

Brief for Artist: Carlisle, River Public Art Project 2016



Eden Rivers Trust in partnership with Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, NACRO and Carlisle Youth Zone would like to commission an artist (or artistic collective) as part of the Cherish Eden project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Eden Rivers Trust is the only charity dedicated to the conservation and protection of the River Eden, its tributaries and its surrounding countryside. The Cherish Eden project aims to create a better understanding of rivers and to make stronger connections between rivers and local communities.

The Carlisle River Art Project is part of a larger initiative in Carlisle where Eden Rivers Trust are involved in a range of practical river activities, education and interpretation programmes including flood clean ups, reinstating some of the footpaths and fences damaged as a result of flooding. As such we hope that the River Art Project will support Carlisle's recovery from the 2015 flooding.

The commission offers an opportunity for an artist (or artist collective) to design, develop and deliver a creative project for the communities affected by flooding in Carlisle, Cumbria. The Artist will work collaboratively with the local community to develop temporary Art Trails along the rivers in the Carlisle area. This project will involve the artist delivering a number of workshops that result in the creation of a high quality Art Trails.

The aim of the Carlisle River Art Project is to encourage people to explore their local river environment through creativity and the arts, to share and express their ideas and experiences of the river.

The objectives of the project:

- To support participants in understanding, expressing and sharing their experiences of the river.
- To develop people's understanding of some of the environmental issues relating to the river through engagement with the river environment and Tullie House's collections to collect inspiration and information for the trail.
- To encourage people to explore the river through a temporary trail.
- To assist with the City's recovery from the flooding events.

Budget and Artists Fee:

Artist Fee for planning, preparation and delivery of activities: £6,000

Materials for the activities and pop up trails: £3,000

Total Project Budget: £9,000

Artist Role:

To develop the creative idea, concept and plan for the project.

To develop activity/workshop options appropriate to the groups identified.

To deliver an agreed number of workshops.

To produce and install the pop up trails.

To liaise and consult with ERT staff, Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery staff, and other local community partners in the planning and delivery of the project.

The Trail Product:

The Trails will be sited in an outdoor setting and therefore must be robust and weather proof lasting for a 4 -8 week period. We ask that artists state the longevity of the trail in their bid.

It should be made and installed in an environmentally, ethically sound way and sympathetic to the location.

Audience:

The Artist will work collaboratively with the following groups.

- Young People participating in a NACRO skills programme.
- Carlisle Youth Zone: Young people participating in the Summer holiday activity programme and youth clubs.
- Other community groups identified as a result of the project.

The priority audience for the workshops are those people who have been directly and indirectly affected by the flooding including young people and community group participants.

The audience for the trail are local residents and visitors to Carlisle.

Project Partners:

Eden Rivers Trust; Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery; NACRO; Carlisle Youth Zone

Provisional Dates:

Planning, preparation and development by Artist: May- June 2016

Delivery of workshops: July/August/Sept/Oct 2016.

Set up and opening of Trails: August/Sept/Oct 2016.

Key Contacts at Eden Rivers Trust:

Jane Davies, Heritage and Outreach Coordinator , jane@edenrt.org; 01768 866788

Process for applying:**Submit applications to:**

Jane Davies, Jane@edenrt.org, Eden Rivers Trust, Dunmail Building, Newton Rigg College, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 0AH. Deadline for expressions of interest: **Thursday 28st of April 2016 by 12.00 noon**

1. A Statement of Interest, which outlines your idea, method statement and your experience of working with community groups on collaborative projects. This should be no longer than 3 sides of A4.
2. A CV, including details of relevant/similar projects.
3. Contact details of two referees who know your work and working methods.

4. A selection of 3 image examples of your work.

5. A website address if you have one.

Expressions of interest will be accepted via email or paper copy. Artists will be selected on a basis of:

- An expressed understanding of the brief
- Strength of creative concept
- Experience of creating collaborative art
- Experience of working with environmental themes
- Experience and skills in delivering workshops with a range of audiences
- Understanding of the local communities needs

