

## Railway 200 & Heart of England Community Rail Partnership's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**ARTIST CALL OUT** This opportunity is open to all Midlands based artists.

**Fee: £2000 (exclusive of VAT)**

Artist fees for planning and delivery of workshops 4 workshops in total and artist time for consolidating artwork.

Freelancer is responsible for payment of any income tax or national insurance related to this payment.

**Application Deadline: 6pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024** ([Work to start the planning phase by mid-September 2024](#))

The Heart of England Community Rail Partnership (CRP) is looking to commission an artist to work with schools in the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire area, delivering 4 workshops in total in October 2024 to produce a mural banner celebrating Railway 200. The banner will be displayed at a celebration of 5 years of the Heart of England CRP, during an event taking place at the Royal Pump Rooms in Leamington Spa on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

Leamington Spa (and the whole of the Heart of England patch covering Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull) has a rich railway history and we are excited to bring these two celebrations together. We would like to work with an artist to engage with local schools to produce a 6ft x 3 ft banner celebrating the 4 themes of Railway 200. The artist can choose to either create the banner themselves, although it must be suitable for indoor and outdoor use, or the artist can supply a suitable digital file of the artwork and the CRP will be responsible for the printing of the banner. Should the artist choose to produce the banner themselves, there will be additional budget made available for the resources needed.

**To summarise, the successful artist will need to:**

- Plan and deliver 4 x 60 – 90 minute workshops for schools in the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire area (schools and exact timings TBC)
- Co-create artwork with the schools creatively celebrating the railway and exploring the themes of Railway 200; Skills & Education, Innovation, Technology & Environment, Heritage, Culture & Tourism, Celebrating Railway People. Use the artwork to produce a banner or the digital artwork needed for the banner to be printed.
- Work towards the deadline of the mural being ready to be displayed on 13th November 2024.

**Background to the Heart of England Community Rail Partnership (CRP):** The Heart of England CRP covers 36 stations in Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire. Funded by Local Authorities and Train Operating Companies, the CRP aims to integrate stations into their communities, encourage rail use as a sustainable form of transport and socially and economically support the areas linked by the railways. They focus their activities on 4 key strands: Education, Station & Neighbourhood Enhancements, Inclusivity & Community Links, and Sustainability.

**More about Railway 200:** 2025 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of the modern railway when Britain and the world changed forever. Railway 200 celebrates the past, present and future of rail.

The Stockton & Darlington Railway opened in 1825, connecting places, people, communities and ideas and ultimately transforming the world. Railway 200 will be a year-long nationwide partnership-led campaign to celebrate 200 years of the modern railway and inspire a new generation of young pioneering talent to choose a career in rail. It invites community, rail and other groups to get involved. Starting in January 2025, a wide variety of activities and events are being planned to celebrate rail's remarkable past, its role today, and its importance to a sustainable future.

Born in Britain, rail quickly spread across the globe. Railway 200 will showcase how the railway shaped and continues to shape national life. The spirit of invention and innovation of rail's early pioneers lives on, as today's railway becomes simpler and better for all, rising to new challenges in a changing world. Rail has transformed how life is lived here and abroad: crossing continents, connecting cities and communities, and improving the lives and livelihoods of billions.

This short video from Network Rail summarises the history of the railways and why we are celebrating <https://youtu.be/NBHK3pwXPaQ>

**To help tell the Railway 200 story, four main themes have been identified:**

- Skills & Education
- Innovation, Technology & Environment
- Heritage, Culture & Tourism
- Celebrating Railway People

### Key Dates

Deadline for applications: 5pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Applicants informed of decision: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Workshops with schools to take place between 1<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October

Banner ready for printing by 4<sup>th</sup> November, to be showcased at the 5<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration the following week.

**How to apply:** To apply for this commission, follow the link below to complete the online form, or submit a video to [HeartCRP@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:HeartCRP@warwickshire.gov.uk) (maximum length 4 minutes) with your answers to the application questions, by 6pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. One application per artist.

If you require support with your application, please email [HeartCRP@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:HeartCRP@warwickshire.gov.uk) with 'Railway 200 Celebration Application Support' in the subject line. Alternatively, you can answer the questions in the application via a video sent with up to 3 examples of your work + weblinks to [HeartCRP@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:HeartCRP@warwickshire.gov.uk). Please mark any emails sent in relation to this application 'Railway 200 Celebration Application' in the subject line.

**Apply via:** <https://forms.gle/dpP9kMotXVpynnGL6>

### Selection & Criteria:

The artist must be able to show that:

They can create work suitable for public display that communicates the Railway 200 themes.

They have experience working with key stage 1 & 2 students to create art.

Are available to work during the specified timescales and produce the banner by the deadline listed.

**Selection will be based on:**

Quality of the artwork.

How well the work produced is likely to engage public interest and help celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

How well the artist is likely to engage with the groups.

The successful artist will be selected by a panel consisting of representatives from the Heart of England Steering Group.

The successful artist will be informed by **Wednesday 11th September 2024**. Feedback to unsuccessful applicants is provided on request.

For any further questions please contact [sarahdavison@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarahdavison@warwickshire.gov.uk) and [juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk)

We wish you all the best of luck! We are really excited to see what ideas you have to make this a successful project.