



Figure 1. The Antlers' Lávvu is an installation symbolising the Sámi lávvu in front of the Sámi parliament building in Inari, Finland. A lávvu is a Sámi traditional dwelling, a cone-shaped tent. Photo: Korinna Korsström-Magga, 2023.

The Antlers' Lávvu – A Nomadic Workshop for a Shared Future

Korinna Korsström-Magga
University of Lapland, Finland

A nomadic, nonstop workshop for Arctic youth has been held in a few places and events in Sápmi. The goal has been to offer young people an opportunity to express their climate concerns and thoughts about the future of their home region by combining two objects related to Sápmi's ecocultures.

Reindeer antlers are familiar to most participants. However, in the workshop, they are used as art material, bringing place-specific, environmental, and eco-cultural perspectives to the creative work. The final installation, symbolizing the Sámi lávvu, is a statement for the Sámi Indigenous people and their concerns for their traditional

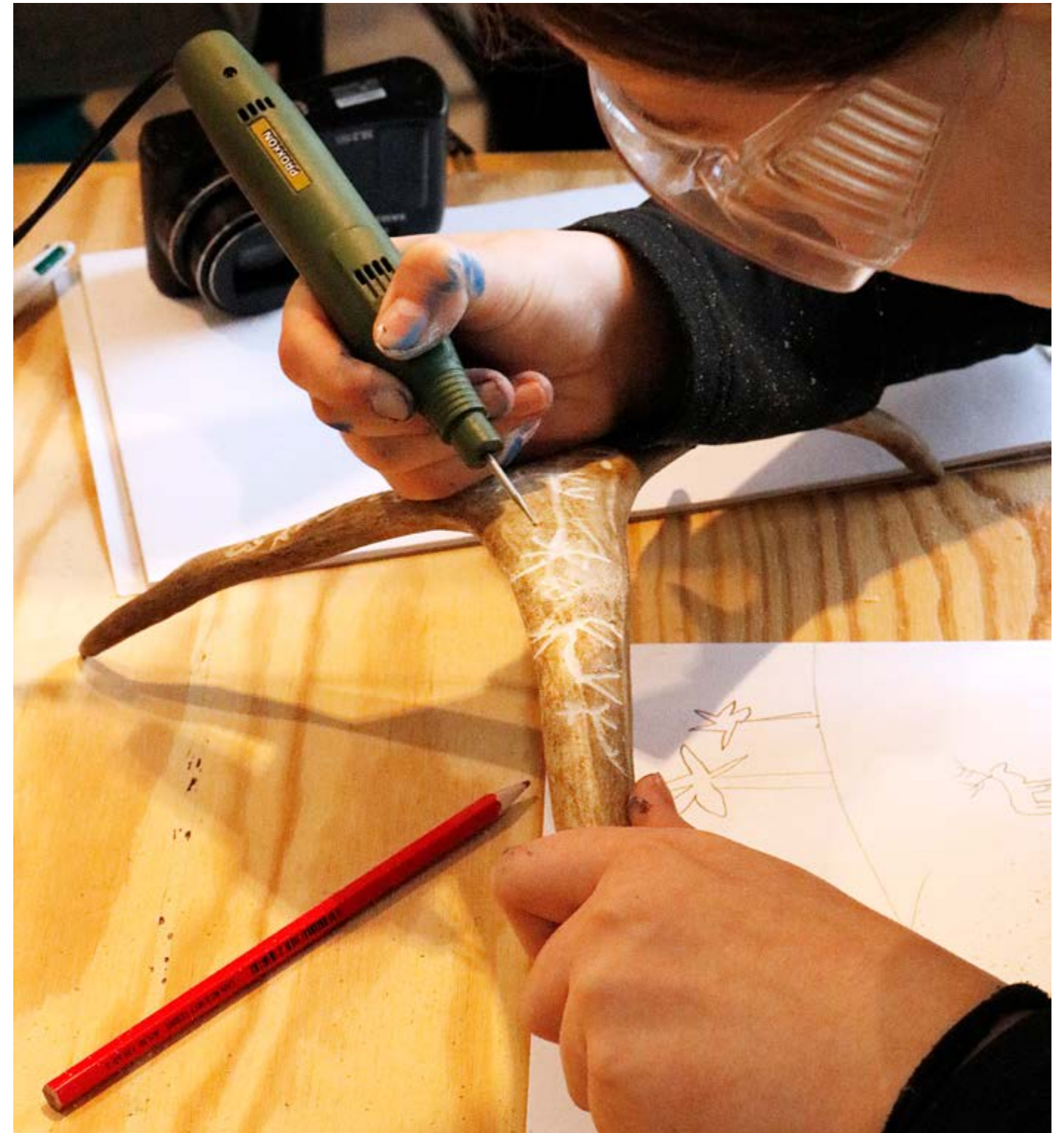


Figure 2. Pupils carving their thought and symbols on reindeer antlers in Karasjok at Sámi Dáiddaguovddáš. Photo: Ante Jalvela, 2024.

livelihoods, environment, and culture. A lávvu is a traditional Sámi dwelling, a cone-shaped tent. Young people have carved their thoughts and concerns about the future Arctic, on reindeer antlers and placed them in a joint installation, the Antlers' Lávvu. The Lávvu is placed in the front of the Sámi Parliament's building in Inari. This way, it also serves as the youth's voice to local influencers and decision-makers.

The workshops have reflected a shared concern for the Arctic, the home of the young participants – their inherited and future living environment. The *Antlers' Lávvu* workshop has achieved varying degrees of success. The climate crisis and the future of the Arctic can be distressing topics for young people. It can also feel too abstract for them to grasp. They have encountered the themes of the climate crisis and future imagination so often in their education that they may feel tired of the topic. This serious theme requires sufficient time for discussion and planning, which is

challenging in ongoing workshops where participants just drop in.

Carving is done using a drill, which requires a steady hand and focus. Surprisingly, this has not been related to age. Quite young participants, even children under ten, have managed to carve precise designs into the antlers. On the other hand, young teenagers have struggled to focus on the intricate handwork. However, young adults have enjoyed carving and have fully immersed themselves in the craft.

The workshop was most successful for participants who had planned and focused on the carving. In general, workshops require sufficient time for participants to become familiar with the objectives, materials, and tools, and particularly enough time to work on their ideas. *The Antlers' Lávvu* workshops have worked well as pop-up workshops for young adults, but a fixed time frame might be more suitable for teenagers. •

INFO

The *Antlers' Lávvu* workshop has previously been held in Rovaniemi at the Barents Regional Youth Council's annual meeting on 25–26 February 2023. In Inari at the Sámenuoraiddáiddadáhpáhus event on 26–27 April 2023. At the Ijahis Idja music festival on 18–19 August 2023 and in the Nomadic Hub of Arctic Art Education in Karasjok at Sámi Dáiddaguovddáš. The Antlers' Lávvu workshop and installation are designed and instructed by Korinna Korsström-Magga. The workshop is part of the *On the Frontline of Climate Crisis* project, funded by the Kone Foundation.



Figure 3. Pile of reindeer antlers waiting for carving. Photo: Ante Jalvela, 2024.



Figure 4. The Antlers' Lávvu in wintery landscape in front of the Sámi parliament building in Inari. Photo: Timo Jokela, 2024.