



The Tall Ships Races Aberdeen 2025 Local Makers Programme

To celebrate the arrival of the Tall Ships in Aberdeen from 19th to 22nd July 2025 the UK Government has supported a programme to help local makers develop their practice and business while responding to the key themes of the event.

This Open Call is for applications to participate in the programme. From the submissions received a professional panel will select ten makers who will be invited to progress to the next stage.

Applicants are asked to outline their creative practice and submit a proposal and goal to meet the aims of the programme.

Who can apply?

We welcome applications from makers of all backgrounds from Aberdeen

'from Aberdeen' means people:

Resident in the Aberdeen City postcode areas AB10 to AB25 at the time of application

OR Have a studio or registered business address in those postcodes

OR Be attending or have graduated from a school, college or university in the city

Applicants must be able to complete the programme, including the creation of a work or range of work for display in Aberdeen Art Gallery in the third week of March 2025.

How to apply - DEADLINE Midnight Monday 2nd December 2024

Read the notes, fill in the application form, and send it to

AAGMRetail@aberdeencity.gov.uk along with your Maker/Creative CV and 5 pictures of your work.

About the Programme

The programme will include:

- An award of £1500 to each of the ten makers selected. This is to assist in the development of a product or range of products related to the key themes of Tall Ships (set out below)
- Support with product development from a panel of sector professionals to ensure that the product can later be sold on a commercial basis
- Inclusion in a media release about the programme, and accompanying article on the Tall Ships Aberdeen website

- Blog-style article and updates about your creative work on the Tall Ships Aberdeen online shop, linking to your existing social media and online shop as appropriate
- A display of your final product or range, with accompanying messaging about your practice and the development process in the Shop at the Top at Aberdeen Art Gallery
- Early consideration for inclusion in the Tea Green Market Aberdeen in summer 2025
- The final displays at the Art Gallery will be scored by the professional panel with one maker awarded £5000 to put toward any element of their creative practice

Programme proposals should address at least one of the themes of the Tall Ships Races Aberdeen 2025:

1. The North Sea, including its landscapes, habitats and marine biodiversity
2. Our shared current and historic relationships with the sea, including but not limited to aspects such as sailing, fishing, shipbuilding, the energy industry, travel, migration and trade
3. Our maritime cultural heritage, this could be from storytelling and song to our language and cultural connections, whether to the islands, rest of Scotland or beyond
4. The Tall Ships bringing people together, including international friendship and understanding, and in the shared spaces of the event itself
5. Environmental challenges and solutions for our coasts, seas and oceans, for example waste, plastics, the climate emergency, ecological stresses, renewable energy, just transition

The above themes may be addressed in any way you feel creatively appropriate, this might include use of materials, designs, patterns, images, or work methodology.