



## Out of the Box 2024 Commissions Guidelines

Following the success of Out of the Box 2023, J-Night and Hull City Arts Development are inviting applications for Special Collaborative Commissions from musicians and artists in all musical genres and media.

This is part of ongoing work that J-Night and Arts Development are undertaking to support the development of the Music Sector in Hull.

Support for the creation of new work is one thing that is highly valued by the sector. We are keen to support diversity in the music that is made in Hull, we recognize the value of the creative nourishment that occurs when artists from different genres collaborate.

We are now inviting applications for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Out of the Box. The commissions can enable musicians to develop unusual collaborations and pairings, open up possibilities for exploration and challenge, and support musicians to create new work outside their normal musical boxes.

For examples of successful Out of the Box commissions please go to <https://hulljazzfestival.co.uk/event/out-of-the-box/>

The commissions will support the development of new work, with a payment of up to **£3,000** for any of the following:

- New collaborations between artists of different musical genres, preferably who have not created work together previously
- Diverse groups or individuals working together to create new music
- Individual artists from different musical backgrounds developing new music through co-creation and sharing ideas and approaches

We are looking for original and exciting ideas and welcome proposals from individuals or groups that will be developed towards live performance. All collaborations in these Special Collaborative Commissions are to take place during 2024 in the city of Hull, resulting in a live sharing of the work at the Hull Jazz Festival between 16 to 23 November 2024.

Submissions open from 2<sup>nd</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March. Final deadline midnight **1<sup>st</sup> March 2024**.

### What is an Out of the Box commission?

We will support music creators, artists and creative producers to produce a piece of new work, based on Hull and the North's sense of place.

It could be geographical, historical, emotional, lyrical or personal. It could reflect an incident, a specific location, an atmosphere or reflect what you think is the spirit of the North, of Yorkshire or of Hull.

It could involve other artforms such as dance, spoken word or film.

We're looking for projects that explore stories that define a sense of place and that embody the spirit of music as forward-facing artform that's continually evolving.

All rights for the commissioned work will remain with the music creator(s), but J-Night will be permitted to host the premiere performance and J-Night. Hull Jazz Festival and Hull CC shall be credited as commissioner on all future performances or recordings.

### **What can we offer?**

HJF can contribute between £700 and £3,000, depending on project needs. The agreed amount will cover the composition plus live performance fees and any special production costs (e.g. filming, rehearsal rooms, and special equipment).

HJF can offer:

- Practical and mentoring support designed around your project
- Live performance at an official Hull Jazz Festival showcase event
- Practical support and guidance on production, career development and profile raising

### **Finances**

You may request a maximum of up to £3,000 towards the cost of your project but should bear in mind that, if an offer is made, it may be lower and will be determined by the needs and ambitions of the project and the availability of funds. We're expecting to receive more applications than available funds.

### **Eligibility**

To be eligible the project leader must:

Be over 18 years old and based in the UK and should have a Hull or East Riding postcode;

Not be in full-time education;

Have a track record of a professional music career;

Have a clear and coherent project proposal;

Your proposal should meet the following criteria:

It should have intrinsic musical or artistic value;

It should fulfill a developmental or educational role;

It should demonstrate the intention to increase participation in music or other art forms within the community;

It should be a minimum of 20 minutes and a maximum of 40 minutes performance time;

It should have collaboration at its heart with at least one collaborator.

**All commissions should have a musical outcome or work that can be captured and be able to share the outcome in a performance/broadcast setting to a wider audience through live performance in November 2024.**

### **Application**

The application process will begin on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February and will close on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at midnight**. You must apply using the application form, with the option to submit videos for some of the questions.

In the application form you will be asked to provide

- Outline of your proposed commission idea (up to 800 words, or a 4-minute video); describe your project, its sense of place, artists you would like to collaborate with etc
- Personal statement (up to 500 words, or a 3-minute video) including relevant experience and why the time is right for you to be commissioned, plus a link to 2 examples of your work
- Who your target audiences would be; do you have a specific venue or location in mind? (up to 500 words, or a 3-minute video)
- Simple budget and the amount of commission required (minimum £700, maximum £3,000)

#### **How and when we make our decision**

All applications will be considered by a selection panel, consisting of music and cultural professionals, in early March 2024.

- A shortlist of candidates will be invited to present their ideas over Zoom between 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024
- Offers of commissions with contracts will be made by the end of March 2024.

#### **Who to contact**

If you have a question about any aspect of the process or wonder if the commissioning process is right for you or you have an access query please contact the HJF Director David Porter by email [david@creativeartspromotion.org](mailto:david@creativeartspromotion.org)

Hull City Council, J-Night and Hull Jazz Festival are committed to ensuring that the Out of the Box commissions will be representative of wider society in terms of gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability and socio-economic background.



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