

Nottingham Light Night Artist Commissions 2020



Artists and creatives based in and around Nottingham are invited to propose activations as part of Nottingham Light Night 2020.

1. About

Nottingham Light Night 2020 will be the twelfth edition of this highly successful event, which brings high quality accessible work to Nottingham City Centre, attracting communities into the City Centre across a range of demographic backgrounds. Innovative, interactive and engaging installations, performances and activities will happen across the city, based around the theme of 'Life on Earth'.

This wide-ranging theme can be interpreted in a number of ways: Humanity and Society, Nature and Animals, Environment and Sustainability, Our Green City or Science and Philosophy.

Another major emphasis for the 2020 programme is interactive and playable. We want the majority of installations, activities, performances and events to be opportunities for the public to engage and interact, ideally at the event, but this could be through workshops in advance and co-creation approaches.

The 2020 event will take place across two nights and one day (extended beyond the previous 1 night edition) on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th February. The event is expected to attract 50,000 people, mainly local families, with a media reach of over 600,000.

The event is co-ordinated by the Nottingham Events team, with support from Nottingham Business Improvement District and public funding from the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

2. The Commission

We are inviting artists and creatives to propose interventions in the City Centre. Applications can be made for small commissions between £500 and £3500, expected to be an average of £1500 with a minimum of three commissions made. We are particularly interested in proposals that have a connection to the following:

- 1) Literature and Libraries – using space in the Central Library, celebrating our City of Literature status and promoting a love of reading.
- 2) Science and Curiosity – generate an excitement for the Festival of Science and Curiosity happening 12-19 February that celebrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. We would welcome proposals that can be presented at both Light Night and during the Festival period.
- 3) Public Realm and Refuse – promoting our army of refuse lorries, road sweepers and city centre bins, sharing environmental sustainability messages. Three sweepers will be available to embellish with lights and vinyl to present roaming work across the city streets, in addition to one parked refuse lorry that could be used as a projection surface and/or for sharing messages the week leading up to the event.

- 4) [Ice Hockley World Cup](#) – link to this international sporting event that Nottingham Arena is hosting the same weekend.

If you are interested in linking to one of the above, please make this clear in your proposal, as co-commissioning partners are involved.

We welcome proposals that present work either indoors or outdoors. Please identify a suggested site in your submission. There is electricity available at some city centre sites including Smithy Row, Trinity Square and Sneinton Square. Generators can be arranged if necessary to realise the project. For further information about sites you may have in mind, please contact the team.

Work should be fully accessible for those with mobility issues.

The format of the work is flexible from installation to performance. The duration should be across both evenings as a minimum, but projects should also consider how they may be presented on the Saturday daytime and/or in a digital format to access online.

We would expect the work to respond to the location and encourage our city residents and visitors to engage and explore the City Centre. Work should be artist led but can be made in collaboration with the community. The proposed intervention can be an existing work, and we are interested in supporting projects that have a legacy beyond this event, perhaps visiting other venues/locations, with Nottingham Light Night being recognised as a co-commissioner.

3. Eligibility

There are limited criteria for the commissions to enable as many artists and creatives to submit as possible. However, your proposal must:

- Present work in Nottingham City Centre on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th February 2020
- Priority will be given to artists and creatives based in Nottingham
- You must have valid public liability insurance and if successful, produce a risk assessment for the activity

4. Budget

The intention is that a minimum of three commissions will be made, between a budget of £500-£3500 each, which should include any hire charges incurred for technical equipment required. As we are aware that this budget is minimal, the fee may be used as match funding from other sources to realise the project.

5. Submission

Please submit the following information:

1. Outline of the proposal (maximum 4 sides of A4). Please include images if these are available.
2. Budget breakdown to include all costs for artist fees, materials and equipment.
3. Your CV and details of relevant past projects (this could include links to videos etc.).
4. A copy of your Public Liability Insurance.

Selection will be based on the quality of your idea, suitability for the site, and your ability to deliver the work to a high artistic standard and within the timescales and budget.

Please email your proposal to Chelsey.Everatt@nottinghamcity.gov.uk marked 'Light Night 2020 Commission' by 1pm on Friday 15th November. Please contact Chelsey Everatt, Cultural Development Officer with any questions, via email, or telephone 0115 876 5205.

Applicants will be contacted with the outcome by Tuesday 19th November 2019.

6. Rules and Regulations

- The deadline is 1pm on Friday 15th November 2019. Any submissions that arrive late will not be considered.
- If you wish to submit via hard copy, please contact us in good time to make alternative arrangements.
- The assessment of the submissions will be made by the team managing Light Night.
- We reserve the right to invite artists to an interview before a final decision is made.
- At our discretion, after receiving proposals, we are permitted to not commission any work, or commission multiple proposals if work is of a high quality and can be achieved within budget.
- The decision of the Light Night team is final and no correspondence will be entered into, in regards to decisions made. You must agree to this in order to be eligible.
- Once a decision is made, a detailed contract with agreed targets, outcomes and milestones will be agreed between the Light Night team and the successful artist.
- The Light Night team and the successful artist may meet before the event dates to discuss progress.