

LUMEN



Expressions of interest invited for Cheshire East artists to take part in exciting Lumen LightLab mentoring and commissioning programme

Who is it for?

This programme invites expressions of interest from emerging or mid-career freelance artists from the Cheshire East/Crewe area who wish to develop light-art work.

Deadline

Mon 5 Oct 5pm

How to Apply

Apply via CuratorSpace: <https://www.curatorspace.com/opportunities/detail/lumen-light-lab/4831>

It is free and quick to register on CuratorSpace, then there is a form to complete which asks questions to confirm eligibility and space for you to tell us why this opportunity is important to you. You can upload images and your CV to support your application.

Please note this opportunity is subject to funding.

Eligibility/ Selection

Artists will be selected on the following criteria:

- They live or work in Crewe/Cheshire East.
- They are over 18.
- Availability for key dates
- Competency to develop excellent work
- To develop then deliver new work according to the timeframe
- Openness to collaborate, commitment to a sense of teamwork.
- Have a strong wish to develop their practice to create light-art, or to develop work involving light in a creative way.

Selection of applicants will be made by the LightLab Steering Group (made up of Events Officer from Crewe; Creative Director for Lightpool; Head of Blackpool Illuminations; Head of Arts, Blackpool, Cultural Economy Manager from Cheshire East)

Background

Lumen LightLab builds on the success of the hugely popular and well attended Lumen festivals in 2018 & 2019. To accommodate restrictions of Covid the 2020 event is very different. Instead of a concentrated one-night celebration with a well-attended switch-on ceremony, it is a light-art trail over 16 nights, with no live elements that could draw a large crowd.

This year the event is managed by a team from Blackpool Illuminations & Lightpool which presents a special opportunity to create a bespoke mentoring programme for some of our local artists to develop ideas for light-art works with the support of this experienced team.

How Many Artists?

Up to 10 artists will be given an intensive 2-days of training, tours and masterclasses in Blackpool and then invited to submit a proposal for consideration for commission in response to a brief.

Subject to funding, 1-3 artists will be selected to develop their design and receive £1500 fee each and mentoring support, as well as additional fees for materials. The fees for materials would be determined by the designs and agreed by the Steering Group.

Programme

All confirmed participants will be offered:

A two-day visit to Blackpool (Thurs 29th Oct and Fri 30th Oct 2020) to include:

- A guided tour of Lightworks, Lightpool Festival, Blackpool Illuminations and exhibition 'The Lights' at the Grundy Art Gallery, plus overnight stay on 29th Oct (inc breakfast & lunch costs)
- Masterclasses and talks where cohort meet established artist/s working in the light festival field
- Presentations on different aspects of making this kind of work by sector professionals from Lightpool, Blackpool Illuminations, the Grundy Art Gallery and LUTN
- £200 per participant to cover subsistence and travel.

After the Blackpool visit, all artists will be invited to submit a design to be considered for further R&D in response to a brief

- Subject to funding, 1-3 artists will be selected to develop their design and receive £1500 fee each. The Steering Group will agree additional funding from £5k materials budget to be distributed between them based on the needs of their designs.
- To assist these artists to resolve their designs, they will be offered 2 mentoring days each, and pieces should be finished to be documented by 9th Feb 2021.
- All commissioned pieces will be considered for inclusion in Lumen 2021

In addition, all participants will be offered:

During Lumen 2020 27 Nov to 12 Dec 2020

- Participation in mini exhibition to show progress drawings, ideas or inspiration at the Lumen 2020 event with exhibition costs covered.
- Opportunity to share the experience locally in person to key cultural stakeholder groups, remotely, via blog post or on radio. It is an expectation of all participants to do at least one of these.
- Opportunity to be showcased on Lumen social media and website.
- Invitation to 2-day Light up the North festivals network National Conference being delivered online in Dec 2020

Find out more

- FAQs are included on [CuratorSpace](#)
- [Gallery of images from previous years](#)
- [Info on Lumen 2019](#)
- If you still have questions, please email Edwina Rigby events@crewetowncouncil.gov.uk please allow 24 hours for a reply.

Key Dates

- **Monday 5 Oct 5pm:** Deadline to submit expressions of interest
- **w/c 12 Oct:** Selected participants contacted
- **Thurs 29 Oct and Fri 30 Oct all day:** Blackpool Visit
- **12 Dec:** Artwork/ ideas submitted for mini exhibition
- **27 Nov 2020:** Lumen Crewe opening night
- **27 Nov to 12 Dec:** Lumen Crewe Festival
- **w/c 7 Dec:** Winners of commission announced
- **9 Feb 2021:** Commissioned pieces to be completed by this date

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