



# Cultures of Film

Call for Applications:  
Filmmaking Commission  
& Residency with Cultures  
of Film and Culture Lab  
— 3 places

**Deadline:**  
6th of March 2026  
by 5pm

We are inviting **filmmakers based in Kirklees** or that have a connection to Kirklees, to join a programme of **Culture Lab sessions taking place across the district between March and June 2026**. Each filmmaker will create a short film responding to the people, places and stories that emerge through the Culture Lab engagement. Please consider these themes when submitting your application.

This is a co-produced opportunity between **Culture Lab** and **Cultures of Film**, the annual place-based cultural development programme in the Centre for Cultural Ecologies in Art, Design and Architecture at the University of Huddersfield.

**What is a Culture Lab?**

Culture Labs are place-based, collaborative spaces hosted in community and cultural settings. Culture Labs bring together local partners, residents and practitioners to explore lived experiences, local knowledge, and what cultural change could look like in Kirklees.

**Opportunity:**

**We invite 3 filmmakers to:**

- Attend and document Culture Lab sessions across Kirklees
- Work ethically and collaboratively with participants and partners
- Produce **one completed short film per filmmaker** by the end of the programme - **24 August 2026**
- Contribute to shared learning (e.g., reflections, process notes, screening/showcase)

**Who this is for:**

- Filmmakers **based in Kirklees** (or with a strong, demonstrable connection to Kirklees)
- Filmmakers working in **community co-creation** and participatory approaches
- Confident practitioners who have experience working in sensitive, real-world contexts with care and professionalism
- The films are to be created with and for the communities of Kirklees.
- We welcome and encourage applications from filmmakers from underrepresented voices and those with strong local relationships.

**What we're looking for:**

- Filmmakers with a **practice** and interest in co-created and co-authored storytelling
- A thoughtful approach to **ethics, consent, representation, and safeguarding**
- Ability to deliver a finished film to an agreed brief and deadline

**What you'll create:**

Throughout the Culture Labs we would like to explore **themes linked to learning, health and wellbeing, inclusivity in heritage.**

- **1 short film** responding to Culture Lab sessions and themes (length/format to be agreed – under 15 minutes)
- Optional supporting outputs as agreed (e.g., short cutdowns, captions/subtitles, stills)
- Final films should be suitable for public sharing (online and/or screening, exhibition).

- Support provided:** Selected filmmakers will receive:
- **A commissioned fee:** £5000 (inclusive of VAT)
  - **Production support** (access, introductions, coordination, light-touch editorial guidance from the Cultures of \_ team)
  - Clear permissions process and template paperwork (consent /releases)
- Time commitment:**
- Attend Culture Lab sessions: **2 x Culture Lab themed sessions across April, May, June 2026**
  - Development, filming & edit period: **March – August 2026**
  - Final delivery deadline: **24 August 2026**
  - Screening/showcase: **7 Sept – 2 Oct 2026, Bath House Gallery**

- How to apply:** Send one **PDF or email** (max 2 pages) including:
1. **Name, contact details, and Kirklees base/connection**
  2. **Short statement** (300–500 words): on your practice, how you might approach one of the themes (**learning, health and wellbeing, inclusivity in heritage**) and why you are interested in this opportunity
  3. **Links to 1–3 examples** of relevant work (video links)
  4. A brief note on your **approach to ethics/consent** in your filmmaking practice
  5. You need to be **available** across the Culture Lab programme dates **April – June 2026**

Email your application to: [culturesof@hud.ac.uk](mailto:culturesof@hud.ac.uk)  
 Subject line: **Culture Lab Filmmaker Application**  
 Deadline for applications: **6th March 2026, 5pm**  
 Interview date: **Wednesday, 11th March 2026**  
 Online check-in session: **02 March 2026, 7pm**  
 Join our online Q&A session to get all the answers, tips, and insights you need for submitting your application.  
 Please register on Eventbrite: [Culture Lab Filmmaker Call Out - Q&A Session Tickets, Mon 2 Mar 2026 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

- Selection process:**
- Relevance and quality of previous work
  - Fit with community co-creation / place-based practice
  - Ethical and collaborative approach
  - Availability and reliability (ability to deliver)

**Access and inclusion:** We want this opportunity to be accessible. If you have access requirements or need adjustments to take part, please include this in your application or contact us to discuss: [culturesof@hud.ac.uk](mailto:culturesof@hud.ac.uk)

**Further information:** For further information about our current programme and recent exhibition Stories in Motion, see: Cultures of Film: [Cultures of Film - University of Huddersfield](#)  
 Stories in Motion: [Stories in Motion - University of Huddersfield](#)  
 This programme is part of a larger project on cultural capabilities development in Kirklees with communities. For further information see: [Place-Based Cultural Development in Kirklees - University of Huddersfield](#)

**Enquiries:** [culturesof@hud.ac.uk](mailto:culturesof@hud.ac.uk)