

Call out for Textile Artists : HerVote100 Threads of Equality tapestry

Project overview:
A multi-panel embroidered tapestry /stitched work telling stories of women's suffrage in the UK - from the first exclusion of women from the vote in 1832 through to the centenary of universal suffrage in 2028. Designed as a unified artwork but made collectively, with stitching groups, women's organisations, schools, and community groups each contributing to the work across the country.

Deliverables:
• A design for 10 main panels with borders highlighting 10 key moments in the women's suffrage journey, to create a cohesive visual narrative - See appendix for the panels story content reference material. Final size tbc and the panels may be split into smaller sections to enable it to be easily worked on.
• Create a design that can be delivered with stitching appliques, hand embroidery and machine stitching, with a mix of text and imagery.
• Set out a plan to enable community groups, stitching groups, experienced stitchers to get involved in making the work, on the panels or the borders, and materials and stitching style needed. Guidance will be needed to be given to each group as to how to complete the work and allow for it to be accessible to all skill levels, from experienced embroiderers to complete beginners.
• Allow areas within the design for stitching supporter names and logos
• Assemble the final piece

The final piece needs to be able to be transported as the aim is to display in venues across the country
Stitching styles to be a mix of embroidery and applique, hand and/or machine stitched, other methods could be proposed, but the design needs to ensure it is achievable to be completed by beginning of 2028.
Colours to reference the Women's Suffrage colours of red, purple, green and white.

Key to this project is the involvement of the community. The making process *would be* part of the story - communities connecting to their local suffrage history through the act of creating.

Budget:
We are allocating £5000 for the winning artist to design the work and plan the making of it by others, although the artist could also make some of it.

Proposed Timeline:
Competition launched 7 September 2026
Artist submissions by 13 November 2026
Artist chosen 11 December 2026
January - March 2027 design developed and planned on how to get it made
April 2027 - December 2027 work made
January 2028 onwards work is displayed and toured.

Submission process:
Interested artists to send:

- a proposal of how they would approach the work,
- how they would plan to work with community stitching groups across the UK to get it made,
- an example visual of their approach.
- cv and previous work examples.

Send to the following email: hello@hervote100.org
By 13 November 2026

The work will be judged by the Hervote100 committee
The successful artist will be notified 11 December 2026

Note: we are still applying for funding for the project. So the final size will be confirmed in December 2026

Appendix:
Panel story notes available on request. **hello@hervote100.org**