

Lincoln Arts
Centre



Associate Artists Information for applicants



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

You can also listen to our audio
application guide on [our website](#).

Who are Lincoln Arts Centre

Lincoln Arts Centre is the University of Lincoln's public arts centre with a focus on contemporary visual and performing arts. We nurture the next generation of artists and artistic ideas. With you we'd like to create artistic work that challenges, inspires and delights audiences across our auditorium, gallery, studios, cafe stage, digital stages and with people across the campus, city and county.



Image by Richard Hall



Image by Richard Hall

What is this opportunity

As an arts centre we expect artists to be at the heart of our organisation. We are currently working with five Associate Artists and are seeking one further artist to join the cohort. We hope to work with established artists with national or international reputations and recognition to make innovative new works that strides towards our vision of a world transformed by creativity.

We want to develop long-term, deep and meaningful partnerships with artists, companies or collectives over the next two years and potentially beyond. Together we will create new performances, artworks or exhibitions, we will work with communities through transformative participatory projects and take time to inform each other's practice: whether that be by advocating for Lincoln Arts Centre, by representing us at cultural events - or by us providing you some breathing space to think, so you can take your work to the next level.

What are we looking for

We are looking for one associate to join us alongside already established [Zest Theatre](#), [Proto-type Theater](#), [Joss Arnott Dance](#), [Casson & Friends](#), and recently announced [Annabel McCourt](#) who have contributed significantly to the cultural landscape and ecology of Lincoln and Lincolnshire, representing us on stages across the UK and beyond.

- ▶ We are a multi-disciplinary arts centre and are keen to work with artists, companies or collectives that are working across: dance, theatre, visual art, music or spoken word
- ▶ We will accept applications from artists, companies or collectives based in England
- ▶ You might also work across the UK or internationally
- ▶ You will be an established artists with 5+ years experience. You will have probably worked with partner organisations and venues - and have a good track record of creating new art works that inspire, challenge or delight
- ▶ We will only work with artists that align with our [values](#) and our [artistic policy](#).

We are particularly interested in artists that have a track record in one or more of the following areas:

- ▶ Those who are experts in Creative Health
- ▶ Those making work for children, young people, and families - with a particular focus on early years.

Lincoln Arts Centre actively celebrates diversity. The contribution of diverse perspectives makes our world a better place. This opportunity is open to everyone. We are keen to hear from artists who are from the global majority, Deaf or disabled.

What support is on offer

- ▶ The artist/company/collective will receive a £20,000 commission over the lifetime of the 2-year association with the venue
- ▶ Support for access, inclusion, and environmental impact mitigation
- ▶ Risk mitigation touring support, to support you to tour your work to Arts Council England Priority Places
- ▶ A home at Lincoln Arts Centre, with hot desking available
- ▶ Paid opportunities to share practice at our symposium and conference series in partnership with the [Barbican Creative Hub](#)
- ▶ Opportunities to work with students
- ▶ Potential to work with an intern from our [Routes In](#) programme for a specific period
- ▶ Potential to get a paid student placement with a specific brief
- ▶ Advocacy and a network of partners who are open to rehearsal space in-kind, complimentary tickets for go-see trips, staff time and mentoring.

Equity, Justice and Inclusion

We will do our best to meet all access needs of artists for the duration of the programme. We are aware that individual access needs can vary and change.

If you have an access request or want to talk your specific needs through with someone, please contact enquiries@lincolnartscentre.co.uk or call **01522 837600** and we'll get a member of our team to speak with you.

What would you be expected to deliver

- ▶ A new performance, exhibition or artwork which could tour over the course of the two years
- ▶ We'd expect you to have appropriate data collection measures in place that demonstrate impact
- ▶ We'd expect you to share practice and support with our [Innovate Artist cohort](#) (our programme to develop new and early career artists), should they wish to reach out to you
- ▶ An openness and willingness to work with students and provide learning opportunities.

What we can't support

- ▶ Activities that don't engage other people in some form or with no connection to Lincoln/shire
- ▶ When fair pay, and fair working hours aren't considered in plans
- ▶ Where activities don't consider access
- ▶ Projects that don't give assurance on how they will engage people, or that don't put audiences first.

Image by Richard Hall



Key dates

▶ Expression of interests

Opens Friday 13th March 2026;
Closes Monday 13th April 2026.

13
Mar

13
Apr

▶ Second stage meeting

If your expression of interest is accepted, then you will be invited to a second stage meeting which will take place on Friday 24th April 2026 online or in-person.

24
Apr

▶ Programme start

All Associate Artists will be in place, onboarded, and announced publicly in May 2026.

Image by Richard Hall



How to apply

You can apply via written or video application using this link:

[Apply now](#)



To help you to prepare your application, here are the questions we ask that you think about with how much weight we will give to each answer in our shortlisting.

- ▲ Tell us about your practice or company practice? It would be useful to know any key commissions you have undertaken in the past, key collaborators, venues or festivals you have worked with (40% weighting)
- ▲ Can you outline how your ideas connect to the areas of interest in the associate scheme (working with children, young people and families; supporting creative health initiatives; and touring new work to mid-scale venues) and how you plan to use some of the dedicated funds for access and inclusion, environmental impact mitigation, or financial risk mitigation? (40%)
- ▲ How might you work with Lincoln Arts Centre's [Innovate Artists](#), University of Lincoln students and contribute to the local ecology of Lincoln/shire? (20%).

We don't expect overly long answers, keep it concise and to the point. If you want, you can include videos or images.

We expect this to be an extremely competitive process. If you're wondering if this is for you, why not read our [Artistic Policy](#) to see if your work aligns with ours.

Got questions?

We're hosting an online question-and-answer session where we will explain a bit more about the programme and answer and questions you have on **Monday 23rd March 2026, 18:00 – 19:00**.

This will take place on Zoom and can be British Sign Language interpreted on request.

If you want to attend and require BSL, please inform us a week in advance so we can arrange this for you. Alternatively, if you would like a one-to-one meeting with a BSL interpreter, we can arrange that. Just get in touch using the details below.

You can contact us by phone, email or meet us at our box office. Please use the contact information below and a member of our team will be able to help answer any questions wherever possible.

- ▲ **Telephone:** 01522 837600 (Box Office)
- ▲ **Email:** enquiries@lincolnartscentre.co.uk
- ▲ **Online:** visit the [Our Team page](#) to contact specific departments.

If you'd prefer to speak face-to-face, pop-in to see us Monday - Friday (10.00 am - 4.00 pm), and a member of our team would be happy to chat.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN**

**Lincoln Arts
Centre**

Image by Richard Hall