
Mural Practice Lab

Open call for emerging and underrepresented artists in Edinburgh

Abandoned Artists invites visual artists who want to develop their practice in public art to apply for the Mural Practice Lab. Twelve artists will join a practical two-session programme at North Edinburgh Arts, supported by One City Trust.

What you will do

You will explore how a mural project moves from an initial idea towards a proposal. Workshops will cover concept development, sketching, composition and approaches to engaging the public in collaborative work.

By the end of the programme, you will have a sketchbook of ideas and a developed mural concept to take forward in your practice. The programme aims to help you build confidence and prepare for future opportunities; it does not guarantee a commission.

Who can apply

We welcome artists with an existing visual practice who are interested in developing mural work, especially artists affected by displacement and those from groups underrepresented in public art. You need to be able to attend both sessions in at least one of the date pairs below.

Dates and support

- Choose 14 and 21 November 2026, or 5 and 12 December 2026. All sessions run from 11 am to 3 pm.
- Venue: North Edinburgh Arts, 12C MacMillan Square, Edinburgh EH4 4AB.
- Twelve places are available. Each selected artist will receive a £100 bursary. A small additional travel fund is available on request.

Apply by Wednesday 28 October 2026

Email your application to connect@abandonedartists.co.uk by 11:59 pm UK time. The questions and submission checklist are on page 2. We will confirm the outcome to selected applicants before 5 November 2026.

How to apply

Send one email with the details below to connect@abandonedartists.co.uk. You can put your answers in the email or attach a document. Please use “Mural Practice Lab application” as the subject line.

1 Your details and availability

- Your name, email address and address or Edinburgh postcode.
- Tell us which pair you can attend: 14 and 21 November; 5 and 12 December; or either pair.
- Briefly tell us how you relate to the groups this programme is intended to support. Share only what you feel comfortable disclosing.

2 Your practice and interest

In up to 300 words, introduce your visual art practice and explain why you want to take part. You might tell us how your work could relate to murals and what you hope to develop through the Lab.

You may instead send an audio or video answer of up to three minutes. Share it through an accessible Google Drive link in your email. Please still include your details, availability, work examples and any access information.

3 Examples of your work

- Include a link to your website or social media, if you have one.
- Provide 3 to 8 images or short videos of your work. You may attach them or share an accessible link.

4 Travel and access

If you need support with travel costs, tell us why and the amount requested. Please also tell us about any access requirements that would help you take part. This information helps us plan support.

Submission checklist

- Email your application by 11:59 pm UK time on Wednesday 28 October 2026.
- Check that any shared links can be opened by the selection team.
- Send questions or requests about the application process to connect@abandonedartists.co.uk.
- Join information session via Zoom on October 17 from 5 to 6 p.m. to ask your questions.
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88380798623?pwd=QUMwVNOJuMnstzilywbzioPoDL6QBc.1>