

**Proposal for Connected Communities Heritage Network Symposium**  
**University of Lincoln**  
**14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

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Universal Roots was a unique community programme delivered by Nottingham City Museums and Galleries in partnership with Nottingham City Homes. The project was developed and managed by my colleague Melissa Lewis, with assistance from myself and others.

The Universal Roots Steering Group and staff have worked with a diverse group of learners and volunteers who have learnt a wide range of professional creative skills. These include exhibition design, contemporary art interpretation, marketing, events planning, collections research, filmmaking and photography.

With these skills they have curated three exhibitions, developed an events and marketing programme, recorded and transcribed 16 oral histories and developed an education learning resource from NCMG's handling collection. These are all inspired by the theme of journeys and migration and NCMG's shoe collection. The project has brought different cultural communities together to make equal contributions to our work.

You can find more information on the project on our website:  
<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/museumprojects/index.aspx?articleid=25049>

## **Proposal**

As Artefacts Loans Officer I lead the group that developed the education loans resource. I can bring this resource to show to the group and speak about its development and the impact on our existing loans service. (I have enclosed some information on this resource.)

I feel that this project would fit the conference theme of *Co-design and co-production methodologies and processes*. The resource was developed with the group of volunteers, and the whole project was steered by their suggestions and decisions. I feel a talk would take around 20 minutes, and I would only require a projector and screen.

I gave a talk about the project at the Discovering Collections, Discovering Communities conference at the Library of Birmingham in October 2014. You can see a video of it here:  
[www.rluk.ac.uk/about-us/blog/universal-roots/](http://www.rluk.ac.uk/about-us/blog/universal-roots/)