PROGRAMME MANAGER
THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CRAFT & DESIGN

Background Information

Our Vision:  Great Art for Everyone (from the everyday to the special day)

The Mission:  Make it Happen for Everyone in North Kesteven

How Will We Make A Difference?

• By delivering great quality and accessibility across a meaningful multi arts programme.

• By linking the National Centre for Craft and Design (NCCD) based in Sleaford, Lincolnshire, with the wider district of North Kesteven, and its 100 flourishing local communities.

The Opportunity:

This post is based within the NCCD, an outstanding venue, the largest in England and entirely dedicated to the exhibition, celebration and promotion of international, national and also local craft and design.

Locally referred to as the Hub, the NCCD is an imposing building, with strong architectural features, reminiscent of its former seed warehouse function, and sitting alongside the River Slea in the heart of this bustling market town. The NCCD boasts a main gallery and smaller interactive spaces that showcase an ever-changing programme of up to 20 exhibitions each year.

Complimentary café and retail offer enhances the visitor experience and provides an ideal opportunity to purchase the latest contemporary handmade products.

NCCD is also home to Design-Nation, the UK’s leading portfolio and network that supports the very best and most diverse British-based contemporary craft and design.

The rural nature of the district is both inspiring and challenging, where community creativity succeeds in small clusters but currently lacks a full on social movement to bring this all to life and to enable the NCCD to be a local magnet for all things creative.

This role provides a great opportunity for an enthusiastic and ambitious curator/programme developer to both cultivate cutting edge exhibitions that attract local, regional and national appetite, at the same time growing an arts movement
across North Kesteven that increases engagement and demonstrates a true social impact.

It's all about making sure art is at the heart of North Kesteven, supporting wider agendas linked to health, local economy, life-long learning as well as putting Sleaford on a national stage for its role in celebrating UK and International crafts.

**The Right Person:**

- Has a passion for change that is based on well informed community engagement and understanding.
- Demonstrates an ability to make art real, inspiring, thought provoking and above all accessible, no matter how diverse a community is.
- Will develop and deliver exhibitions that showcase creativity, encourage engagement and offer multi-level practical opportunities for community buy-in.
- Is a team champion who is prepared to roll their sleeves up, lead by example and be an integral part of the successful future of this facility and its supporting services

**Be Part of the NCCD’s Future:**

In 2018 the NCCD merged its exhibition and community arts activities into one integrated offer, based on a multi-arts programme including visual arts, live performance and community creative crafts.

The mixing of the palate brings together a wide range of skills and expertise, aimed at working together to deliver a colourful programme of affordable, value for money, exhibitions, festivals, events, performances.

In 2019/20 a significant capital programme will see the NCCD refurbished to build on the centre’s significant brand and profile as a local and national Centre of inspiration and excellence.

Be part of a journey and social movement that ensures art in North Kesteven is part of every day and every special day.
EXHIBITIONS BACKGROUND

Since opening in 2003, the NCCD has developed a highly respected exhibitions programme that presents exciting, enlightening and accessible exhibitions that open up new understandings of contemporary craft and design practice.

The aim is to exhibit and promote the most innovative, diverse, challenging and accomplished artist's practicing within craft and design.

Exhibitions intentionally blur the boundaries of craft and design, with a particular focus on the contemporary.

The NCCD showcases the work of both established, significant and international names as well as maintaining a commitment and passion for local and emerging talent.

Exhibitions celebrate the very best of international craft and design and set them within the context of popular culture to ensure everyone has the opportunity to experience, understand and be inspired.

The concepts and themes of exhibitions have a starting point that first and foremost ensures the ability to connect to an accessible community programme. This includes talks, workshops, special events, symposiums, clubs, groups, lectures, seminars, screenings, professional development, short-courses, and public demonstration days; this list is endless and the remit is to maximise every exhibitions potential for extended engagement.

Over the next four years, the creative programme will diversify even further to capture the local appetite for live performance, greater creative interactions and off the wall community arts projects, delivered in partnership.

NCCD also operates a successful touring programme, which seeks to extend the life of curated exhibitions, generate essential income and build new partnerships across the UK and overseas.

The National Centre for Craft & Design is a national portfolio organisation of Arts Council England. In 2017/18 NCCD attracted over 113,000 visitors with over 15,000 people participating in creative programmes. NCCD toured 4 exhibitions to 9 UK venues reaching 330,030 people.