

Go gently into the garden of [im]possible dreams



Thank you for your interest in our new project. We're inviting adults who identify as living with chronic illness and/or as Disabled apply to be a part of it. This document tells you about the project and how to apply. Please read all of the information carefully before you apply. The deadline for (short) applications is midnight on **30th November 2025**. If you need this information in a different format or have queries please email joanna@holland-apm.co.uk

1. Who is running this project?

The project is led by a group of artists who self-identify as living with chronic illness and/or being Disabled. Together, we call ourselves the ***conditions apply** artist collective.

We're working in partnership with Norfolk & Norwich Festival and originalprojects to deliver this project. This has been made possible by an Unlimited UK Partner Award 2025 commission with Norfolk and Norwich Festival, with funding from Arts Council England. You can find out more about us and all of our partners in section 7, '**Additional Information**', at the bottom of this document.

2. Who can apply for this opportunity?

You don't have to be an artist to take part but to be eligible you must agree with ALL of the below statements:

1. I am an adult who lives in Great Yarmouth or the surrounding area
2. I self-identify as someone living with chronic illness &/or who is Disabled
3. I enjoy nature
4. I can attend all the project dates*
5. I'd be happy to be part of a cohort who will chat, share lived experiences of nature and undertake different artistic activities together
6. I have access to a device which can receive a zoom call
7. I'd be happy to contribute some ideas towards an art installation which will be part of Norfolk & Norwich Festival, 2026.

3. What will happen during this project?

We're welcoming eight adults to be part of this project. The project celebrates slowness, different ways of being in the world and creative participation. It explores intersections between nature, chronic illness and possibility.

If selected, you'll take part in ten creative gatherings between January and May 2026 – approximately two per month. Six of the gatherings are in-person and four are online. The in-person gatherings will take place at PrimeYarc, which is based in Market Gates Shopping Centre, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

There will be a maximum of 12-14 people at each gathering. This includes artists, care partners and support workers. Sessions will happen on Tuesday afternoons.

We will take part in different creative activities together. These might include things like collage, creative mapping, natural dyeing, concrete poetry, flower pressing etc. You don't need to have done any of these activities before as we will gently experiment together.

At the end of all of our sessions, the ***conditions apply** artist collective will create an art installation. During our sessions with you, we will sometimes ask you for your ideas for this installation. We will always ask your permission before using your ideas. The art installation will be in the PrimeYarc Gallery space as part of the Norfolk & Norwich Festival in May 2026.

4. Key dates*

2025

- Saturday 1st November – applications open
- Sunday 30th November – applications close
- Monday 15th November – applicants notified of outcome

2026

- Tuesday 6th January – Welcome Session, 2-4pm, PrimeYarc, Great Yarmouth
- Tuesday 20th January – session One, 2-4pm, PrimeYarc, Great Yarmouth
- Tuesday 3rd February – Session Two, online zoom call
- Tuesday 17th February – Session Three, 2-4pm, PrimeYarc, Great Yarmouth
- Tuesday 3rd March – Session Four, online zoom call
- Tuesday 17th March – Session Five, 2-4pm, PrimeYarc, Great Yarmouth
- Tuesday 31st March – Session Six, online zoom call
- Tuesday 14th April – Session Seven, 2-4pm, PrimeYarc, Great Yarmouth
- Tuesday 28th April – Session Eight, online zoom call

- 8th, 9th or 10th May TBC – A Private View / Exhibition opening for you and your family and friends. We will mutually agree a date for this - with you and with our partners.

- 8th – 24th May – the art installation (3-D collage) is open for public view as an exhibition during the Norfolk & Norwich Festival. *Please note PrimeYarc opening hours before attending.*

5. Our commitment to you

Is to:

- create a gentle, Disabled-led space in which everyone is respected and where we can move slowly, as our bodies allow
- hold sessions in an accessible venue with level access, a quiet area, Disabled parking spaces, & access to a Disabled toilet
- use this same space for all the in-person sessions
- create a welcoming and inclusive space in which we can co-create and chat together
- be respectful to each other and our ideas and ask others to do the same. We acknowledge that everyone's lived experience is different and that everyone's story is valid
- offer tasters of many different art activities, including collage, poetry, natural dyeing, creative mapping etc.
- work with you to discuss your access requirements to see how we can best support you
- create an engaging art installation (3-D collage) which shares our collective relationship with the natural world

6. Your commitment to us

Is to be:

- able attend* 5 real life sessions **and** an exhibition opening at PrimeYarc. See '**Key Dates**'
- able to attend* 4 online sessions. You'll need a device which can need receive a zoom call to attend these sessions. See '**Key Dates**'
- happy to be part of a cohort who will chat, share lived experiences of nature and undertake different artistic activities together
- kind and respectful to all of those in the group, recognising that people have different lived experiences and that all experiences are valid
- happy to contribute some ideas towards a 3-D collage (art installation) which will be part of Norfolk & Norwich Festival, 2026

7. How do I apply?

Please ensure that you can say 'yes' to ALL the statements in '**Who can apply**'. Please agree to the information in '**Your commitment to us**'. You'll also need to be able to attend the '**Key Dates**'.

If you're able to do the above, then please tell us ***why you would like to be involved in this project***. Please share a little bit about you and why nature is important to you. This does not need to be much information. We're asking you to just share a few sentences. Or a small collage or a drawing. Or you can share in a different way which suits you best.

We would also like you to tell us about any access requirements that you have. Please be assured that access requirements do not form part of the application process. They just help us to plan how we can best support you if you are successful in your application.

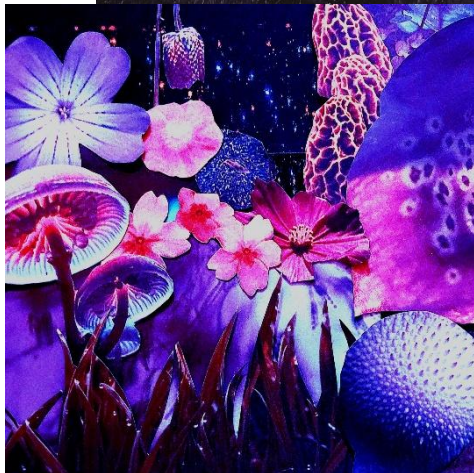
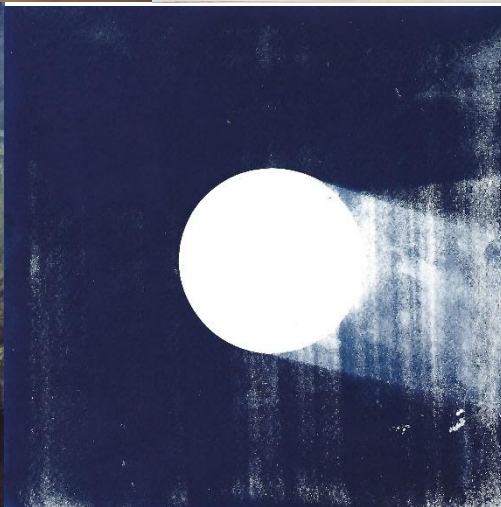
Please share your thoughts, words or picture of your collage in an email and send this to: joanna@holland-apm.co.uk or let us know if you need to share your thoughts in a different way.

8. What happens next?

After the application deadline of **30th November**, we will look at all of the applications. As there are only eight spaces in total for this project, if we receive a large number of qualifying applications, in the interests of fairness, we will place all names in a hat and select eight at random. We will let you know if your application has been successful around the **15th of December 2025**.

Thank you for your interest and good luck!

** We completely understand that living with chronic illness and/or disability can impact on our being able to attend events, so we are asking for an 'in principle' commitment to attending all ten sessions*



7. Additional information:

a) Who are the **conditions apply artist collective**?

We are artists called Caroline Cardus, Ellery Child, Joanna Holland and Genevieve Rudd. We are all interested in nature and the experience of living with chronic illness, the possibilities of illness and stillness and different ways of being in our world. You can find out more about our individual artistic practices below:

<https://www.carolinecardusartist.com/bio>

<https://outtherearts.org.uk/directory/ellery-child/>

<https://www.hollandsyntax.uk/>

<https://genevieverudd.com/>

b) Why did we create *‘go gently into the garden of [im]possible dreams’*?

We all have a deep connection to the natural world and enjoy exploring nature-connection alongside others. As people who live with chronic illness and/or are Disabled we also felt that there was a need to creatively explore what this feels like. Below is some of our thinking behind our project *‘go gently into the garden of [im]possible dreams’*:

- ‘go gently’ – because we want to prioritise access for people living with chronic illnesses – welcoming people gently into inclusive nurturing spaces which slow everything down and let us listen to our bodies.
- ‘garden’ – because we acknowledge the intrinsic benefits of nature and our need for ‘nature-connection’.
- ‘garden’ is also offered as a provocation - for discussions around nature, sharing individual and collective lived experiences.
- ‘[im]possible dreams’ – we acknowledge that living in a capitalist system, which values fast-paced productivity, means chronic illness can feel impossible. This project actively rejects neo-liberalist notions of production being linked to self-worth.

c) Our partners

go gently into the garden of [im]possible dreams has been funded by an Unlimited UK Partner Award 2025 commission with Norfolk and Norwich Festival made possible thanks to funding from Arts Council England. We’re also working with Great Yarmouth based arts charity originalprojects. You can find out more about all of our wonderful partners on their websites:

<https://weareunlimited.org.uk/>

<https://nnfestival.org.uk/>

<https://originalprojects.co.uk/>

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/>

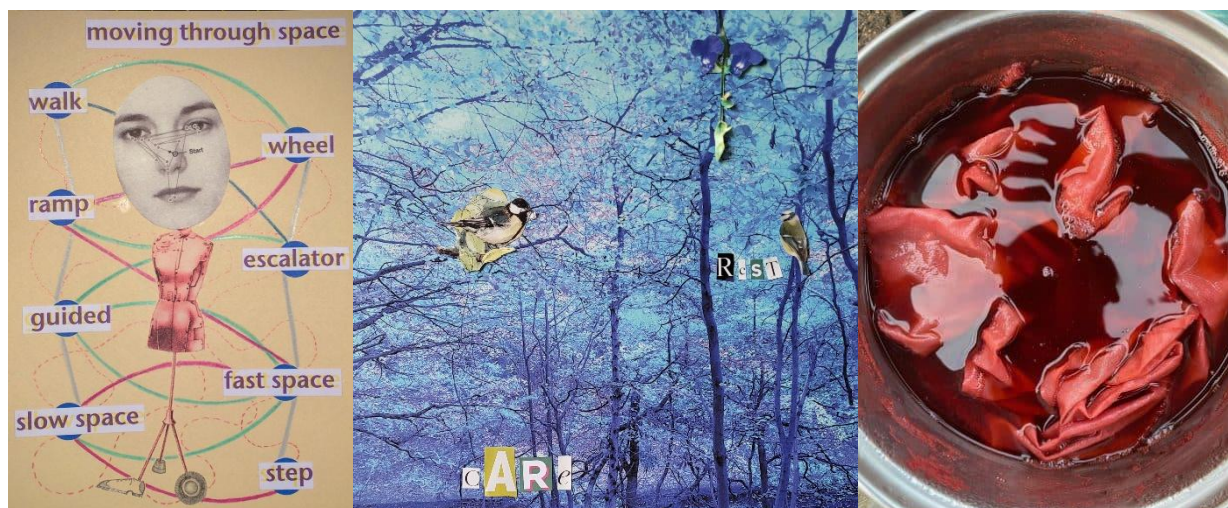


Image credits

Left to right from top of document:

As if by magic, collage © Joanna holland

Hope springs eternal gathering in PrimeYarc Space, Great Yarmouth © Genevieve Rudd

Solar dyeing © Genevieve Rudd

Female leader, collage © Caroline Cardus

Equinox, cyanotype © Genevieve Rudd

Imagined worlds, collage © Joanna Holland

Natural dyeing experiments © Ellery Child

Moving through space, collage © Caroline Cardus

We care for the woods and the woods care for us, collage © Joanna Holland

Natural dyeing in progress © Ellery Child

***conditions apply**
artist collective

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