

The young people will be recruited via partnerships with Colleges (graphic design/painting and decorating courses), Youth Groups and/or young carers in Sleaford, for workshops at NCCD and rural locations within Lincolnshire for workshops at/in association with The Collection. These groups will be identified by LOV and will be in place when the artist(s) takes up the post.

### **Aims of Commission**

- To commission an artist(s) to make new work for Lincolnshire One Venues. The Collection, Lincoln and The National Centre for Art and Design, Sleaford.
- For an artist(s) to work with, and respond to, two groups of young people. To use this experience to create a temporary, semi-permanent or permanent commission based on text and/or language for the venues.
- For an artist(s) to spend a minimum of 5 days at each of the consortium venues during the residency and to be 'public facing' during this time; working with the venue learning team(s) to promote the residency possibly through artist talks and an 'open studio' for children, young people and families.
- Give young people the opportunity to work with artists – to inspire and teach new skills and increase their understanding of the creative/cultural offer in Lincolnshire
- Bring young people in to NCCD and The Collection
- Present a new way of working and a collaborative way of working
- Engage audiences digitally

### **Timescale**

Application deadline	September 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013.
Artist Selection	September 2013
Residency start	Oct/Nov 2013
Workshops	Nov 2013 – Mar 2014
Final work created	April 2014
Work Exhibited/Celebration	June 2013

### **Fee**

Artist Fee (min. 25 days incl. Expenses)	£3750
Materials (workshops and final piece)	£1000
<i>Total Fee</i>	<i>£4750</i>

### **How to apply**

### Applications must include:

- A current CV including artist work and any educational or work shop experience no more than 2 sides of A4, to include two referee details.
- A proposal for how you would approach the project, including why you are interested in this opportunity. No more than two sides of A4
- Up to 8 images ( jpeg no more than 2mb each ) or up to 5 minutes of film work or 8 examples of written work (totalling no more than 6 A4 sheets )

Please send to: [ashley.gallant@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ashley.gallant@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Deadline for applications: 9am, Monday 2 September



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### Further Information

Previously known as The Hub, the NCCD was established as a centre for craft, design and making in October 2003. It was seen as playing a significant district, sub regional and regional role in creating economic, social and fiscal value. It was initially not really seen as a national resource but as a more sophisticated tourism attraction than its predecessor – ‘The Pea Room’ in Heckington. It sought to maximise the profile and sales of ‘local’ and ‘national’ makers in craft (predominately) and design.

The Hub was the idea of a single visionary person – Clive Redshaw. It fitted with NKDC’s commitment to the arts in the district with the current artsNK team, then employed within the local authority.

Between 2003 and 2005 the Hub had already developed a strong reputation within the national museum and gallery sector - particularly those orientated within craft and design. The exhibition programme was considered to present high quality, challenging and cutting edge craft and design.

In 2005 a development in policy and direction led to the Hub being cast as a national resource. ACE happily agreed to the new title ***The Hub: National Centre for Craft & Design***. A succinct form of words was then coined to describe our vision: ***to promote, celebrate and exhibit the very best of national and international craft & design.***

Other changes at this time included the shift from education to Learning – a profound change in meaning and orientation with immense implications for everything we do, where the exhibitions programme was placed at the heart of the learning programme. There was a fresh focus on popular culture and social history to broaden the appeal and accessibility of our exhibitions, and a shift in the purpose of the Roof Gallery to include a series of exhibition slots purely for local/regional artists.

To broaden and increase reach the building was opened to new uses including the writers group, live music, Hub cinema and concerts/performances. This brought new groups to the Hub and further enhanced the concept that the building as the 'Hub' of the community and can be accessed by all.

In 2010 the *Hub* was dropped, and the gallery became known as ***The National Centre for Craft and Design***. This change aligned with the new National Portfolio Organisation status agreed with Arts Council England and the continued funding for three years that this offered (2012-2015). The new NPO structure is a consortium of the NCCD, Design Factory and ArtsNK, the combined, 'fused' service offers new and exciting ways of delivering the arts.

The NCCD is not a traditional museum or gallery: there is no permanent collection to base exhibitions around. The value of this is in the critical knowledge generated and contextualised about contemporary craft and design. The exhibition programme focuses primarily on contemporary work created in the last 20 years, other older work can be incorporated to provide a context.

### **The Collection and Usher gallery**

The Usher Gallery is the only purpose built gallery in Lincolnshire and holds the decorative and fine art collections of the city and county. It is owned by the City of Lincoln Council and managed by Lincolnshire County Council. The Gallery stands within the historic Temple Gardens below the Cathedral and Medieval Bishops' Palace.

The Usher Gallery was established via a bequest from Lincoln-born jeweller James Ward Usher and the new purpose-built building opened on its present site on 25th May 1927. Further bequests in the 1950s and 60s led to the addition of two extensions, the Curtois wing, which was opened in 1959, and the Coin Room, added in 1972. These extensions have now been demolished and a new pavilion entrance, designed by Building Design Partnership, added in 2010.

Following the development of the new City and County Museum since 1st January 2004 the Usher has been operated as part of The Collection: Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire.

The Gallery (grade 2\* listed) sits in an area of Lincoln now designated as the "Cultural Quarter" adjacent to the new Museum.

[www.thecollectionmuseum.com](http://www.thecollectionmuseum.com)

### **LOV Young People's Programme**

LOV have been awarded funding (April 2012 – March 2015) by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation for a collaborative project that aims to engage young people aged 12 – 25, from across the County within the ten venues.

Through the project the venues will provide young people with access to the widest possible range of opportunities to see, participate in and engage with the arts and will listen to the interests and aspirations of young people in order to deepen their engagement and increase their influence on the venues as consumers, critics, programmers, aspiring artists and creative entrepreneurs.

This includes opportunities for young people to commission creative practitioners to produce new work with and for young people as well as skills development for young people interested in becoming involved in the governance and programming of the venues.

[www.lincolnshireonevenues.com](http://www.lincolnshireonevenues.com)

[www.facebook.com/lovprojectteam](http://www.facebook.com/lovprojectteam)

Over the past 9 months the team have worked to establish the Young People's programme in the ten venues that form LOV. This process has included undertaking consultation with young people that already access the venues and starting to create sustainable connections with local youth-led organisations, schools and delivery partners. The team have also been working directly with local young people to research and trial what types of activities best engage young people and bring them in to the venues on a regular basis and capture their imagination in terms of future programming.

From August – February 2013 the Young people's Programme has:

- Engaged **466 young people** in a creative workshop or consultation session, working with **23 Artists**
- Worked directly with **136 young people** to organize **21 events** showcasing **105 young artists and performers** and attracted over **750 audience members**

Several initiatives are now underway and some exciting changes are already happening in our venues:

### **1. Regular Decision Making/Programming Groups**

There are a number of regular groups that run across LOV – all of which are involved in programming the venue and/or creating their own opportunities for other young people to see and take part in events and activities. These groups are also a great opportunity for young people to gain valuable professional skills in event and project management, Critical writing and review and marketing and communications, as well as having the opportunity to create their own work (whatever the artform).

### **2. Workshops and Events**

**Schools:** An important element of the programme is deepening relationships between schools and venues. The Young People's Programme Team work closely with visiting companies which are bring work to a Lincolnshire One Venue, to provide a programme workshops, Q&A Sessions and tours that enhance the venues offer to school groups and provide the students involved with a greater understanding of the artform they are studying and the performance or exhibition they are visiting.

**Independent Participants:** As part of the programme a number of workshops and events are run across the ten venues. These have been either designed by the Programme Team,

having identified a gap in provision, to test what sort of activity attracts young people to the venue. These included a photography workshop in Stamford, Circus Skills in Grantham and life drawing in Gainsborough.

The Programme Team also support the regular programming groups to commission artists to work with them on specific skills or interests they may have as well as helping the groups to develop and deliver their own events and activities.

### **3. LOV Commissions**

As part of the programme an artist commission is offered each year, for new work to be made for/in the venues, specifically targeting young audiences.

For 2013/14 Pilot Theatre have been commissioned to create a new piece of theatre for young people, working title: 'Ghost Town' for the performing arts venues alongside the artist in residence commission for the visual arts venues.

### **4. Work Experience/Professional Development**

An important area of development for the venues is around providing professional development opportunities for young people and creating a shared programme of work experience across the ten venues so that young people can access the same training or types of experience and quality of experience across the network.