



MUSEUM
DEVELOPMENT
EAST MIDLANDS

ARTISTS IN MUSEUMS

Aims

- To **encourage** more museums to have an arts programme or partner with arts organisations, to increase and diversify audiences and opportunities.
- To have **confident well-equipped museums** that can work successfully with artists in planning and delivery of museum activity.
- To have museums with the **right skills** to successfully seek arts funding from unfamiliar sources.
- To establish a **self-supporting network** of museums in the East Midlands to inspire other museums
- To **increase funding investment** into East Midlands museums and to help create exciting arts programmes based on museum collections.

How did MDEM help?

- A series of workshops, action learning sets and go see visits.
- Support for fundraising
- Support to find artists, refine project ideas and to develop and submit successful funding applications to arts funders.

Site Visits and Workshops

- 78 Derngate, Northampton
- Cotesbach, Leicestershire
- The Yorkshire Sculpture Park
- Nottingham Castle





Some would say that
we had too much fun!







The Museums

- Crich Tramway Museum
- National Justice Museum
- Cromford Mill
- Charnwood Museum
- Carillon Tower
- Sharpes Pottery
- Framework Knitters Museum
- Wirksworth Heritage Centre

Crich Tramway Museum

Commissioned a series of **contemporary sculptures** to leave a **lasting legacy** to the tramway workers and their families whose lives were lost or changed by the Great War.

Successful ACE Bid £15,000



National Justice Museum, Nottingham

Commissioned
contemporary portrait
artist David Lock to
create a **large-scale
collage & paintings**
that were exhibited at
the National Justice
Museum's '***Crimes of
Passion: The Story of
Joe Orton***' exhibition.



Successful ACE Bid £15,000

Wirksworth Heritage Centre

Commission an artist (Lyndall Phelps) to **create a new piece of work** that will **reflect the heritage of the town** of Wirksworth and to help **commemorate the opening** of their new museum (anticipated Autumn 2018).

WHC wanted to commission a piece of work that would be meaningful to the people whose roots are in this area, but also to those drawn to it by the situation, history and presence that Wirksworth embodies.

Successful ACE Bid £13,000

Sharpe's Pottery

Sharpe's Pottery Museum wish to **commission an artist** to design and produce a **sculpture** inspired by the 'The Earth Our Wealth'. The piece will be located outside the museum **to encourage visitors to learn** more about their **story** and to be a **source of local pride**.

ACE bid writing in progress



Framework Knitters

Commission a **piece of music** based on the rhythm of the knitting machines and to involve a **dance group to choreograph** a performance based around the composition.

Would like to aim to have the project complete so that the performance can take place during Black History Month in October.

Seeking young musicians and dancers

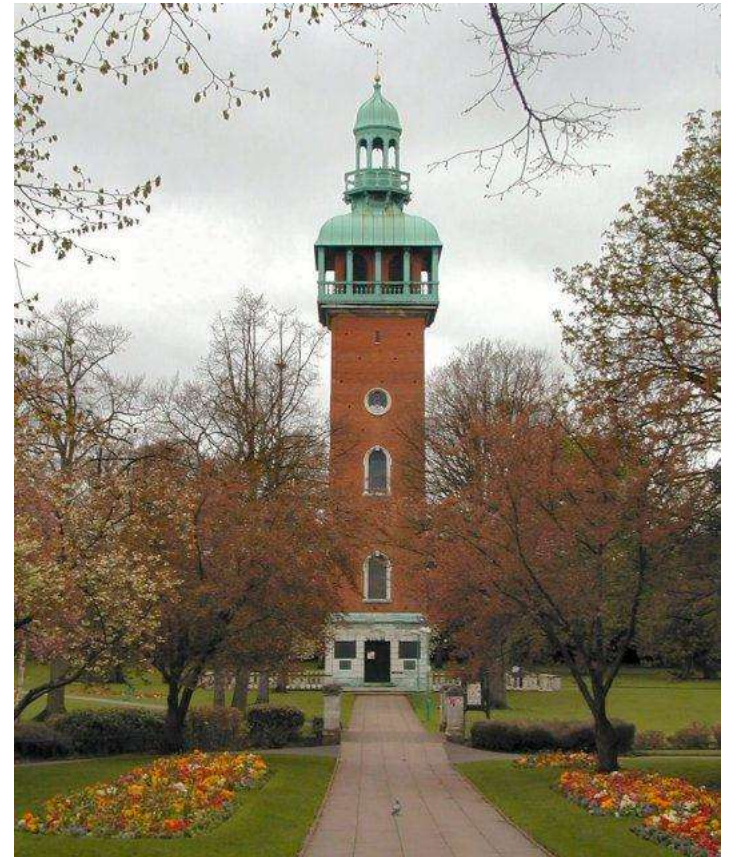


Loughborough Carillon Tower and War Memorial Museum

Commission Amanda from Kidology to write a **companion piece** to the Elgar Carillon piece 100 years after the end of WW1.

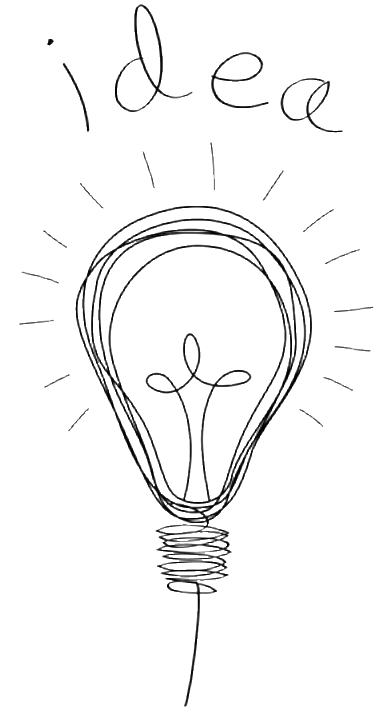
A **soundscape of horses hooves** to lead visitors up the stairs of the Museum, which lead to the Carillon.

ACE bid writing in progress



Top Tips for working with Artists...

- Communication is key - Lead person, meet regularly
- Museum to visit the maker in their artist's studio / workshop
- Collaboration - ideas come from both sides
- A shared vision between artist and Museum
- Take creative risks but be realistic
- Give the artist creative freedom, trust the artist
- Give the artist access to collections
- Be open minded - allow enough time for quality projects to come to fruition
- Museum and staff to be involved with the creative journey, a shared experience
- If it not going well - be honest and say why early!



More Top Tips...

because we have learnt a lot!!

- Contact your Relationship Manager at Arts Council
- Include detailed information on the artist
- Share your draft application
- 10% minimum match funding isn't enough
- Explain how the project will enhance attendance

