

Project Vision

March 2025 will see the 10th anniversary of the reinterment of King Richard III at Leicester Cathedral. The incredible rediscovery of King Richard III's body in the car park attracted international attention and remains arguably the most important modern-day archaeological discovery in our historic city.

As part of the planned anniversary, 'The Roots of My Tree' will reconnect existing residents, new generations and young people from Leicester with this hugely significant piece of place-making heritage, exploring the story of King Richard III in a way that resonates with the cultural heritages of Leicester's diverse communities. We will engage primary schools and community centres from multi-diaspora neighbourhoods, where our research has shown this part of the city's heritage is largely unknown; ensuring that the histories and discoveries around Richard III and their significance to Leicester can be accessed and discussed by people from all backgrounds and ages from our city.

About the Project

We will engage 9 city-wide classes (c.300 young people), as well as 3 community centres (c.100 multi-generational families) located in highly diverse neighbourhoods (2nd and 3rd generation diaspora, largely from African, Eastern European and South Asian backgrounds) with the aim of developing participant's research, investigative, critical thinking and creative skills through a series of workshops that will explore the story, identity, materials, artefacts and venues in Leicester associated with King Richard III, his place in a wider global context, and the young people's views on what Leicester's heritage means to them.

The workshops will create a series of mini-exhibitions in local schools and community centres, and provide creative content for a large-scale outdoor procession, installation and major participatory event in the city centre which will commemorate the 10th anniversary of King Richard's internment at Leicester Cathedral and be the opening event of the planned Light Up Leicester 2025 Festival.

In addition, school participants will be given free access to the KRIII Visitor Centre during the project development phase with further discounted ticket offers available to the targeted community groups / schools leading up to and during the event. Access will also be provided to King Richard's tomb at Leicester Cathedral.

Working with participants, we will co-create new digital content of the project to include digital images, sound files and video clips of the planned workshops, exhibitions and major celebratory event commemorating the anniversary, which will be collated into an overarching digital film to be presented at the KRIII Visitor Centre and Leicester Cathedral as part of the project's legacy. Digital content produced through the life of the project will also be shared (subject to necessary permissions) on The Story of Leicester (museums) and KRIII websites, and further social media available through participating schools, LCC channels, Visit Leicester, BID Leicester and our key heritage partners.

Learning resources created as part of the project will be maintained within the school and heritage venues in an accessible digital format for sharing with future year groups and local schools to use.

Project Values

We have identified several important values that we want to lead the project by, which we will share with the artists, partners and stakeholders that we are working with at the start of our collaborations, so everyone supports the core vision of the project:

- This project is about Leicester and represents the people that live here - exploring their heritage and family roots. Our diversity is what makes our city unique and we will celebrate this through the project.
- We will approach the history of the monarchy, including the story of King Richard III, with openness and honesty, creating space for conversations about both its contributions to heritage and its connections to and perpetuation of broader histories of colonialism and empire.
- We will approach the project with respect for the culture and heritage of all communities involved. We aim to create an environment where conversations about identity, heritage and history can happen in a safe and constructive manner, without perpetuating harm, and without manipulating personal stories so they are represented through a colonial lens.
- By working together with artists, schools, community centres and local organisations, and empowering participants to share their stories and interpretations, we will foster a sense of shared ownership and agency of Leicester's unique heritage.
- We commit to ensuring that the voices, perspectives and lived experience of Leicester's diverse communities are central to the narrative of this project. We recognise that when we talk about History, we are often looking through the lens of colonial legacy and structures of power. This project seeks to redress this imbalance and provide opportunities for marginalised voices to actively shape how they express themselves and are amplified.

Key Outputs

A snapshot of the project outputs and deliverables include the following:

- 4x school assemblies (60 to 90 children per session)
- 10x full day workshops (25 to 30 children per session)
- 3x one hour workshops (10 to 15 community members per session)
- 200 - 300x LED backpack flags created with children's family logo
- 1x large-scale procession (300 to 400 young people, teachers and families)
- 1x film created overviewing the engagement and project
- 1x schools resource pack created by illustration artist

Job Description

Inspirate is looking for a Community Producer that can lead the on-site management of workshops in schools and community centres. We would also like the Community Producer to oversee the creation of digital outputs for the project (film and resource pack), as well as managing the procession on Wednesday 12th March in Leicester City Centre.

Key Deliverables & Responsibilities:

- Managing the on-site delivery of the school and community workshops including logistics, artist liaison, safeguarding, risk assessment and evaluation (documentation)
- Setting up and liaising with artists and venues to enable filming to happen during key workshops and events
- Working alongside the Inspirate team to develop the film concept and vision, the schools resource pack and the delivery of the procession
- Coordinating the evaluation of the project with Leicester City Council and the Inspirate team
- Manage the project budget in partnership with the Inspirate Producing team
- Adhering at all times to the values for this project as detailed above
- We are looking for someone who can start on the project immediately

Skills Overview

Skills required to deliver the role include:

- Passion and enthusiasm for working with audiences both indoors and outdoors
- Experience in delivering education projects for schools and young people
- Excellent time and work management skills, with strong attention to detail
- Experience in coordinating learning activities and events
- Ability to work independently as well as part of a team, with a flexible approach
- A commitment to developing inclusive cultural education programmes
- The candidate must have an enhanced DBS check from within the last 2 years, or be registered on the DBS update service

To Apply

This is a freelance, fixed-term contract until March 2025. The fee for this engagement is £200 per day for 15-20 days (minimum of 15 days and maximum of 20 days).

To apply, please email your CV to jiten@inspirate.org by Sunday 17th November 2024. Please share a maximum of 300 words via email outlining your suitability for the role and why this project interests you.

If you'd like to discuss the role/project, please contact Inspirate's Producer, Jasmine Man, via email to arrange a conversation: jasmine@inspirate.org.