

Focal Point– Capturing Community & Heritage **Residency opportunities for three emerging artists**

Photoworks in partnership with English Heritage is inviting proposals from young artists aged 18 – 25 for three new residency opportunities.

This pack contains information on the **residency** opportunity, including the brief, timeframe, overview of partners and the programme and how to apply.

The Opportunity

Photoworks and English Heritage are seeking proposals from young photographers keen to develop their practice with support from the Photoworks team and an experienced mentor.

Three young artists aged 18 – 25 interested in engaging with local heritage and people will each be commissioned to make a new body of artwork at a free to enter English Heritage site.

The Brief

Three artists will be invited to spend time exploring and responding to an English Heritage free site that holds some significance for them, and other local people that it has meaning for.

Artists must demonstrate a connection to their chosen site – perhaps it's near where you live, or used to live, close to where you grew up, or somewhere you visit frequently.

We have prioritised English Heritage's free to enter sites for this programme i.e., sites that don't require you to pay for entry. These free sites often play an important role within local communities – from places where children play, couples get engaged and people walk their dogs, to fascinating and lesser told stories to explore. This is an opportunity to see these sites in a new light, to dig deeper and engage with local stories and communities.

In their proposal, artists should identify their chosen site along with reasons for choosing it and specify which community/ies they would like to engage with and why. Project partners can assist with facilitating access.

The three artists will each spend time at their selected site, creating a new body of work exploring new perspectives on heritage, drawing out ideas relating to community, identity and locality.

Engaging with Communities

Community engagement is a key aspect of this project. We are looking for young people who enjoy working with others and whose applications demonstrate an interest in, and willingness to engage with, local people as part of the process of making artwork.

It doesn't matter if this is not something you have done before as the Photoworks team can provide creative and practical support, but your proposal should describe your intentions.

We are interested in presenting a diversity of perspectives on heritage, and the notion of heritage sites as places of significance and meaning, where past and present interact.

English Heritage was formed to preserve the places where the stories of England were forged and where they can be re-told. Photography offers a unique vantage point from which the three resident artists can challenge perceptions of what constitutes heritage, explore how and whether we all see ourselves reflected in heritage, and work to engender a sense of belonging, ownership and relevance.

The residencies are part of a broader partnership between Photoworks and English Heritage, forming part of **Shout Out Loud**, English Heritage's national youth engagement programme. More details will be shared upon appointment of artists.

Shout Out Loud provides a platform for young people to explore heritage sites and collections across England, helping them to uncover untold stories from our past. By amplifying their voices, *Shout Out Loud* puts their ideas and stories at the heart of English Heritage.

Photoworks champions photography for everyone. Global in reach, we have been providing opportunities for artists and audiences since 1995. We don't have a physical venue, but our online channels are always open. Our programme, which includes the Photoworks Festival – one of the UK's longest-running photography festivals, brings new experiences to audiences and opens new ways to encounter photography. Photoworks is committed to supporting young artists, helping to develop practice and support career progression.

Both organisations are committed to promoting inclusion and diversity.

Each residency will entail:

1. Artist research & development, supported by Photoworks and English Heritage
 - You will have access to free site partnership managers, historians, curators, conservators (subject to their availability/arrangement, supported by English Heritage & facilitated by the Photoworks team) to support your exploration of your chosen site and its history and collections
 - You will receive ongoing curatorial advice from Photoworks team
2. Three sessions with an experienced mentor who will support your research & development for this commission
 - Photoworks will match you with a mentor
 - The sessions can be broken down as you each agree and can include both face to face and remote contact (e.g. Zoom) as you choose
3. Community engagement
 - Meeting and spending time with people connected to your chosen site to shape and inform the artwork
 - Engagement could take any form you choose such as shoots, workshops, conversations, focus groups or talks
 - Photoworks will support you to do this
4. Production of a new body of work
 - Inspired by and created as a result of direct engagement with your chosen English Heritage site
 - The work must connect directly to your chosen site and its communities, histories and stories. Appointments will be based on the quality of the proposal, not your choice of site
 - Artists are not expected to be permanently resident (living/staying) near their chosen site, instead making repeat visits to the site. The number and duration of visits will be determined by need and budget restrictions. For example, if the selected site is at the opposite end of the country to where the artist lives, then less frequent visits will be possible. We strongly recommend taking distance into consideration when making your choice
5. Public presentation of artwork

The partners are keen that a wide audience has the opportunity to engage with the resulting artwork

 - Work will be shared through an Instagram Takeover of English Heritage's Shout Out Loud account. Further use and sharing of the work by project partners English Heritage and Photoworks will be agreed at the beginning of the residency period
 - We hope to be able to present the artworks created to the public at one or more relevant English Heritage sites. However, this is an ambition and additional budget for this is not guaranteed
 - It is expected that each artist will credit and consider the partners in all exhibition outcomes, including online and in print materials. Any online content or print materials generated by the artist in relation to the Exhibition or Work/s

must be approved in advance of publishing by English Heritage and Photoworks

6. Participation in a public programme - which may be either virtual, or face to face. Appointed artists are expected to:
 - Contribute to a workshop for young people in 2024 (dates TBD), delivered in relation to their practice and the site they have been exploring, supported by an experienced artist facilitator. Most likely at the site where artists have completed the work
 - Undertake an 'artist's talk'. Photoworks can support you, and structure the event in a variety of ways to ensure you feel comfortable and equipped to do this
 - Attend any launch events

Fees

A fee of £3,000 (inc VAT) to be paid to each artist. The fee will help with costs associated with research and production of a new body of artwork, evaluation and attendance at meetings and events. There is a separate budget for travel and materials costs plus a fee to support community engagement activity.

Timescale

- The residency will take place from January to July 2024 and will include research, development of ideas, site visits, planning meetings, contact time with your mentor, and production of the artwork
- Public exhibition of the work (details tbc) if possible, will take place during 2024/5.
- A public programme will take place in Autumn 2024 (tbc)

Who Can Apply?

We welcome your application:

- If you are aged 18 – 25 and consider photography to be your primary practice
- There are no educational requirements. You don't need to have attained any level of education to apply

English Heritage and Photoworks are keen to attract applications that reflect England's diversity and particularly welcome applications from young people who are currently underrepresented in the arts. We are also striving to be inclusive and will do our best to help anyone who may need additional support to apply or take part (if selected). Please contact Juliette Buss (Juliette@photoworks.org.uk) if you require support with your application or would like to talk about the application process.

Please don't apply if you:

- Live outside of England
- Cannot reasonably make regular travel to your chosen heritage site
- Do not consider photography to be your primary practice

- Will be in full time education between January 2024 and August 2024
- Will be in full time employment between January 2024 and August 2024

FIND OUT MORE

If you are unsure if you would like to apply or would like help to apply, please get in touch.

You can register for a one-to-one session with a member of the team where you can ask any questions you have about making an application. This is likely to be an online video call or a telephone call if you prefer.

To register for an individual session, please email juliette@photoworks.org.uk

How to Apply

We work with the submission platform Pictor. A link will be added to our website. Please register and submit the following information through the Pictor portal at photoworks.org.uk/opportunities

Please submit:

- **A written (or video/audio) statement** outlining the proposal for your new work, including:
 - An introduction to yourself and your practice
 - Details of which English Heritage site you have chosen and your connection to this site
 - How you would approach undertaking the residency (themes and intentions of the work)
 - Which community/ies you are interested in connecting with and why, and how you might involve local communities in your creative process
- **Up to ten examples of your existing photographic works**
- **An up to date CV**

Your statement should be no more than 2000 characters or if audio/video no more than two minutes).

Please choose the format you think will best convey your ideas clearly, according to the submission criteria. Please note production values will not be taken into account.

Photoworks is an equal opportunities employer. Please also complete an equal opportunities form. This will be kept anonymous.

Selection Process

The three successful artists will be selected through interview by a panel consisting of Juliette Buss and Julia Bunnemann (Photoworks), Keith Bartlett (English Heritage), Kemka

Ajoku (previous commissioned young artist) and Joanne Coates (guest artist, Photoworks Jerwood Award recipient).

Shortlisted artists will be invited to attend an online interview to discuss their proposal via Teams.

- We aim to be inclusive and will do our best to accommodate candidates with additional needs for whom attending an interview may not be appropriate.
- Young people will be involved in the selection process.

Key Dates

Application Deadline	10am, Monday 13 November 2023.
Interviews with shortlisted artists (online)	4 December 2023
Appointment made and artists informed	8 December 2023
Awardees will be made public	January 2024
Deadline of completed portfolios	31 July 2024

Timeline:

Call out goes public	Early October
Application Deadline	13 November 23
Shortlisted artists will be informed	27 November 23
Interviews with shortlisted artists (online)	4 December 23
Appointment made and artists informed	8 December 23
Awardees will be made public	Second week of January 24
First Mentoring Session with EH and PW	Second week of January 24
Portfolio Internal sign off	1 July 24
Deadline for completed portfolios	31 July 2024
Exhibition preparation	TBC
Workshop/talk	TBC
Exhibition Opening	TBC
End of Exhibition	TBC

Choosing an English Heritage Site

You must select a free to enter English Heritage site for this programme. To see the list of eligible English Heritage sites:

1. Visit <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/>
2. Enter a nearby town, postcode or location into the search bar and press return
3. Filter by 'Free to Enter'
4. Sites will be shown as a list with those nearest to your entered location at the top



ENGLISH
HERITAGE

Photoworks