

Lincolnshire Craft Open

Application Pack

Closing Date: 17 Feb 2025



About

The Lincolnshire Craft Open is a new bi-annual exhibition celebrating the creativity and craftsmanship of contemporary craft artists residing and working in Greater Lincolnshire.

Taking place at the Hub, Sleaford — the largest gallery space in England dedicated to craft and design — this exhibition provides a unique platform to showcase the diversity and excellence of the county's makers.

This selected exhibition invites submissions from artists across all craft disciplines, from emerging practitioners to established makers. It aims to highlight innovative approaches, technical skills, and the unique perspectives of Greater Lincolnshire's craft community.

Lincolnshire Craft Open

Sat 12 Apr - Sun 22 Jun 2025

Benefits for Artists

Selected applicants will receive:

- Space in our ground floor gallery to exhibit their chosen work for ten weeks.
- Selected artists will receive a fee of £100.
- An opportunity to sell their work through the exhibition.
- A feature on the Hub's website, social media, and Bloomberg Connects app, including images, artist statements, and contact details.
- Logistical and group support leading up to the exhibition.

Potential opportunities include:

- 'Curator's Choice' award leading to a solo show at the Hub in 2026.
- Monthly Maker Meets: creative networking with fellow artists, curators, and organisations.
- Opportunities to generate sales and/or earn commissions.
- Collaboration prospects.
- Opportunity to be considered for workshops, talks and other projects at the Hub.

Who Can Apply?

Any artist and/or craftsperson based in Greater Lincolnshire, whose practice focuses on craft and design, is eligible to apply. We welcome applications from artists at any stage of their career, whether they are emerging or established makers, self-taught or formally trained.

Eligible Media includes:

Ceramics / Textiles / Woodwork / Metalwork / Glasswork / Mixed Media / Jewellery / Basketry / Leatherwork / Printmaking / Paper Artist / Book Works



Application Criteria

- Applicants must be individuals or collaborations (up to two people); galleries or dealers cannot apply.
- Applications that consist solely of painting, drawing, graphic design, photography, animation or film will not be considered (see eligible media).
- Artists utilising digital technologies in their work must demonstrate that hand skill and craft knowledge are the primary components in both the concept and finished product.
- All works must be available for the full duration of the exhibition. See application process for dates.
- Delivery and collection arrangements and costs are the responsibility of the artist.
- You must submit a minimum of 5 images of the works that you intend to exhibit. Please make sure your images and artwork details are as accurate as possible. The Hub reserves the right to withdraw work that differs significantly from the images and details submitted. Images should be in jpeg format (at least 300 dpi and a maximum of 4Mb each). Include the requested details and name your images clearly to correspond with the title or product code. Copyright of all images must be authorised by the photographer where relevant.
- Selected artists will be issued an exhibition agreement and a series of questions to support the final stages of exhibition development. The Hub team will work with selected artists directly to refine all plans.



Key Dates

What	When
Applications Open	Mon 6 Jan
Application Support Session 1 (Online)	Thu 16 Jan, 6-7pm
Application Support Session 2 (in-person)	Sat 25 Jan, 11am-12pm
Application Closing Date	Mon 17 Feb, 9am
Selected Artists are Informed	Fri 14 Mar
Artwork to be delivered to the Hub	Mon 31 Mar - Fri 4 Apr
Opening Night	Fri 11 Apr
Exhibition Open	Sat 12 Apr - Sun 22 Jun
Artworks to be collected from the Hub	Wed 25 - Sun 29 Jun

Application Process

- To apply, follow the 'Apply Here' link on our website and complete the Google form.
- (this should take approximately 10 to 40 minutes). Applicants can also apply by video (see below).
- You will need to submit up to five high quality images of the work that you wish to exhibit.
- Up to 20 successful applicants will be selected for the Lincolnshire Craft Open.
- Selection will be carried out by an advisory panel that includes Hub staff and external representatives.

Application Support

If you need assistance with your application, we will host two informal application support sessions:

- **Thu 16 Jan**, 6 - 7pm (online, with captions, will be recorded for the website)
- **Sat 25 Jan**, 11am - 12pm (in-person at the Hub)

Recorded Application Option

If you wish to apply via video format, please submit a maximum three-minute video as an MP4 or Vimeo link. In this video, please provide the following information:

- Introduce yourself (name, pronouns, and where you are based in Lincolnshire).
- Show the work you are submitting in the video (and/or attach images).
- State the number of works you are submitting, the medium/s used, dimensions, and provide a short description.

Supporting Events

The Hub will be hosting several events bringing together Greater Lincolnshire's craft community including 'Makers Meets' networking opportunities, talks, workshops, demonstrations, and social gatherings. A detailed schedule of events and opportunities will be provided in due course.

FAQs

Will I receive feedback on my application?

We anticipate a large volume of applications and we will not be able to offer detailed feedback on each submission. However, we will inform you if your application is unsuccessful. Some applicants may receive information about other opportunities available at the Hub or elsewhere.

How do I attend the application support sessions?

Please register and book via the links on our website if you would like to attend the online or in-person support session.

My work is complex to install, what should I do?

Your work will be installed by our professional exhibitions and tech team. Please provide clear written instructions of how you would like your work installed. If you prefer to install your own work, please contact us directly to arrange this. Please note that we cannot cover any additional cost for this.

Can I submit more than one piece?

Applicants can submit up to 5 pieces of work for the exhibition. Please note that due to space limitations and panel decisions, not all of your works may be selected for exhibition. Each individual should submit one application, but please list your items separately within that application.

Do I need to be present during the exhibition?

You are not required to be present at any time during the exhibition; however, we encourage artists to attend the opening event. You are also welcome to visit at any time while the exhibition is open (please see the website for Hub opening times).

Do I have to have exhibited at a gallery before?

We welcome artists who have never exhibited before, as well as those with previous experience.

Can I sell my work at the exhibition?

Yes, Lincolnshire Craft Open is a selling show. The Hub will facilitate all sales, and buyers will need to collect their works after the exhibition ends. Please note that the Hub takes a 50% commission on sales. If any of your work is not for sale, please specify this in your application.

How do I know if I am in Greater Lincolnshire and eligible to apply?

Greater Lincolnshire covers the following districts: City of Lincoln, North Kesteven, South Kesteven, South Holland, Boston, East Lindsey and West Lindsey, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire.

Insurance and Liability

The Hub will insure all works selected for the exhibition from the point of delivery to the Hub to the point of collection. The Hub is not responsible for any loss or damage incurred during transit and reserves the right not to display work that has been damaged in transit.

Thank you for your interest in exhibiting with us. We look forward to receiving your application.

Contacts:

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