



**LYME REGIS
MUSEUM**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Visual Artist/Multi-Media Artist – TO THE SEA at Lyme Regis Museum

Lyme Regis Museum ('the Museum') is seeking 2 x visual artists / multi-media practitioners to deliver the creative elements of the project 'To the Sea' funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. The total fee to each artist will not exceed £5,000 and is inclusive of VAT, all fees, travel and expenses, including materials for individual artworks.

There is a budget for The Exhibition installation/interpretation managed by the project team.

Deadline for applications 14th July 2026 noon (12pm) interviews 20th July 2-5pm

Information for Applicants

The contract is awarded by the Museum and will run between 27th July 2026 – 30th July 2027. 2 x Visual Artists will work with residency artist, writer Sarah Acton, Museum staff, volunteers from the collections team and members of the public as participants in events.

These commissions offer the opportunity for the artists-in-residence to engage with the Museum collection relating to the Maritime Gallery, to delve into personal artist research practice, create in the shared residency space on site, and collaborate on a final exhibition, and also deliver creative workshop activities to engage members of the public and find out which items/displays most inspire them. They will also participate in a reflection and evaluation process to inform the redevelopment of the Maritime Gallery and support the Museum to find ways of working with artists in the future.

ARTIST Role includes:

- **Facilitate** 2 x full day workshops (Saturdays 10am-4pm / see timeline below)
- **Create** a minimum of 4 x commissioned pieces for The Exhibition reflecting connection with, and site response to the Museum Maritime Gallery as a live studio for research practice, responding to its' objects and stories relating to the theme.
- **Be present on site** minimum 8-10 days in the shared artist residency space and Education Room (subject to availability) during The Residency Period, and to engage with members of the public, visitors and the everyday life of the Museum.
- Participate and contribute in **Evaluation and Reflection** which includes submitting a residency Journal for public browsing/exhibition, social media updates and attending any evaluation meetings with the project team on site.

- **Co-promote** the project/share regular digital photos/videos/ posts from residency days coordinated with the Museum.
- **Collaborate** and communicate with the artists and staff to create the final exhibition.

To the Sea Timeline consists of 3 activity phases:

Joint Residency Period 1st September – 30th November 2026

The commissioned artists will:

- Meet the Creative Team/attend Museum tour/ scheduling **27th July 2-5pm**;
- Access the museum by request during summer for research;
- Schedule their min 8-10 days on 27th July to share residency spaces, access the collections on Mondays (when Museum is closed) and split days to be in residence when the museum is open.

COMMISSIONED ARTWORK

- 1st December to 30th January 2027 and supply photos /interpretation/social media updates.
- Install To the Sea Exhibition at the Museum end of January.

THE EXHIBITION at the Museum 1st February -23rd May 2027

- Attend press launch and Q&A (date tbc)
- Pack down 23rd -31st May

WORKSHOPS/ OPEN DAYS

Each artist will run:

- 2 x day workshops Saturdays 10am-4pm - dates (divided between artists):
- 26th Sept. / 17th Oct. / 21st Nov./ 23rd Jan./ 20th Feb./ 4th March.
- 1 x project Open Day talk with Gallery tour and Q&A as ‘show and tell’ of research practice/learning/ response to items in the Marine Gallery collection and stories that have taken their interest: (dates shared between artists) Wednesdays 2.30-4pm:
- 4th November/ 3rd February and 3rd March.

EVALUATION

Each Artist will submit a reflective journal for the project evaluation process, also participating in short reporting and debrief at the start and end of the contract period.

Following your initial contract:

You will reference the Museum as the commissioner of your artwork and credit the project to support the Museum in your social media and networks. It is hoped that you will also visit and support further activity as relevant to any ongoing legacy of the project.

Background To the Sea info: <https://www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk/>

To the Sea - is an innovative artist research residency collaboration, offering creative development opportunities for 3 x artists to work with the Museum in its visioning of the Maritime Gallery refurbishment. Artists will deliver a year of public engagement activities for the Museum, develop new ways of collaborating and support ways in which the Museum works with audiences and artists in future, connecting and

opening up objects in the collection and stories. In the final phase of To the Sea, the Museum will host a project exhibition, talks and conversations to assess and reflect on the impact of the programme and the Museum's relevance and role in telling the town's Maritime history. Through To the Sea, the Museum will have new insights, multiple perspectives and consider how to present and tell the stories of the town's history and relationship to the coast.

Our target audiences are:

- Museum Visitors
- Anyone living in the surrounding area

Who is eligible? We are looking for:

- **A visual artist** of 3-5 years+ professional experience with a portfolio demonstrating commitment to artist practice and research development and working in any media suitable for print and presentation (please note writers not eligible, we are looking for artist focus visual / film/ photo/ digital/ print media);
- Artists open to ambitious and bold vision, willing to collaborate and experiment in ways of working, and interested in heritage and engagement with Lyme Regis coast, seas, ecology and exploring the Museum collection;
- **Dorset resident** or normally work across the County (or able to be in residence);
- **Experienced** in delivering projects and workshops designed for adults;
- Responsible, reliable individual committed to high quality artistic production already working professionally in their field with excellent communication skills and ability to work with the public;
- Artists who thrive from opportunity, collaborative working and are highly organised, individuals who reach beyond the brief to co-deliver something special on time within budget.

We encourage proposals from eligible artists of all ages currently underrepresented in arts and heritage sectors. in arts and heritage sectors.

How to Apply

- Please supply an emailed expression of interest detailing your approach to the brief, your experience and what you can bring to the project 1-2 pages A4 max. Please also send CV. Please provide links to portfolio projects.

Email your application proposal to Sarah Acton who is the writer/artist on the team also supporting the project as Artist Co-ordinator. Email: blackvenpress@gmail.com
We will inform short-listed applicants by Thursday 16th July, with invitations to interviews which will take place at the Museum (or on Teams by request, in person preferred) on Monday 20th July between 2-5pm. **Successful Artists will be notified 21st July.**