Norfolk & Norwich Festival are thrilled to be able to offer this remarkable opportunity for an artist to create a youth-led heritage based arts project. We’re proud to have teamed up with nationally recognised heritage partners across East Anglia to create Common Ground, an ambitious project providing new opportunities for 16-25 year olds to enjoy and work at heritage sites. We will work with five sites over the next three years to completely reshape how young people are involved with heritage.

Our partners are the National Trust, The Prince’s Trust, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, and SHARE Museums East

Our aim is to work with young people to co-create a project that inspires them to relate heritage to their own lives and help young people define natural and cultural heritage for themselves.

This callout is for an artist to co-create a Common Ground project at the Suffolk Wildlife Trust's site Carlton Marshes, in Lowestoft.

Project Artist Commission: £12,000

What is Common Ground?
Common Ground is a three-year project led by Norfolk & Norwich Festival designed to create new ways for young people to visit and work at heritage sites. Through the project, young people will work with artists and designers to co-create new experiences which celebrate their local and natural heritage. We will be working with our partners to include young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Common Ground is supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund. The project will give opportunities for 16-25 year olds to take part in events, projects, skills training, leadership training and paid placement traineeships.

What is a Heritage Site?
A heritage site is a historical site, building, or natural environment, considered to be important to a country or area's heritage.

Where is it happening?
Over three years Common Ground will create projects in:

- Carlton Marshes, Lowestoft (2020-2021)
- Flag Fen Archaeological Site, Peterborough (2020-2021)
- Roydon Common, Kings Lynn & West Norfolk (2021-2022)
- Ipswich Museum, Ipswich (2021-2022)
- Peckover House & Gardens, Wisbech (2021-2022)
This is the project brief for Carlton Marshes, if you are interested in working at another of our heritage sites please find the corresponding project brief at https://nnfestival.org.uk/common-ground/

What does a Common Ground Project involve?
Each Common Ground Project will include

- 1 Heritage Hack Pop Up
- 1 Heritage Hack Lab
- 1 Heritage Hack Creation
- 1 Traineeship

All Heritage Hack activities should be:

- Accessible so that anyone is able to quickly take part and activities should encourage people to stay and continue their involvement.
- Designed to be sensitive to the heritage site and offer a new way for young people to enjoy heritage.
- Based on a live brief from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, providing arts and or technology engagement to shape new experiences whilst raising awareness of existing offers.

What is a Heritage Hack Pop Up?
A Heritage Hack Pop Up is a creative way of taking a heritage site to its local town. It should find imaginative ways to represent the site, and involve a creative activity that young people can immediately take part in. The aim of the Pop Up is to reach young people who otherwise would not visit a heritage site, and collect their opinions on youth engagement in heritage. The Pop Up is a public facing event so we have set the target age range as 11+ but our core target age is 16-25 years. The venue could be in an empty shop, a school or college building, or other community venue, decided in partnership with the Project Artist, Common Ground Manager, and Heritage Partner. It is desirable that the Artist is able to design and facilitate a space which could also include mini-tasters of activities led by Suffolk Wildlife Trust from their current programme (for example bushcraft skills, sound recording, wild art, wildlife photography).

What is a Heritage Hack Lab?
A Lab is an opportunity to test some of the creative activity ideas generated by young people at the Pop Up. It is a chance to test new heritage interpretations and give young people creative tasks which can give them a leading voice in a Heritage Hack Creation. The Lab will take place on the heritage site, directly drawing inspiration from its environment and cultural history. Activities should be informative, active, artistic, creative, experiential and if appropriate, immersive.

The ideas generated in these events will be used to create the Heritage Hack Creation, a project designed by young people for young people.

What is a Heritage Hack Creation?
A Heritage Hack Creation is a sustained engagement project in which 16-25 year olds work collaboratively with a creative specialist to create a new heritage interpretation. The young people will also aim to complete an Arts Award during their involvement with the Heritage
Hack Creation. The format and content of the Creation will be shaped by the feedback given during the Pop Up and Lab. The Project Artist must be able to shape young people’s ideas into a cohesive and high quality sustained activity. The Heritage Hack Creation could be a weekly session, intensive weekends, or an intensive creation week, depending on feedback from participants and the availability of the Artist. The Artist will also be required to collaborate with Suffolk Wildlife Trust to ensure that the Heritage Hack Creation brings as much value to both the young people and the heritage site as possible.

What is a Common Ground Traineeship?
Each site will also host an 18-25-year-old Trainee who will be working with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Norfolk & Norwich Festival to support the project. More information about their role will be available at a later stage.

When is it Happening?
- Co-Creation Planning Day for Project Artist, Heritage Partner, Partnership Consultant (27th April tbc)
- Heritage Hack Pop Up in Lowestoft: April/May (1 day)
- Heritage Hack Lab at Carlton Marshes: July (1 day)
- Heritage Hack Creation: starting mid-September (tbc)

Lowestoft site info
Carlton Marshes lie in the Waveney Valley and acts as a Southern gateway to the Broads National Park. An astounding 28 species of dragonfly have been spotted here. It comprises a jigsaw of grazing marsh, fens, peat pools, meadow, reedbed, dykes and scrub. Mostly man-made by medieval peat diggers, these habitats have developed over hundreds of years of traditional management and now host specialised wildlife.

Objectives
To inspire young people to see Carlton Marshes in a new way and broaden their ideas about the types of activities that are possible at the site for young people.

Norfolk & Norwich Festival welcomes applicants from a wide mix of people because we want to employ people from a diverse range of backgrounds. This includes people who identify as disabled and people from diverse cultural backgrounds (BAME – Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic). Please note that not all of Carlton Marshes nature reserve is fully accessible, but there is a firm path around part of the marsh, easy access gates, and accessible toilets. Norfolk & Norwich Festival’s current office is in a grade II* listed building in an historic part of Norwich and there is no lift access. We are currently searching for a new office space that will enable us to achieve our ambition to be fully accessible both to our audiences and our workforce. If you are interested in working for us and have the skills and experience we seek, we encourage you to apply.

We can’t wait to see what young people will do when an artist like you inspires them.

Who are we looking for?
The Project Artist will need to have:
- High quality, relevant arts practice
- A strong collaborative attitude to your work, in order to co-create experiences with young people and consult with partners.
• An excellent track record of delivering inspiring, creative workshops that excite and engage young people aged 11-25 years
• DBS check
• An understanding of health and safety, equal opportunities, and safeguarding procedures relating to work with young and vulnerable people

The Project Artist is required to:
• Design and facilitate activities which inspire young people to visit Carlton Marshes.
• Give young people creative tasks which can help them generate ideas for future Common Ground activities.
• Engage young people, draw people in and facilitate their involvement.
• Include other methods of feedback from the participants at the Pop Up and Lab events- ideas walls, interest polls, art form polls.
• Design a way to showcase and celebrate what the young people have created.
• Work in partnership with the Evaluation Consultant to ensure we collect the appropriate data from participants.
• Work in partnership with the Partnerships Consultant to ensure that the project meets the aims of its partners.
• Work in partnership with Norfolk & Norwich Festival to deliver a high quality artistic engagement in Heritage.

Further information about the Common Ground project is available at https://nnfestival.org.uk/common-ground/.

If you are experienced in supporting youth led practice and young people’s personal development and participation programmes, we would love to hear from you. Experience in working with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and disabled young people is also desirable.

This is the ideal position for an organised, people-person with experience of youth work practices in nurturing and artistic environments. We are looking for someone to work in a collaborative way with a diverse group of young people. Someone with a genuine passion for supporting young people and inspiring them to develop themselves.

Budget
Total Fee: £12,000

Inclusive of
• All artist fees for planning, design, delivery, and evaluation of all Common Ground Project activities.
• All equipment required to deliver the activities
• All artist travel and accommodation costs

There is a small additional budget for basic materials, and we may be able to help source additional equipment, but our expectation is that the artist provides the equipment required for their practice. Except for the Pop Up event, activities will take place onsite at Carlton Marshes, or at another partner venue. Norfolk & Norwich Festival will provide logistical support and work with the Common Ground partners to recruit young people.
Norfolk & Norwich Festival

Norfolk & Norwich Festival shares exceptional arts experiences across East England. We lead and support celebration, creativity and curiosity in our community to make our part of the world a great place to live, work and play.

Norfolk & Norwich Festival takes place in Norwich and around Norfolk for 17 days each May. The 2020 Festival runs from Friday 8 to Sunday 24 May. The Festival programme is multi-artform, contemporary, international and audience-centred. The Festival is distinctive because we collaborate with artists – from down the road and around the world – to explore the unique physical and cultural identities of our place and to make art which is meaningful to the lives of our audiences.

Our festival spirit, which guides the ways we work, is to be:

Creative We champion artistic excellence and value creativity in everyone.
Curious We explore and reflect the changing social and physical contexts in which we live.
Inclusive We are respectful of the diversity and difference of people and their views and values.
Collaborative We work with artists, communities, peers, partners and stakeholders to achieve common goals.
Strategic We balance artistic and social ambition with a sustainable business.

How to Apply:

Please send a proposal that outlines:

1. What attracts you to this opportunity at Carlton Marshes?
2. Your proposed approach, explaining how you will meet the requirements outlined above and your understanding of the brief.
3. Demonstrate your experience and skills in successfully delivering similar projects or activities.
4. Provide copies of CVs for the delivery individual/team and two referees for relevant previous projects

Your proposal should respond to all the criteria above (maximum 4 sides A4). Please send your proposal to commonground@nnfestival.org.uk with the subject line ‘Project Artist Proposal for Carlton Marshes’ by midnight Sunday 22nd March 2020.