



Open Call for Contributors to Festival of the Sky, Cleethorpes

2019 Guidance Document

About Festival of the Sky

The inaugural Festival of the Sky will take place in Cleethorpes on the 6th to the 8th of September. Supported by the Coastal Communities Fund, and organized in partnership by festival specialists From the Fields Ltd and North East Lincolnshire Council, the aim is to create a largely un-ticketed, accessible and engaging event.

Festival of the Sky will bring together great arts and culture across the weekend, with free performances, activities and workshops for festival-goers of all ages. The main 'festival hub' will be situated on the promenade and beach, with additional pop-up activity taking place throughout the town. It will attract regional audiences, combining traditions around seaside experiences with culture and wellbeing-based content.

We are opening the door to creative, innovative and engaging ideas and performances including workshops, live stages, lectures, stalls and film screenings. The festival is themed around sky, flight, environment and discovery, and we are particularly keen to support ideas that reference this.

Call for Contributors

Up to £5000 is available to support outstanding contributions from local artists, for the inaugural Festival of the Sky. [The application form can be completed online here.](#)

This application is open to applicants wishing to create a variety of projects for the brand-new Festival of the Sky in Cleethorpes. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from people based in North East Lincolnshire.

We are looking to support a diverse range of exceptional talent, and we encourage applicants from all backgrounds to apply. We are looking to support anything from art installations, performance and film screenings, through to active and fitness-based events, wildlife focused activities, crafts and making workshops.

Two funding strands are available to support your idea. If you are unsure which Band would be best suited to your project idea, please email artsassistant@fromthefields.co.uk.

Funding Band 1: 4 x £5000 Commissions. Suitable for NEL-based experienced artists, organisations and practitioners, successful applicants will deliver exceptional, ambitious projects suitable for presenting outdoors, on the promenade, beach or in the Town Centre in Cleethorpes.

Funding Band 2: An unspecified number of suitable projects costing up to £500 will also be supported through this application. Suitable for NEL-based early career artists, workshop practitioners, sports and well-being-based activity leaders, craft and community interest groups. Projects based in venues or outdoors will be eligible for Band 2 funding.

Applicants to both funding bands will be required to deliver projects during the Festival of the Sky, on 6-8th September 2019.

Funding Band 1: Guidance & Assessment Criteria

Successful applicants to Band 1 will have presented a coherent, exciting proposal with a clear visual representation of their ideas. Applicants will have a proven track record of delivering relevant projects, and be able to oversee the logistical, health and safety, and overall project-management aspects of the work to ensure a seamless experience for the public.

We welcome applications from those who are based locally in Cleethorpes, Grimsby and the surrounding region of North East Lincolnshire. Festival of the Sky is committed to promoting equality and diversity across our programme and we actively encourage applications from artists of any ethnicity, gender and irrespective of any disability.

Festival of the Sky is particularly interested in supporting Band 1 applicants that wish to develop outdoor light art, performance, installations, or mass participation events that:

1. Have sufficient scale and impact in the setting (promenade, beach or Town Centre)
2. Are broadly accessible to a wide audience demographic;
3. Encourages interaction and learning;
4. References the themes of sky, discovery, flight and environment (although this is not an essential requirement);
5. Can be hosted across the full three days of the festival.

We are looking to support high impact work that is suitable for the festival environment. We will also be assessing proposals based upon the following factors:

- Is the idea clearly described?
- Will the activity have a significant impact on the festival audience?
- Is there a clear and realistic breakdown of budget and expenditure?
- Is there evidence of value for money?
- Has the applicant considered logistical and production issues?
- Are there sufficient human resources in place to deliver the project?
- Does the proposal require the applicant to have a demonstrable track record of delivering similar projects or activities?
- Does the project complement the festival's ethos and themes around sky, discovery, flight and environment?
- Has environmental impact been considered in the design of the project?

Successful artist applicants will receive funding, publicity around their commission and support from the festival's production team to realise their idea.

Funding Band 2: Guidance & Assessment Criteria

Applications for up to £500 are also available to run, or contribute to the running of, projects during Festival of the Sky. The projects must be public-facing, and will be advertised as part of the festival programme. Band 2 funding can be used to seed new ideas, or can contribute to an existing project during the festival. The inclusion of 'in kind' support for the project, for example through the involvement of volunteers, is encouraged.

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Band 2 funding may be best suited to the following ideas and projects:

1. Workshops in a range of creative crafts and activities;
2. Sporting, wellbeing and physical activities;
3. Community and environment-focused activities;
4. Small-scale arts and culture, including music, spoken word and art installations.

We will be assessing proposals based on the following criteria:

- Is the idea clearly described?
- How suitable and engaging will the project be within a festival environment?
- How accessible is the project to its target audience?
- Does the idea encourage participation and interaction?
- Are there enough resources (both human resources and budget) to deliver the proposed idea?
- Has the applicant considered safety, logistical and production issues?

Application and Commissioning Process

Applicants are required to complete an online application form and upload the relevant documents to be considered.

All completed applications will be reviewed for award by a panel, and you will be notified of the decision in writing, via email. Unfortunately, due to limited resource, the festival is not able to offer feedback on unsuccessful applications.

APPLY HERE: [**2019 APPLICATION FORM**](#)

Commission Deadlines

Applicants are invited to submit proposals until 5pm on Monday 3rd of June 2019.

Successful applicants will be notified no later than Monday 17th of June 2019.

Commission Application Budget—What to include

You will be asked to submit a commission budget which breaks down project expenditure. We would expect this to include:

- Cost of materials, making and production (including any required technical equipment)
- Artist / Applicant fees and full staffing costs
- Accommodation, sustenance and travel

Commission Application Budget—What not to include

While the work is expected to be as self-sufficient as possible, the festival would expect to cover the costs of:

- Security;
- Power, barriers, safety lighting.

If you expect your production requirements to be significant, we advise you contact the festival in advance of your application: [**artsassistant@fromthefields.co.uk**](mailto:artsassistant@fromthefields.co.uk)

Eligibility

- The Festival of the Sky opportunities are open to NEL based artists. This includes early career artists, community non-profit groups, limited companies and any form of creative organisation.
- Applicants must be over 18.
- Applicants with additional funding (who are applying for a portion of the cost of a co-commissioned work) are eligible.
- Proposals for developments of existing projects are eligible. Applicants should explain this development in the Project Outline.
- The project must be presented at Festival of the Sky, Cleethorpes, 2019.
- All project expenditure must take place after the panel decision has been formally announced to the successful applicant.

Please note the successful applicants to Band 1 funding will be required to have their own public liability insurance cover up to 5 million. This can be included within your submitted budget breakdown.

Payment

Funding will normally be paid in two instalments:

1. 90% at the start date following confirmation of funding and provision of a detailed budget.
2. 10% on satisfactory completion of the project and completion of evaluation form.

Project Delivery

Each successful Band 1 applicant will be required to submit a short interim report on a date agreed with the panel, and liaise with the festival on Health & Safety compliance and production delivery. All successful applicants will also be required to complete a simple evaluation form to provide feedback on the project and festival.

The panel can offer successful applicants' advice and support during the application process and, if successful, the development of the project, adding to the overall learning experience.

Timescale

Deadline for submissions: **17:00 3rd June 2019**

Selection of applicants to feature in festival: **17th June 2019**

Site visit for applicants to assess requirements (where relevant): **July-August 2019**

Live Event: **6-8 September 2019**

Evaluation period: **October 2019**

Contact:

For all enquiries on our arts commissions, please email
artsassistant@fromthefields.co.uk