



The National Lottery
Heritage Fund

Historic
England



Digital Commissions to celebrate the Abbey Ruins' 900th Anniversary

1121 is the year that marked the start for Reading's historic Abbey. A centre point of Europe for pilgrimage, safe-haven and beauty, we would like to celebrate this site of national and international historical importance with 2 digital commissions.

These digital commissions will sit on our virtual venue, Reading Culture Live (www.readingculturelive.co.uk) and be key in the build up to our flagship celebratory event, Waterfest on the 19th of June.

Reading Borough Council will be accepting applications for between £3000 and £5000 from arts organisations and individual practitioners based in Reading. The commissions will celebrate the 900th anniversary of the Abbey Ruins and its history from 1121 to present day.

Who is it for?

This funding is open to all artforms including, but not exclusive to, dance, visual arts, theatre, music, storytelling, sculpture, design, fashion, poetry, film, cabaret, photography, crafts, literature, digital media, heritage and museums.

We will welcome applications from any individuals, artists or organisations who are from or based in Reading, to create digital artistic content in response to and in celebration of the Abbey's 900th Anniversary. This does not have to be new work, but it cannot already exist in a digital format online. We are keen to reach a wide audience and appeal to all sectors of our community, so welcome partnerships between the voluntary and cultural sectors. In order to achieve this aim, we will also be prioritising the following areas:

- Projects that involve young people between the ages of 11 and 18
- Projects that are led by individuals and organisations that reflect the diversity of Reading

Please note that we are not discouraging applications that do not respond to these priority areas, but the decision making panel will prioritise applications that meet these criteria.

Support

Your application will not need to include filming costs through our partners Yes Events. We will support your project with a minimum of 0.5 days of filming, 2 camera people, 1 director for support and 1 sound engineer. Please note you will need to provide an editing brief for your project and you will have 1 rough cut for comment before the final edit is provided.

If you chose not use this support from Yes Events, your funding application will need to reflect this and include filming costs. You will also need to provide an example of the type of work that your chosen videographer has created in the past.

What are the timelines?

The funding will close on the 26th of March.

Decisions will made by a community panel by the 31st March.

Communications will go out week commencing 19th of April.

Filming will take place on one of the following dates – 13-16 May (weather permitting)



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First Edit by May end.

Delivery to Reading Culture Live beginning of June.

There is a total of £10000 in this pot of funding and you can apply for between £3000 and £5000.

How will the funding be allocated?

Successful applicants will be chosen by the community who are from our priority areas but also those who live or work within the Abbey Quarter.

Each application will be marked against the following criteria:

- Quality: The proposal is clear and celebrates the 900th Anniversary of the Abbey Ruins
- Audience Reach and Engagement: a clear understanding of who it is you are reaching
- Diversity and Equality: Diversity in terms of individuals delivering the project and the target audience
- Priority Areas: Does the application meet any of our priority areas

We would also like you to consider how you might do the following in your application:

- Create interest about the site
- Celebrate the heritage of the site, specifically the 900th anniversary
- Celebrate the sustainability, beauty and accessibility of the site

How do I find out more about the Abbey's history?

There are a number of resources online [here](#) or if you need to fact check you can get in contact with us via the details below.

How do I apply?

You can [click here](#) for the funding application. If you this form is not accessible for you please get in contact via the email below.

If you would like help or if you have any questions about any of the above please get in contact by emailing Zsuzsi.Lindsay@reading.gov.uk.

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