



Creative Hull, Absolutely Cultured © Studio Capri

Local Artist Opportunity

Do you have an exciting existing project to showcase, or something amazing you're currently working on that you'd like to try out in summer 2021?

We're looking for 8 local artists currently working or living in Hull and East Riding who have an idea for a creative activity/event to engage people of all ages, shining a light on the incredible wealth of talent and creativity that the city has to offer.

If this sounds like you, you can apply for up to £1000 from the *Creative Hull Fund for Artists* to help towards exhibiting your work as part of Creative Hull, from the 16th – 18th of July 2021.

What is Creative Hull?

Creative Hull is a celebration of the creativity that Hull has to offer through homegrown arts and culture, taking place from the 16th - 18th July 2021.

It shines a spotlight on the existing high-quality artistic talent that the city is known for, alongside new commissions and curations from regional and national established artists. Much of this curated activity will utilise disused shops and buildings to infuse creativity into the city centre, working with local artists to bring their proposals to life.

Creative Hull is an opportune moment to explore how creativity and culture can be part of our city's rejuvenation. The pandemic has highlighted how important creativity is for our health and wellbeing, it has also accelerated the closure of high street shops. Hull is a city which already recognises the important role for culture in regeneration and communities but never before has this been as important as it is now. This is an experiment in how some of these disused buildings might be used more permanently going forward as well as providing a reset moment in how creativity and culture can be part of shaping Hull's future.

Creative Hull will also reach across different neighbourhoods, energising the city's streets, public spaces, community buildings and arts venues by celebrating existing events city-wide. Everyone will be welcome to join in with Creative Hull and discover something new through arts and culture.

The event will be promoted online through the Absolutely Cultured website and socials, with a programme of online activities available too.

Who is the fund for?

We are looking for early career to established professional local artists working across artforms to submit their idea, including:

- Visual (e.g., painting, drawing, crafts or ceramics)

- Performing Arts (e.g., dancing, music, theatre, spoken word)
- Digital (e.g., projection, film, photography)
- Multi-disciplinary (different combinations of the above!)

You must have held at least two professional projects of any scale and have a demonstratable record of your work, your experience working to timeframes and with budgets.

You may apply as one artist, a pair or as a collective group.

Absolutely Cultured are committed to diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from everyone, regardless of race, background, sexual orientation and from those who identify as being disabled, D/deaf, neurodiverse/neurodivergent and those experiencing chronic illness, mental health conditions and more.

You must be 18+ to apply for this fund and must be an artist/s currently living in/working in Hull and East Riding.

So, what's involved?

Funds of up to £1000 are available to apply for to showcase your work as part of this exciting programme of local creativity. This is inclusive of VAT.

This can be small-scale work that already exists, or the seed of an idea that you'd like to try out as part of your research and/or development of a project.

The fund is based on the equivalent of £500p/w for two weeks and you may use this fund to pay yourself, or other creatives.

We're looking for proposals of work that fits into three different categories ...

1. **DIGITAL:** This would be available as part of Creative Hull's digital programme of activities and events, available on the Absolutely Cultured website and social media channels for audiences to access.
2. **COMMUNITY:** Work that takes place in and seeks to unite communities through arts and culture.
3. **SPACE:** Work that can take place in an empty shop unit in the city centre, where audiences can come and visit.

As well as the fund of up to £1000, Absolutely Cultured can provide the following (if applicable to your project):

- Help finding a space (which can be used free of charge) for your idea.
- Advice on technical specifications and health and safety, including the latest COVID-19 regulations.
- Critical and creative feedback to help you develop your project.
- Advice on producing, project development and event delivery.
- Volunteer support.
- Branding and wayfinding materials to help people find you.
- Marketing across our social media channels and website, with your event/activity as part of Creative Hull's programme.
- Advice on how to make your work accessible to audiences.

How do I apply?

You can apply for the Creative Hull Fund for Artists in the following ways.

1. Send us no more than two pages of A4 telling us about your idea. You can tell us about your project in whatever way you think expresses you best! You can write, draw or use pictures, or describe it in a video for example, or write a traditional proposal. We're open to your interpretation.
2. Send us a two-minute video introducing yourself and your idea in your own voice.

The important thing is that your application tells us...

- Who you are, including a short bio and a rundown of your previous works (please include links where possible)
- What your idea is, including:
 - Artform
 - Which category you're applying for (community, digital or space).
 - Type of space needed
 - Who will be involved (team and/or participants)
 - How you plan to engage audiences
- Why you'd like to be part of Creative Hull.
- How you'd make it Covid-safe (if applicable).

Please also provide

- A timeline of how and when you propose to create and/or install the work.
- A simple break down of how you will spend the budget, up to a maximum of £1000.

Please send your applications to Sarah Penney at creativehull@absolutelycultured.co.uk by **12pm noon on the 11th of May 2021**.

Artists will be informed of the outcome of their application by the 21st of May.

Due to the high-volume of applications anticipated for this fund, we may be unable to provide specific feedback, but will aim to do so wherever possible.

I may have some questions or need some help!

No problem! We're more than happy to help.

You can also get in touch with us at creativehull@absolutelycultured.co.uk and we can help you with your application or answer any questions that you may have.

We can also send this document in a format that best suits you, such as easy print or large print. Just let us know!

We look forward to meeting you and we can't wait to hear your idea!

Covid-19

We understand that there is an ongoing pandemic and that events, plans and public-facing activity can be uncertain.

Returning to public spaces after the past year can be worrying, and we are committed to staying safe and supporting artists and our audiences. That's why we've put into place covid

measures across Creative Hull, including social distancing, safely managing audience capacities, hand sanitisation and mask wearing in all indoor spaces.

Our philosophy in this current climate is simple. If it's not safe, it's not happening.

Absolutely Cultured will work with you to ensure that your activity is safe and in accordance with government guidelines, as well as support your wellbeing and practice as an artist throughout the process.

If you are worried about the coronavirus and would like some information on how to cope with stress, anxiety or frustration, the NHS has some great tips here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-anxiety-tips/>.

Further opportunities beyond Creative Hull

We support artists working across all disciplines, at all stages of their career. Our early career artist support programme includes professional skills training, facilitated networking and opportunities to showcase work.

Previous examples, delivered through our [HIPI](#) and [Fruit Factory Network](#) programmes, include 1:1 advice surgeries with Arts Council England, workshops on writing grant applications and masterclasses in touring work, marketing and fundraising.

If you are a local artist, you can find out about our current and upcoming opportunities by visiting our website www.absolutelycultured.co.uk.