



# ENGAGE / CREATE

COMMISSION PROGRAMME FOR BARNSLEY -BASED ARTISTS  
WITH MENTORSHIP & SUPPORT



Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

# Call Out: **'ENGAGE/CREATE'**

Commission Programme for Barnsley - based Artists with Mentorship & Support.

- Are you a Barnsley based creative who is inspired by people and place?
- Are you passionate about collaborating with communities to co-create new artwork?
- Would you like the time, space and support to explore what socially engaged practice might mean in relation to your arts career, through delivery of a new commission?
- If you are interested in this unique opportunity to make new socially engaged artwork in collaboration with communities, then this bespoke mentoring, learning and commission opportunity may just be for you!

## About the Programme

Spread over six months (*September 24 - February 25*), with a mix of in person and virtual workshops, networking opportunities and peer learning, the programme offers the chance to co-create a new commissioned artwork with community groups in one of Barnsley's six Principal Towns, with support from an experienced artist mentor.

We have six places available on this programme which is open to Barnsley based artists. Each selected artist will work in one of the six Principal Towns (Cudworth, Hoyland, Penistone, Royston, Wombwell and Goldthorpe). Here the appointed artists will work with communities to explore what culture means to local people in their place, resulting in the development of a wide range of creative outputs, inspired by the engagement process.

By socially engaged practice we mean art, across a broad range of artforms, that involves communities and involves participation and collaboration to inform and develop final artistic outcomes. The collaborative process that goes into creating the work is of equal or greater importance to any final artistic outputs.

As well as being matched with a mentor, you'll have the opportunity to learn from guest speakers exploring inspirational case studies about the different ways in which artists collaborate and engage with communities. This will be complemented by topics relevant to delivery such as environmental sustainability; equity, diversity and inclusion; access; local organisations and regional/ national networks. Through the process artists will have the chance to reflect on their progress, both individually and with their mentor and peers, in order to inform their future practice.

## Key Details

**SUMMARY:** An opportunity for ambitious Barnsley based artists seeking to develop their existing artistic practice in terms of community/ social engagement.

**TIMEFRAME:** September 2024 - February 2025

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Monday 9th September 2024, 9am

**SELECTION CRITERIA:** We are seeking six ambitious Barnsley based (live/ work/ study) artists across a broad range of artforms who must be committed to working with communities to develop their practice.

**FEE:** £4,000 per artist, to include all fees and expenses associated with participation in the mentoring and learning activities; and with the delivery of an artistic commission as an outcome of the programme (to include artist time and materials costs).

**ACCESS:** Please let us know if there are any barriers to participating in the programme which you require support with and we will work with you to address these.

**LOCATIONS:** Barnsley Town Centre, Barnsley's Principal Towns (Cudworth, Hoyland, Penistone, Royston, Wombwell, Goldthorpe) & Online.

**SELECTION PROCESS:** Applications will be scored based on submissions. Clarification and selection calls will then be made w/c 9th September.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:** We encourage applications from those currently under-represented in the arts sector. We welcome applications from all regardless of their age, gender, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, neurodivergence, religion or belief, occupation, caring responsibilities or lived experience.

**PARTNERS:** Engage/ Create is part of the Storying Barnsley CDF2 programme and is being developed and delivered by Beam. It is funded as part of the Cultural Development Fund Round 2 by the Department for Culture, Media & Sport and Arts Council England.

## Storying Barnsley

This programme is part of Storying Barnsley, which is Barnsley Council's 3-year Cultural Development Fund (CDF) engagement programme. [CDF2 funding](#) was awarded to Barnsley Council in 2022, and after a period of research and development, the Storying Barnsley team have now commenced work on a range of projects across the borough, alongside the CDF programme of capital works at Elsecar Heritage Centre, [Forging Ahead](#).

Storying Barnsley aims to boost Barnsley's cultural and creative sectors through partnerships and connectivity and offer unique cultural experiences for people living in and visiting the area. This will be done through a co-produced and collaborative engagement programme that will offer vital support for local creative hubs and creative practitioners across Barnsley's six [Principal Towns](#) and Elsecar. Read more about [Storying Barnsley and key projects to date](#).

## Aims of the Programme

The project partners want Barnsley based artists, particularly those underrepresented in the cultural sector, to be given opportunities to grow their skills and confidence in co-creation and community engagement, in order to be able to deliver socially engaged creative projects with Barnsley communities. The programme is designed to be flexible and respond to the needs of participants. You will be asked to complete an artist's needs assessment as part of the application, which will be used to help shape the programme.

## About You

- You will have a passion for developing accessible and ambitious creative responses, inspired by people and place.
- You will have a keen interest in engaging with people as part of your artistic practice.
- You will be highly motivated to use this professional development opportunity to take your development as an artist to the next level.
- You will be committed to working with mentors and peers to create a supportive and creative shared learning environment.

## **The Benefits**

- You will have the opportunity to develop a new commission in collaboration with a specific community, with ongoing advice and support.
- One to one mentoring support with an experienced socially engaged artist practitioner.
- Peer to peer support with other artists on the programme including peer group feedback sessions and networking.
- Understanding about what is involved in co-creating artworks in a socially engaged way and varying approaches.
- Knowledge of the practical considerations when working with communities.
- Increased connections and networking in the sector.
- Signposting to further opportunities and networks.

## **What will it involve?**

- Following selection you will have a 121 meeting with Beam to outline your aspirations for the programme and to support you to develop a mentoring plan and to help us to identify the most appropriate mentoring relationship for your needs. We can also review your application responses and answer any queries or questions you may have at this point, including access needs. We will ask you to sign up to a mentoring agreement.
- In tandem with the 121 meetings we will also facilitate connections between you and the other members of the artist cohort to make informal introductions.
- Following allocation of an artist mentor you will be introduced and establish a way of working together.
- In September, the sessions will commence with an in person 'setting the scene' group session, providing inspiration from socially engaged projects and exploring approaches to co-creation with communities.
- This will be followed by being matched with one of the six Principal Towns and meeting selected community group/s to kick-start the project. Artists will then start to develop a project plan and after receiving feedback from peers and mentors start the project.
- There will be a mix of in person and online 121 sessions with mentors and Beam to discuss progress.
- There will be an interim group session in November to reflect on progress.

- There will be a series of guest speakers covering a range of topics such as: inspirational case studies, different ways in which artists collaborate and engage with communities, environmental sustainability, equity, diversity and inclusion, local organisations, regional networks.
- Beam will provide ongoing support via email and phone as required.
- By December, each mentee will present how they plan to share their creative outcomes - this may be via: exhibition, installation, print, digital, sound etc.
- In January 2025 Beam will liaise with each mentee to support the presenting and sharing of their creative outcomes publicly.
- Upon completion the cohort will meet in person to reflect on successes and challenges of their projects. Beam and mentors will signpost to useful resources / opportunities.

## Process & Timeframe

ACTIVITY	OUTLINE TIMING
Brief promoted	w/c 29 July 2024
Zoom drop in session for queries on the application process	Thursday 15 August, 1-2pm
Deadline for applications	Monday 9 September 2024, 9am
Clarification phone calls as required	w/c 9 Sept 2024
Artist cohort appointment	w/c 16 Sept 2024
Initial meeting with Beam	w/c 16 Sept - w/c 23 Sept 2024
Setting the Scene - group session	w/c 30 September 2024
Getting Started	October 2024
Developing a Plan - group feedback session	October 2024
Live Projects Underway	October - December 2024
Interim group session	November 2024
Planning for Sharing Creative Outcomes - group feedback session	December 2024

Creative Outcomes & Celebration	January 2025
Reflection & Signposting - group session	January/ February 2025
1-2-1 meetings with mentor	Up to 5 sessions - timing and format to be agreed

## Fee

- **A fee of £4,000 (+ VAT if applicable) is available per artist**, to include all fees and expenses associated with participation in the mentoring and learning activities; and with the delivery of an artistic commission as an outcome of the programme (to include artist time and materials costs).
- Working with your mentor you will be supported to develop a budget for your commission and to work within the constraints of this.
- Payments will be staged and will align with the artist meeting specific milestones which will be mutually agreed as part of a formal agreement.

## Access & Support

- If you require support or have any access requirements to complete the application process please do not hesitate to contact us via the details below.
- If you have an Access Document you can attach this to your application.
- The application form provides space for you to provide details about any access support you may require in order to participate in the programme. If you would like a conversation about your access needs to participate - please get in contact with us directly.
- We will support the programme to be a safe space for our cohort of artists by agreeing a set of safe space guidelines with the group at the first orientation session. These will broadly follow those set out by the Social Art Network '[Safer Spaces Agreement](#)'.



## Application Process

- Deadline for applications: **Monday 9th September 2024, 9am.**
- To apply please access our online application form which includes a needs assessment survey via this link <https://forms.gle/Y4ENgUwacDXAywrM8>
- If you have any questions about this programme or the application process then please join us for a **Zoom drop in session on Thursday 15 August, 1-2pm**, when you can ask any questions of the project team. Please email [Helen@beam.uk.net](mailto:Helen@beam.uk.net) to book your space.
- Please contact us if you would prefer to send your application in an alternative format such as a video or audio recording.
- Applications will be appraised on the potential for impact on the applicant's future career.
- There will be no interviews but clarification calls may be made w/c 9 September 2024 prior to final selection decisions.
- Artists must live, study or work in the Borough of Barnsley.
- Please state in your application if you are particularly interested in working in one of the Principal Towns (stating your reason) or indicate if you are happy to be considered for any of the locations.
- Within your application we would like to know if there are any particular groups that you would like to gain experience of working with, and how this builds on your existing skills and knowledge in community engagement/ socially engaged practice.

## Contact Details

For all enquiries please contact: Helen Moore, Creative Producer, Beam  
[helen@beam.uk.net](mailto:helen@beam.uk.net) / 07718 564 376

Programme delivered by:



[www.beam.uk.net](http://www.beam.uk.net) : [X](#) : [Instagram](#)

## Appendix

Information below about Barnsley's six Principal Towns, find out more on the [Barnsley Council website](#).

### Cudworth



Surrounded by beautiful countryside and with a charm all of its own, Cudworth has a bustling town centre clustered around its attractive High Street. The spirit of independence is epitomised by the many long-standing, family-run businesses. The town's proud community spirit also shines through its many volunteer and social groups.

There's a wealth of walking routes in Cudworth and the surrounding area, with the Trans Pennine Trail cutting through the town. Carlton Marsh Nature Reserve is on the doorstep and the Cudworth Faces stone carvings at Storrs Mill Wood make for a fascinating visit. There are plenty of interesting landmarks and locations, including The Roman Bridge and Cudworth Park.

England cricketer Darren Gough, footballers David Hirst and Ralph O'Donnell and Olympic ice hockey player Archibald Stitchcombe are among the famous names linked to Cudworth. Sprinter Dorothy Hyman, who won silver and bronze at the Olympics, is honoured in the name of Cudworth's Dorothy Hyman Stadium. The late chat show host and journalist Sir Michael Parkinson was born in Cudworth.

[Find out more about Cudworth.](#)

## Hoyland



Hoyland has a lot to offer. Browse the market stalls, visit the modern and welcoming library or take a stroll to pretty, nearby Milton Pond, or a scenic walk around Skiers Hall Wood or Springvale Wood.

Barnsley Council's investment in Hoyland is bearing fruit, with a new community Shop having opened facing a high street packed with existing shops and cafes, and the new-look Hoyland Town Square offering a welcoming place to sit and watch the world go by.

History lovers can check out Lowe Stand, a former hunting lodge owned by nearby lord of the manor the Marquis of Rockingham, or the historic St Peter's Church, known locally as the Church on the Hill.

Hoyland and adjoining Hoyland Common boast several famous faces, from A Kestrel For a Knave writer Barry Hines and comedian Harry Worth to Premier League footballer Jordan Clark and the ex-Sheffield Wednesday star Peter Shirtliff.

[Find out more about Hoyland.](#)

## Penistone



Whether you love browsing independent shops, watching the world go by over a latte, indulging in some planet-saving shopping or strolling in nature, you'll find what you're looking for in Penistone. It's a town with a rich history but its eyes firmly on the future. Penistone has been a market town since mediaeval times. The market remains a bustling feature of the town to this day.

Nestled in the foothills of the Pennines, the town has a proud farming history. It provides a gateway to the Trans Pennine Trail: a favourite with walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

Notable landmarks include the impressive Penistone Viaduct, St John the Baptist Church and the Penistone Paramount Cinema. Famous names linked with the town include early 20th century revolutionary Percy Toplis and current England international footballer John Stones, who played for Penistone Church FC.

Penistone even boasts its own breed of sheep, the White Faced Woodland is known as the Penistone sheep after the town where sheep sales have been held for more than 300 years.

[Find out more about Penistone.](#)

## Royston



Royston is a former farming village with a proud industrial heritage and a thriving local business community. Its industrial peak came with the development of a canal, a railway, a colliery, a clay works and a coke works.

The former coke works has a new purpose as Rabbit Ings Country Park. It has walking and cycling trails, a recreational area and an employment zone. You can see the Flame Flower around Royston. This motif brings together a flame in remembrance of the coke works and a flower, a symbol of regeneration.

Royston boasts a host of independent businesses, from hardware and auto parts traders to salons, fashion shops and cafes. The town's pride in nature is epitomised by the efforts of the likes of Royston Green Spaces Group and recent successes in Barnsley in Bloom.

As well as Rabbit Ings, Royston has a spacious and beautiful central park and is a gateway to the Trans Pennine Trail. Famous names linked to the town include racing cyclist Harry "Shake" Earnshaw, comedian Charlie Williams, football player and manager Ernie Morgan, Yorkshire cricketer Norman Yardley, and mountaineer Andy Cave.

[Find out more about Royston.](#)



## Wombwell



Wombwell is a lively market town with a diverse choice for shoppers. It boasts a host of attractive and historic buildings and a thriving business community. The town centre has benefitted from enhancements under the Council's Principal Towns and Local Centres Programme. It has a bright future, and more developments are planned.

Wombwell sits on the Trans Pennine Trail, is surrounded by green belt and is a stone's throw from wetland nature reserves.

Take a stroll in the park and the woods, have a cuppa and a chat at the town's many popular cafes or a browse of the market and independent shops. There's plenty of free parking so you don't have to worry about staying too long.

Famous names from Wombwell include Funtime Fontayne and Alan Dobie, the scriptwriter and film producer Diane Whitley, Olympic sprinter and hurdler Angie Thorp and pre-war cricketer Irving Washington, known as the King of Wombwell.

[Find out more about Wombwell.](#)

## Goldthorpe



Goldthorpe is a town with a rich history being reborn through investment under the Goldthorpe Town Deal. The former colliery town's high street is its shopping hub, but Goldthorpe also boasts a strong community offer, with the Snap Tin café and the IKIC Youth Centre catering for a range of ages.

The first major project completed under the Town Deal, overseen by the Goldthorpe Town Board and funded by the UK Government's Towns Fund, was the Horse and Groom Square, an attractive new market place and public events space on the site of a former pub.

Work is well underway on upgrading and transforming the performance and practice facilities at the Dearne Playhouse, and there are exciting plans for the adjacent Welfare Park and for a community and visitor hub at Phoenix Park in neighbouring Thurnscoe.

You can find all sorts in Goldthorpe and the Dearne including shopping bargains on the high street and market place, companionship at the town's cafes, pubs and social groups, and peace at the Brick Ponds nature reserve, Phoenix Park or Flower Park.

Famous names from Goldthorpe include England cricketer John Hampshire, the footballers Frank Rayner and Alan Warboys. Film icon Brian Blessed grew up in the village.

[Find out more about our investment in Goldthorpe.](#)