



Back to Ours Arts Limited

Artist Commissioning Brief

Feb 2025





Our Hub Members are looking to commission an artist with experience and a passion for working outdoors and with people, someone who can bring people together through a creative project.

Our Hub Members run through the very core of Back to Ours; after all, who knows more about how to engage Hull people in the Arts than the people living in the heart of Hull neighbourhoods? Our Hub members play a key role in the development of the Back to Ours programme, meeting regularly to discuss what, when and how arts and culture are delivered in their area.

We want you to work closely with our Hub Members to create a new piece of work in any art form. Our Hub Members are staging events in their streets and green spaces for all their neighbours, family, and friends to enjoy during our annual Christmas Parade, and your work would be displayed at these events.

They're looking to commission a project which:

- Takes place in the streets and or green spaces of our Parade neighbourhoods;
- Engages with people who attend the events that run alongside the Parade;
- Celebrates (or relates to!) the theme of winter.

Commission Duration: June - December 2025

Development of the commission will take place between June and Nov with a presentation of the final work in the evenings of Mon 1 Dec in Southcoates, Tue 2 Dec in Greatfield, Wed 3 Dec in North Hull and Thu 4 Dec in Derringham neighbourhoods.

Commission Budget:

£4500 to include artist fees, materials and required infrastructure.

Things to consider:

- Your work will be displayed outside, although an indoor space might be available dependent on the neighbourhood;
- The Parade will pass the site where your work's presented and won't be part of the moving vehicle parade;
- The weather may be unpredictable; you'll need a bad weather plan ready to execute
- It will be dark when the Parade takes place; additional lighting may not be available without a generator, depending on the neighbourhood;
- It'll be nippy! In previous years, temperatures reached close to zero;
- It's loads of fun and one of our favourite events of the year.



Application Process:

Our three-step application process starts with you sending Back to Ours a 1-3 sentence brief of your idea with your portfolio and/ or CV (max three pages) showcasing your work with community-based projects. Please send your idea, portfolio or CV to team@backtoours.co.uk.

Back to Ours will select up to 5 artists to meet the Hub Members at their May Gathering. You will be able to talk about your ideas, hear what Hub Members are interested in and learn about the areas where the final project will be presented. (We will provide a small stipend for your time to attend the meeting.)

After meeting the Hub Members, the selected artists will be asked to submit a detailed project proposal, including a budget.

A panel of Hub Members will then review proposals with support from a Back to Ours team member.

We recommend that the chosen artist attends Sharrabang, our annual summer event, on Sat 5 and Sun 6 July. The Sharrabang bus tour will visit some parade neighbourhoods, allowing the artist to further engage with our audiences and Hub Members.

The chosen project will be exhibited the first week of December 2025 at the Back to Ours Christmas Card Parade Hub events held by our Hub Members.

Application Timeline:

Fri 4 April: Deadline for artists to submit their ideas, CVs and Portfolios for consideration to team@backtoours.co.uk.

Mon 21 April: Back to Ours to contact artists invited to meet our Hub Members.

Thu 1 May: Attend the May Hub Member Gathering.

Thu 22 May: Detailed Commission Project Proposal and Budget are due.

Fri 13 June: Chosen artist is selected and notified.

Sat 5 – Sun 6 July: The chosen artist has the opportunity to attend the Sharrabang bus tour weekend.

June – November: Artist has check-ins with Back to Ours and our Hub Members on the status of the work.

Mon 1 – Thu 4 Dec: Exhibition of the commissioned work.



Accessibility:

We're committed to making the application and commission process accessible to encourage the widest range of applicants. We'd like our artists to reflect the neighbourhoods our work intends to serve and their different lived experiences.

We're actively seeking applications from those in underserved and under-represented communities and from candidates with a range of lived experiences including (but not exclusively) people from a Black or ethnically diverse background, people from lower socio-economic backgrounds and candidates who identify as disabled.

As such, we accept both written and verbal expressions of interest applications in audio or video form. If you need additional support to apply or have access needs that will need support for the duration of the commission including additional funds, feel free to contact us in advance for an informal discussion on how Back to Ours can help you execute your proposal to its full potential.

If you would like more information on the commission or to speak with a team member, please get in touch with our Producer, Ellie, at ellie.irwin@backtoours.co.uk

Your short project ideas, portfolios and/or CVs are due to team@backtoours.co.uk by end of day on Fri 4 April.

We look forward to seeing your ideas!

The team at Back to Ours