



Carnival Artists

**BIG
BURNS
SUPPER**

DUMFRIES
CARNIVAL
2025



DUMFRIES
CARNIVAL
2025



Commission: £2,100 (£150 per day
9 days build and 4 days design, 2
half day training)

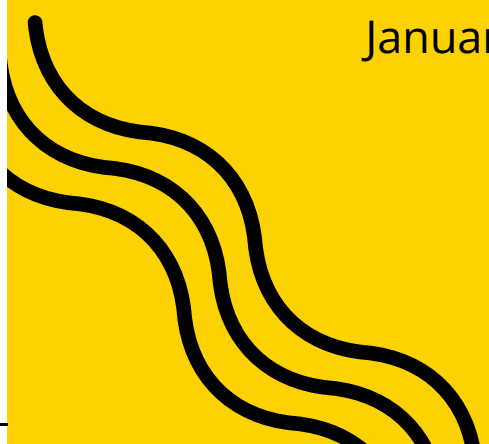
Location: Design days remote, build
days in Dumfries.

Dumfries Carnival is part of the Big
Burns Supper which returns to the
streets of Dumfries in January 2025.

We are looking for Carnival artists
who will work with our seven
community hubs to create a magical
float as part of our Winter Parade.

The outdoor street theatre project
marks the opening of our festival
alongside 600 costumes which have
been designed by artists and made
by our volunteers. This will be
performed by a cast of local primary
school children who will bring the
streets alive.

Each float will be built over a 9 day
build period at our warehouse in
Dumfries from the 10th - 18th
January 2025.



Each artist will be matched with a community group who have their own group leader.

Our floats have a steel base on wheels which are usually pushed by community groups. They house a generator and a speaker system as this fuels the dance theatre sections at the front and rear.

We encourage the use of upcycling in our creative approach. Ideas to help us make art that is sustainable and considerate of our unique rural location. We are very close to the UNESCO protected biosphere.

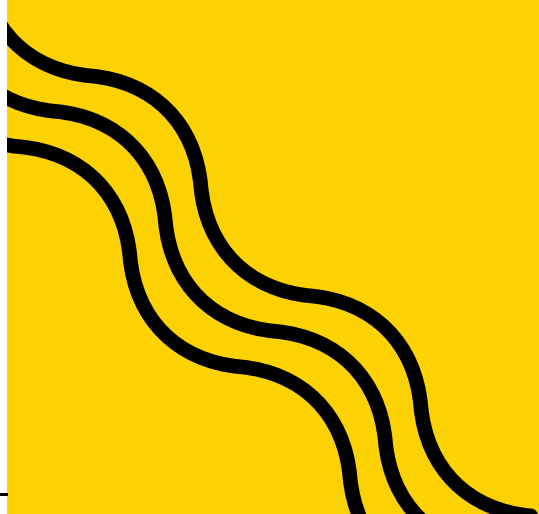
This year our Carnival tells our social history from 1958, and each float will visually tell the story of our town through the music we used. The final float is called The Last Zoo on Earth and imagines that the world has flooded.

We will provide.

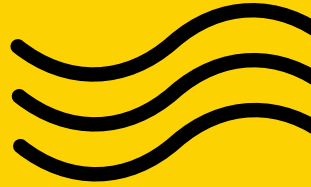
- A warehouse in January for the floats to be built.
- The materials that you require to dress the float.

Our themes are:

- 1.Rock and Roll
- 2.Studio 54
- 3.New Romantics
- 4.Rave Generation
- 5.Calvin Harris
- 6.Future Sounds
- 7.Last Zoo on Earth



Criteria



You will need to be based in Dumfries during the build period running between 10th January and the 18th January 2025.

·If you are an artist based outside the region, we can provide accommodation but £300 would be deducted from the commission amount.

The Parade is at 5pm and lighting will need to be added. We have some flood lights to do this, but we are open to other ideas about this.

·We will need to apply for a Disclosure for this work given how closely you will be working with the community.

Artists who would like to propose alternative ways of working in terms of time and pace are welcome to do so.

Artists will be responsible for float strike at the end of the day.

Materials should be prepared for upcycling.

We understand that artist time is valuable, and we would be happy to offer some a pair of festival tickets in leu of any design we receive.



Floats

- Built on a base which is
- Height of float maximum needs to be 35ft (remember it has to get out the warehouse so may need to be constructed in two parts).
- Need to house small two speakers and a small diesel generator.
- Fabrics and materials need to be fire treated.

Scoring criteria

·Creative vision	55%
·Experience	15%
·Sustainability	15%
·Design interactivity	15%

To apply:

- 1.Pick a music genre or float and come up with a sketch in principle for this.
- 2.Tell us what materials you will need to build this.
- 3.Give us an insight into your experience of making large scale moveable structures.
- 4.Or tell us about your career as an artist and how we could help nurture that.
- 5.Tell us your experience working with volunteers or communities, or how we could help you develop those skills.





Timeline

25th th June – call opens.

16th July – information webinar for interested artists 1pm.

31st July – CALL CLOSES at 5pm

15th Aug – Decisions

Sep – Training TBC (half day online)

31st Oct – designs completed (4 days)

10th Nov – submission of first invoice

Jan 3rd – Training (half day online)

10th Jan – Float build in Dumfries

18th Jan Carnival Day and strike

19th Jan – submission of final invoice

You can register for the webinar [here](#) – if you cannot attend it we can send you the video.

We actively encourage applications from under represented groups. If you would like us to provide this commission brief in another format, please let us know.

If you have any questions about these commissions, please email programming@bigburnssupper.com