

# T100

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KINETIKA



Kineitka People  
Opportunity

## Open call for Artists

Develop a Walking-Arts Practice with T100 Festival 2026

Apply by Thursday 18th December 2025



# The Opportunity

Kinetika is looking to commission and support two artists to develop their walking-arts practice through mentoring, a creative fee and the opportunity to devise and deliver a new walking event for the 2026 T100 Festival.

## 2026 Thematic Overview

### T100 Festival 2026

#### ***Seeing Thurrock Differently: A Journey Home***

*A joyful celebration of the landscapes, stories and communities in Thurrock.  
An invitation to reflect on what it means to belong and to call a place home in the future.*

For 12 years, Kinetika has brought people together across Thurrock to explore, talk and create – revealing hidden gems, unearthing untold stories, and finding fresh inspiration in familiar places.

*Seeing Thurrock Differently: A Journey Home*, will be a bold, imaginative celebration – honouring everything the programme has built and a heartfelt invitation to consider what it truly means to belong. From 22 May – 6 June 2026, we'll explore the places that make Thurrock special – from Purfleet to Grays, Tilbury to East Tilbury, Chafford to Stanford-le-Hope – and all the spaces in between. Exploring not just landscapes, but lives. The places we love, the streets we walk each day and the memories stitched into riverbanks, parks, and landscapes shaped by history and industry.

This 2026 edition will be a collective homecoming:

- Seeing the landscape through new eyes
- Connecting with stories that shaped us
- Exploring what home and belonging will mean for communities in Thurrock in the next 5 years.

Guided by curiosity, creativity and a shared spirit of adventure, artists, scientists, historians, and local voices will come together to explore who we are, where we come from, and where we go next.

[Explore the resource pack for more information on themes and activities connected to the festival](#)

#### **Between January and June 2026, selected artists will receive:**

- Mentoring from Kinetika Artistic Director Ali Pretty
- A funded commission to devise and deliver a participatory walking event
- A platform within the 2026 T100 Festival to showcase their practice
- Support with community engagement, logistics, and materials

Your walking event should respond to the festival theme and invite participants to see Thurrock differently through creativity, storytelling, and exploration.

# Fee Structure

## **£1,000 commission fee (inclusive of VAT)**

This fee covers the devising and delivery of a creative walking event.

It includes planning, recce work, creative development, delivery, and post-event reflection.

## **Expenses**

Up to £100 to support travel and engagement activity around your chosen walk location.

## **Additional Budget**

Materials and production costs including to enhance community-engagement will be supported through a separate budget (subject to fundraising and agreed with the T100 team).

## **Artists will receive:**

- One-to-one mentoring with Kinetika Artistic Director Ali Pretty
- Hands-on production and event support
- Established festival platform and audience reach
- Access to local networks, community groups and partners
- Marketing, communications and documentation support

This combination of fee, mentoring and professional development is designed to support you to develop your walking-arts practice and to connect your work with local communities in Thurrock.

## **Estimated Time Commitment January – June 2026**

- Up to 1.5 days planning and evaluation (recce and meetings including 26 Jan 2026 )
- 1.5 days – event delivery on date TBC during the festival and 6 June 2026

# Key Dates and Timeline

## Key dates

- **26 Jan 2026:** Festival Artists and Volunteers Creative Planning Session
- **22 May – 6 June:** T100 Festival – period during which you will run your event
- **6 June 2026:** Festival Finale Event

## Project Timeline

### January 2026

- Receive mentoring alongside receiving the walk location to get to know the area, meet local people, understand the site context
- Participate in the Festival Creative Planning Session, alongside walk leaders, artists and partners involved in running the 2026 programme (date as in Key Dates)
- Develop and finalise your walking event plans within the T100 framework and in response to the theme
- Submit the final plan (including date, target audience and copy/ images to be used for promotion) to the T100 team by 30th January 2026

### Feb – early May 2026

- Further mentoring, gathering stories and developing event and narrative

- Finalise event plans, risk assessments and walk details
- Coordinate event materials within budget
- Support engagement of local community members

### May – June 2026

- During 22 May – 6 June 2026: T100 Festival:
  - Lead event set up and delivery of own event and festival finale event (specific dates as in Key Dates)
  - Facilitate audience engagement with artistic response
  - Support data collection
- Attend post-event reflection session

# How to apply

We strongly encourage candidates of all different backgrounds and identities to apply. Each new engagement is an opportunity for us to bring in a different perspective, and we are always eager to further diversify our organisation and projects. We will aim to facilitate a great work-life balance wherever we can and are happy to discuss any specific requirements you need in the role to achieve this.

**Email the following to T100 Programme Director Nicole Artingstall at [nicole@kinetika.co.uk](mailto:nicole@kinetika.co.uk) by **midday on Thursday 18th December**:**

- A brief biography and a paragraph highlighting your relevant experience.
- A short outline of your proposed walk: location, themes, target audience, activities and expected creative outcomes.

## About Kinetika

Kinetika unites communities through exceptional silk-based design and public spectacles that inspire social action and enrich local environments. For 28 years, we have pioneered an inclusive, participatory approach to walking, talking and making that strengthens social connection, celebrates cultural diversity and supports positive environmental and community change.

Flagship projects include T100, a year-round programme and annual festival in Thurrock that has received six years of Reaching Communities funding; Beach of Dreams, a UK-wide coastal arts festival (2025); Thank You Dance for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pageant (2022); Silk River, a British Council commission for the UK/India Year of Culture (2017); and En Flag for the Cultural Olympiad at the Paris Olympics (2024).

Founded in 1997 by Artistic Director Ali Pretty, Kinetika is a registered charity and an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

[kinetika.co.uk](http://kinetika.co.uk)





Aritst Charlie Fox, Made in the Mardyke for Our River, 2025

T100 Festival 2015, The First 100 Miles





## About T100

T100 is Kinetika's programme of activity that is shaped by the communities in Thurrock. It celebrates and offers a space for creativity, collaboration and care for the environment. Year-round activity includes walking and exploring Thurrock's hidden gems, learning about the history, the landscape and the stories of the people that live and work here. Since 2015 we have hosted the T100 festival, a programme of exploring, talking and creating that encourages multiple stories to surface. Each year's programme responds to a theme that is developed collectively with community members during a creative visioning session. The result is a programme of creative walking events and community devised activities

T100's strength lies in its simplicity. Groups and individuals can devise their own events and showcase them locally, connecting them into the larger festival framework.

T100 is guided by values which centre on working together, being inclusive, giving voice to self-expression through creativity and caring for the environment. The programme is deeply committed to empowering young people in Thurrock through the T100 Young Ambassadors programme giving a space for children and young people to design and deliver activities for local communities.

## Recent Festival Highlights

### T100 Goes Wild 2024

Inspired by our newly established community natural dye garden in a formerly neglected spot of land at High House Production Park, the festival invited audiences to explore Thurrock's lesser-known green spaces and wildlife past and present. Through a programme which included bird sketching walks, scavenger hunts, a heritage walks and a celebratory 10 year parade through Grays town centre, community members got to see their local area's green side.

### T100 Our River 2025

Partnering in Kinetika's UK wide coastal arts festival Beach of Dreams, T100 focused on 'Our River', its culture, heritage and future - inviting communities to come together, share their dreams, creatively re-imagine the future and how we can work together to protect these vital spaces all whilst connecting up to a national conversation.

[t100festival.co.uk](http://t100festival.co.uk)





Local primary school children, Coastal Futures, *Our River*, 2025

Artist Lora Aziz leading a Plant Story Walk, *T100 Goes Wild*, 2024

