

## 4 x artist micro-commission opportunities

If you're an artist with a passion for sharing east London women's stories and working with communities, we want to hear from you!

### About us

The East End Women's Museum is a small museum dedicated to the powerful stories and diverse voices of east London women. We're committed to challenging gender inequalities and stereotypes, and supporting women and girls to share their own stories and find their civic voice.

Established in 2015, since then we've worked as a pop-up, partnering with local organisations and community members to research, record, share and celebrate women's stories, through oral histories, temporary exhibitions, workshops, events and online content. Further details about our history, aims, values and previous projects can be found [here](#).

Excitingly, we are now working to open a building in late 2021 in Barking town centre - the only dedicated women's museum in England. It's a permanent home for our work, giving us opportunities to further connect with local communities, deliver new programmes, and increase the scale and impact of our work.

### Micro-commissions

Generously supported using public funding through Arts Council England, we're looking for four artists **to reflect on the importance and future of the East End Women's Museum**. These are rapid, small-scale commissions (£250 per artist) - we are not expecting polished works, and are as interested in the process as the output.

The commissions ask artists to consider questions like:

- What does this museum mean to its local community?
- Why do we need a women's museum of east London?
- Which stories do I think should be featured in the new building?
- What is my vision for this museum's future - in 2, 20, 200 years' time?
- What is my place in the museum?
- Other questions, ideas and reflections we haven't thought of yet!

We want to hear the voice of the local community within the works, which is why artists will start the process by having a (virtual) meeting with members of the Museum's volunteer Steering Group on 17th September. This will also be an opportunity to meet with the other three artists.

We're open to artists and creatives working in any artform - perhaps animation, spoken word, song, illustration, photography, poetry, digital arts, theatre making or something else entirely. We only ask that the work can be shared via our website and social media channels (i.e. it works as a digital file, photograph, audio file or film).

We also ask that artists submit a short reflective piece (in text, audio or video) afterwards to tell us more about the work and your thoughts on creating it.

Artists will each be paid a fee of £250 (inclusive of expenses) once the commission is complete.

## Timeline

Applications open	Weds 5th August
Deadline for applications	Thurs 27th August, 5pm
Successful artists notified	By Fri 4th September
Artists to meet with EEWM Steering Group	Thurs 17th Sept, 11am
Artists to deliver work	By Fri 9th October
Artists to submit reflective piece	By Fri 23rd October
EEWM to share artists' work and reflective pieces via website and social media	October-November

## What we're looking for

- Artists and creatives working in any artform that can be shared via our online channels
- Artists open to listening and responding to ideas from the local community
- Artists with a passion for the theme of the commission and an interesting idea about how they would approach it
- You don't need to have any prior knowledge of the East End Women's Museum, or be any kind of expert in museums at all. We're interested in new perspectives, and open to challenging received wisdom about what museums can and should be
- We're keen to hear from artists with links to east London, especially to Barking and Dagenham or Newham (the new site is located in B&D and adjacent to Newham)
- We're really open to working with artists in their early years of practice - you do not have to be at any particular career stage or have extensive experience!
- We especially welcome applications from artists from backgrounds that are often underrepresented in arts and culture, including people who identify as Black, Asian and minority ethnic; disabled; LGBTQ+; and/or working class.

## To apply

We want to hear a little bit about you and how you would approach this commission. Please complete the short form at <https://forms.gle/AbjzjDbnjHwXJQ5N6> by 5pm on Thurs 27th August.

If you have any questions about this call out, please contact us on [eastendwomensmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:eastendwomensmuseum@gmail.com)

## And.. if this opportunity is not right for you

We're keen to grow our links with artists and creatives who share our passion for women's stories and voices. If for whatever reason this opportunity is not right for you, but you would like to be part of our network and potentially be considered for future opportunities and collaborations, please say hello by completing the short form at: <https://forms.gle/Wxin4YjJiFWBeCGH8>



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