

Nottingham Secondary Newsletter

January 2025

Round-up of Arts & Cultural
opportunities for schools



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Parents & Carers Enews
Connecting Notts

January Newsletter

    @ChallengeNottm | challengenottingham.co.uk

Welcome back and very best wishes for the year ahead. We hope you've had a restful break.

In this issue you'll find a host of varied opportunities for you and your pupils, including professional development to support your creative curriculum. There are lots of in-school and extra-curricular sessions to take advantage of, and some early dates to help your planning.

[Watch the recording of the January Culturemeet](#) to keep connected with the latest opportunities from arts partners in the city.

We are looking forward to connecting with more schools, staff and governors and celebrating our tremendously talented young people throughout 2025.

Share the [sign up link for the Enews](#).

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Cultural Rucksack - connect and collaborate!

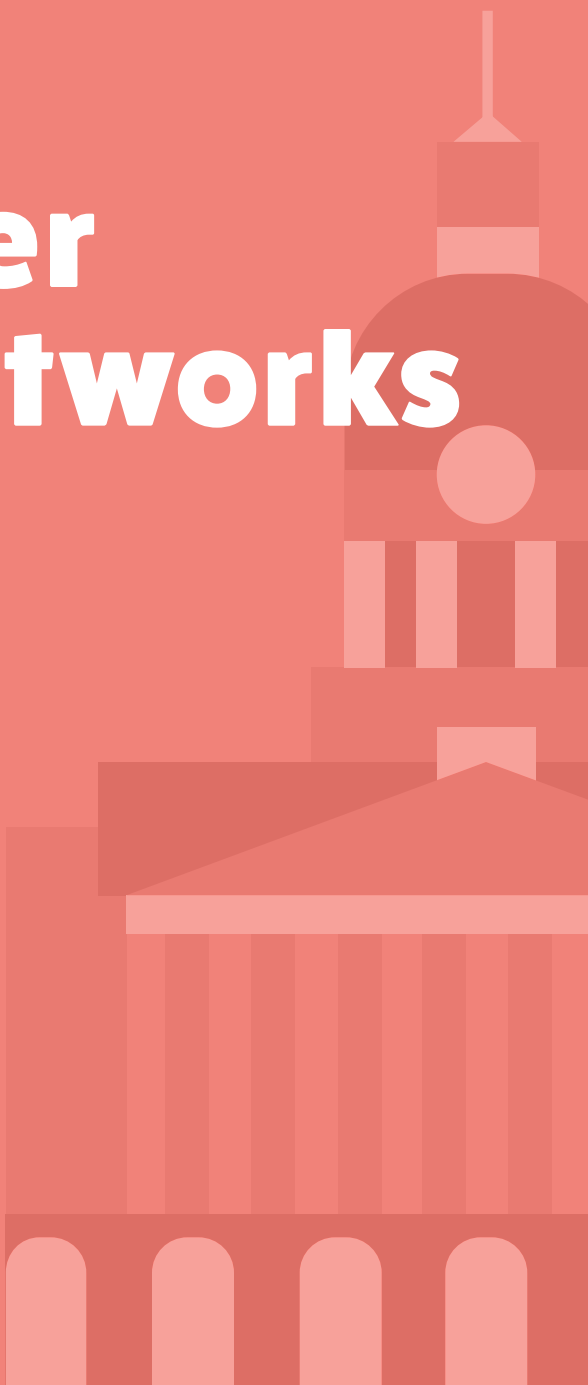
The Cultural Rucksack Directory brings you over 40 arts organisations and programmes to connect with in Nottingham. You'll find the details of each organisation's core offers, including visits, in-school workshops and resources, to support the planning and delivery of creative and cultural experiences in your school.

Download the PDF version [here](#) and [browse the ChalleNGe website](#) to find ideas and resources.

Is your school enrolled as a Cultural Rucksack school? [Find out more](#)



Teacher CPD networks



**Secondaries
CultureMeets**
23 Jan & 24 June
online, 4-5pm



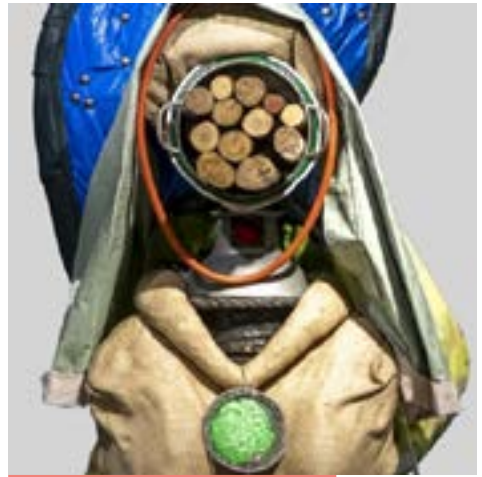
January & June

Thurs 23rd January 2025, 4-5pm [WATCH](#)
Tues 24th June 2025, 4-5pm [REGISTER](#)

Secondary Culturemeets

You are welcome to join us for a termly free twilight network for teachers and arts organisations to meet, share ideas and collaborate. Find out about the latest exhibitions, performances and resources for teachers from Nottingham's arts organisations in this mutually supportive network.

Contact cathy.mahmood@ntu.ac.uk if you'd like a short slot to share, or have any questions. [Book your free place](#)



Thurs 6 February

4.30-6.30pm

Nottingham Contemporary Teacher Session

To learn more and get ideas about bringing pupils to see the latest exhibitions at Nottingham Contemporary, join the learning team in early February for the Teacher Session where you'll have a chance to preview the exhibitions, share practice and enjoy some art-making.

Email

learn@nottinghamcontemporary.org
to book your place.

[Find out more about Daniel Lind-Ramos
HERE](#)



Friday 27 June

Albert Hall, Nottingham
All Secondary & SEND staff
£80 per person

Music Education Hubs East Midlands (MEHEM)

Cultivating Creativity through Music: Conference 2025

Discover creative approaches to music education at the MEHEM Conference for Music Education. Explore new ideas on inclusivity, innovation and stretching the boundaries of creativity within the school curriculum. The day includes workshops for primary, secondary and SEND settings from leading experts, as well as opportunities to network with school and music hub colleagues from across the region.

Content includes: Creative approaches to active listening, mixing, sequencing and DJing with music technology, exploring strengths and challenges of neurodiversity with creative and inclusive design and progression into creative industries.

Find out more about Cultivating Creativity through Music

[Complete this form to express your interest in attending](#)



Monday 7 July

9.30am -15.45pm
Key Stage 3 & 4 staff
STEAMhouse, Belmont Row,
Birmingham, B4 7RQ
£150

National Literacy Trust Secondary School Conference

Secondary school staff are encouraged to attend to:

- Get new ideas to develop pupil literacy skills
- Hear from expert and inspiring speakers on how to support students' literacy development, including critical literacy skills for the digital age encouraging reading for pleasure and offering an inclusive curriculum.
- Tackle KS2-3 transition: Find out how to address the linguistic challenges students encounter when making the transition from a KS2 to KS3 curriculum.
- Pick up new strategies: Participate in a wide choice of workshops offering strategies and solutions to improve literacy skills. Access extensive resources: Receive a post-conference e-pack of resources from all sessions and workshops.

[Find out more and Book](#)

Competitions



SING CITY 2025

FOR 11 - 18 YEAR OLDS IN NOTTINGHAM

Tiffany Jade Holland will be leading workshops in schools on 14th - 15th Jan and 20th - 21st Jan 2025. Please get in touch if your school would like to book a workshop!

JUDGES & MENTORS

TIFFANY JADE HOLLAND DARLING I DREAMT DAVINA SONGBIRD

ENTER NOW!

music hub
NOTTINGHAM MUSIC SERVICE

Deadline: Friday 24 January

Key Stage 3-5 (11-18 years)

Entry deadline: Friday, 24th January 2025

[Free competition](#)

Nottingham Music Service Sing City

- Thursday 30th January 2025: Heats at Nottingham College
- Thursday 6th February 2025: Workshop with Mentors (venue TBC)
- Thursday 13th February 2025: Final at Nottingham College

Sing City 2025 is an exciting singing competition for secondary students in Nottingham that provides an opportunity for them to share their talent, learn from mentors and professionals, and connect with the local music industry. The competition is open to young people who live OR study in Nottingham City.

This year the Music Service are very excited to be working with renowned singer/songwriters Tiffany Jade Holland, Darling I Dreamt, Davina Songbird and vocal coach Sara King, who will be leading workshops with the finalists. Tiffany Jade Holland will also be available to run pre-competition workshops in schools.

There are up to 5 spaces for young people who live and study in Nottinghamshire (these spaces will be available to the first 5 young people who submit their entry forms).

[More information about Sing City HERE](#)
[Sing City booking form HERE](#)



Wicked Writers
BE THE CHANGE

National Literacy Trust
change your story

WICKED ACTIVE LEARNING

13 January to 28 February

Key Stage 3

[Free to enter](#)

National Literacy Trust Be the Change: Wicked Writers Competition

Could your students 'be the change' in their local community? This competition challenges students aged 9 to 14 to write persuasively about a positive change they would like to see. It supports the Child Friendly Nottingham child-centred approach so do consider capturing the impact your children make as a case-study.

This is fully supported by classroom resources and there are also fantastic prizes on offer.

Find out more:

[Get involved in Wicked Writers](#)



Deadline: Monday 24 March

Entries are now open

Key Stage 3 upwards, 11-24 years

[Free to enter](#)

Young Creative Awards 2025

Entries to Young Creative Awards 2025 are now open. With 10 creative categories, and 3 age groups per category this annual event showcases and celebrates creative talent across Nottingham. Now in its 18th year, the awards have been a springboard for some of Nottingham's brightest talent entering into creative careers. Entrants must be living or studying in Nottingham Urban Area.

The Young Creatives Award ceremony is set for Wed 4 June 2025 at Nottingham Playhouse, a wonderful occasion for young people to have their work seen and celebrated.

[Find out more about the YCA categories](#) and [Click here to enter](#)

Pupil Voice





Closing date: Fri 28 February

Closing date: Fri 21 Feb 2025

Child Friendly Nottingham Children and Young People's Survey

Nottingham is working towards being recognised as a Child Friendly City. This means that the city is committed to improving the lives of children and young people within the city by fulfilling children's rights as articulated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

To do this Nottingham needs to know what anyone under 19 who lives, works or studies in the city thinks and experiences now.

Please share these links and find ways to help your pupils and young people complete this 10-minute survey. Thank you!

[Secondary Age: Complete the Survey HERE](#)

[Post 16 Age \(16-18\) Complete the Survey HERE](#)



ChalleNGe Nottingham & Child Friendly Nottingham Voice Box Project

Key Stage 3

£110 (wood) or £85 (cardboard)

The Child Friendly Nottingham team want to support schools to promote pupil voice through engaging and creative Voice Boxes. This supports Article 12 of the UNICEF Rights of the Child: *Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and for these to be taken seriously.*

A Voice Box is a fun, uniquely designed post box to encourage pupils to share thoughts, ideas and feedback, anonymously if needed. It is anticipated school leaders will respond to letters demonstrating that children's views are taken seriously. Make your Voice Box in

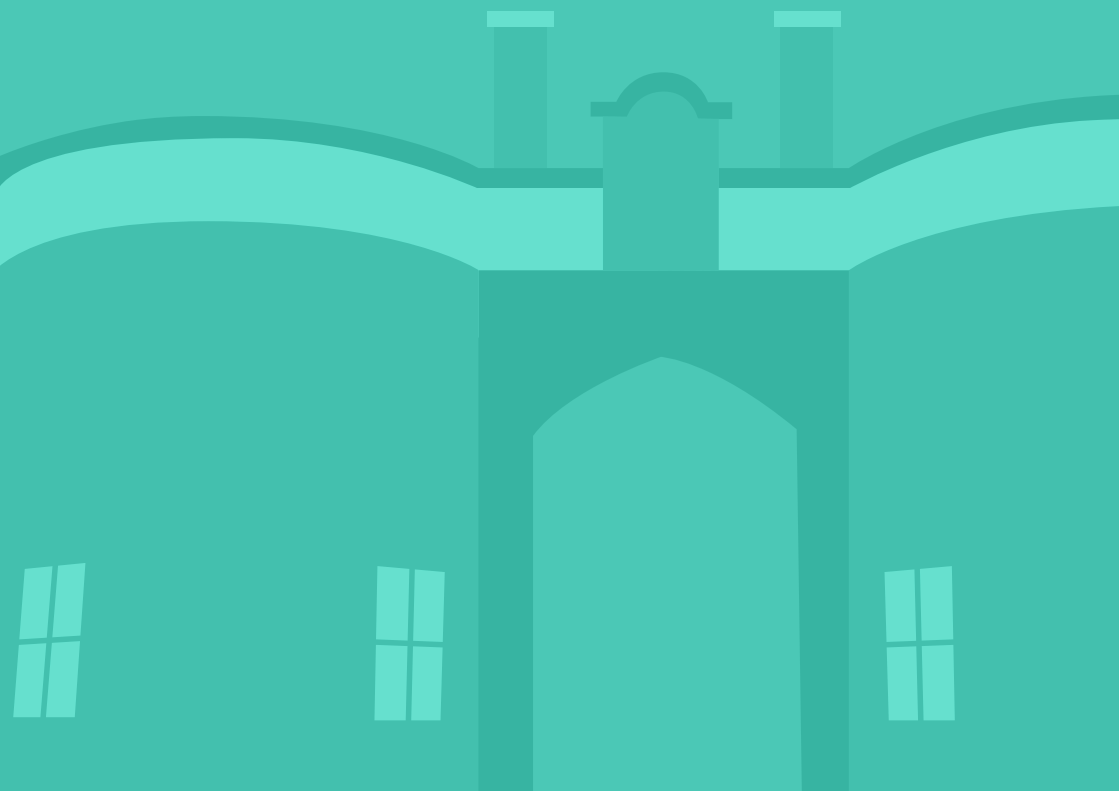
any material you choose. There is also an option for schools to submit a character/ front panel design that can be cut out of wood (£110) or cardboard (£85) for schools to decorate (Max size: 4ft x 4ft).

Please capture how your Voice Box is used and any changes your pupils make to their school and/or community. Child Friendly Nottingham would love to hear your impact stories.

[Find out about Children Friendly Nottingham](#) and [UNICEF](#), for every child

Contact: cathy.mahmood@ntu.ac.uk or heidi.shewell-cooper@ntu.ac.uk for more information or to book a Voice Box.

Exhibitions and Visits





Until the 27 April

Nottingham Castle Impressions

KS2, 10.30-12noon or 1-2.30pm

**£180 per session available
from January 2025**

Explore first hand Paintings by world renowned Impressionist artists Monet and Pissarro. This session will give the group a chance to understand the revolutionary impact of the Impressionist art movement and why their work was so influential. A unique opportunity to explore the mark making and use of colour and light that made these works original and distinctive.

The group will look in depth at the techniques used in these paintings and discuss how they evoke the changing landscapes and seasons through discussion and practical activities.

The group will also be able to explore paintings by British artists inspired by the Impressionist movement and painting outdoors, and decorative objects, costume and textiles which evoke a feeling of springtime.

The group will then use their learning to create an Impressionist inspired landscape artwork.

To book email school.

programmes@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Teacher Led Visits to Nottingham Castle £5 per pupil. This includes space for your bags, lunch space and full day access to site.

[Click here to book a Teacher Led session.](#)

[www.nottinghamcastle.org.uk/
impressions-landscapes](http://www.nottinghamcastle.org.uk/impressions-landscapes)

Until 27 April

Key Stage 3, 4 & 5

Sessions run: 10.30-12.00 or 1.00-2.30

£180 per session

Capturing light through Drawing and Mark making

This hands-on session will allow you to explore a range of techniques to express light, tone and form in response to work by artists Monet, Pissarro, Sisley and Renoir as well as exploring how British artists were inspired by the impressionists. Pupils will learn about the key characteristics of Impressionist art, including colour, light, and atmosphere and explore through discussion and documentation how these artworks attempt to capture fleeting everyday moments.

The group will experiment with various mark-making techniques to create texture and depth in their drawings, expanding on technical skills and their approaches to use of colour, shade and tone. This practical workshop is a great way to explore the exhibition.

To book email school.programmes@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Arrange Dates

Key Stage 3/4 & 5

£5 per pupil

Teacher Led Visits

Schools can book a full day on site including space for bags and lunch.

[Book a teacher-led visit here](#) or email schools.programmes@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Until 4 May 2025

Nottingham Contemporary Daniel Lind-Ramos

Dates by arrangement
EYFS, Primary, Secondary & SEN/D
Self-led sessions are free

**£150 for a single class or £250
for 2 classes at the same time.**

In the spring term Nottingham Contemporary presents exhibitions by Brazilian artist Allan Weber and Afro-Puerto Rican artist Daniel Lind Ramos, who use objects and assemblage to tell stories about community, activism and climate change. The exhibitions can be used to explore oral traditions of storytelling, storytelling through objects and connect to important contemporary debates. A visit can support critical reading, spoken language skills and confidences and build cultural capital.

Self-led visit: Use the resources to plan activities around the galleries. Contemporary staff will help you plan your visit step by step.

Workshops: The Artist-Experience workshop is a bespoke creative session that connects students to exhibition themes through making. There are no set times for workshop sessions, they are often 10-12 or 1-2.45pm but can be adapted. The Galleries can be opened earlier with notice if that works better for schools.

To learn more and get ideas about how to use this opportunity attend the [Teacher Session: Thursday 6 February 4.30-6.30pm](#)

This is chance to preview the exhibitions, share practice and enjoy some art-making.

Email to book
learn@nottinghamcontemporary.org

[Find out more about Daniel Lind-Ramos HERE](#)

*Image Credit: Daniel Lind-Ramos. El Viejo Griot (The Elder



Until 27 April 2025

KS3 & KS4
Free workshop (11 and 28 March) and transport

Lakeside Arts Cosmic Titans

2025 has been designated as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, marking 100 years since the initial development of quantum mechanics. In recognition of this, the University of Nottingham is hosting Cosmic Titans: Art, Science and the Quantum Universe. This exhibition visually explores scientific research from everything from black holes to the big bang!

We are offering a free Interferometer school workshop:

- FREE interferometer building workshop using Lego Bricks to make a fully functional Michelson Interferometer with nanometre precision.
- Work alongside scientific experts in their field
- School resources to use back in the classroom
- Opportunity to loan the Lego set back into the classroom
- Free transport to get you to Lakeside

Contact Manya Benenson or James Parkinson for more information
Manya.Benenson@nottingham.ac.uk
James.Parkinson@nottingham.ac.uk



Arrange dates

Key Stage 3
Throughout the year
£300 for up to 60 children

A Temple to Water, Immersive Experience

Dragon Breath Theatre at Papplewick Pumping Station

An award-winning, day-long, immersive drama experience with Dragon Breath Theatre, exploring local history, engineering, science, geography, and contemporary environmental/global water management issues, with new KS1 programme.

Visiting this awe-inspiring Victorian site is part of an offer including extensive online cross-curriculum resources. It can be a one-off event, or support a half-term's thematic curriculum around water, science, geography, history and literacy. Children's understanding of history is fostered and embedded through empathising with live characters' stories, and by getting their hands on practical, kinaesthetic activities.

[Find out more](#)



Arrange Dates

Key Stage 3 - 5

Free

Nottingham Cathedral - School tours

Visit the historic Nottingham Cathedral to learn about the Mother Church of the Diocese of Nottingham and the incredible history of the building designed by Pugin who designed the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. If you would like a guided tour of the Cathedral and the opportunity to learn more about its architectural history and features, please contact the Cathedral Office on cathedral@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Tours can be designed to meet the needs of your class or group. [Click here to find out more about Nottingham Cathedral](#)



Arrange Dates

Key Stage 2 & 3, ages 9-14

Free (£100 travel contribution also available)

National Justice Museum Choices and Consequences

Award winning anti-knife crime prevention workshops for KS2 upwards, specifically aimed at young people who are unlikely to have considered carrying a knife. Choices and Consequences is proven to encourage positive behaviours and attitudes against carrying knives.

With Choices and Consequences, Nottingham mirrors the ground-breaking prevention approach to combating knife crime pioneered by The Ben Kinsella Trust in Islington, London.

It tells the story of Ben Kinsella, who was tragically killed in 2008 aged just 16, and is a vehicle to encourage young people to think about the consequences of carrying a knife and the choices they can make to avoid becoming impacted by violence. [Find out more](#)

Resources & In School workshops





Key Stage 3 (11-14 years)

Free

National Literacy Trust Marking Special Dates in the Year

The National Literacy Trust supports schools with literacy teaching resources to help enrich lessons to mark special days throughout the academic year. Many of these can be approached in cross curricular creative ways.

[Literary Trust Events Calendar 2024/5](#)

Holocaust Memorial Day

Date: 27 Jan 2025

This reflective moment could have a number of creative responses. The National Literacy Trust has a range of resources developed in partnership with trusted experts, like author Tom Palmer, to support students to understand the terrible impact of the Holocaust, and reflect on actions we can take to secure a safer future. [Holocaust Memorial Day](#)

Lunar New Year/Chinese New Year

Date: 29 Jan 2025

Celebrate the lunar new year with our flexible and fun literacy ideas.

[Hot Topic - Chinese New Year](#)

National Storytelling Week

Date: 1 - 9 Feb 2025

A week-long celebration of stories, spoken or written, encouraging creativity and self-expression enabling children to tell their own stories. This includes an interactive storytelling workshop with former Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho on Thurs 6 Feb 2025, 10am - 10:45am. More information here:

[National Storytelling Week](#)

Children's Mental Health Week

Date: 3 - 9 Feb 2025

Help pupils write creatively to support their well-being. This week spotlights children's mental health and building on research findings that link literacy engagement with wellbeing.

[Children's Mental Health Week](#)



Nottingham Trent University Fashion Fictions - Free Resource Pack

Key Stage 3 (up to 14 years)

School of Art and Design:
Amy Twigger-Holroyd & Sally Cooke
Bursaries of £150 are available
for teachers and facilitators to try
out Fashion Fictions activities.

Fashion Fictions for Children is a free resource pack for teachers and facilitators working with children aged 7-14. Fashion Fictions brings imagination, playfulness and hands-on exploration to education for sustainability by inviting participants to imagine and enact fictional worlds in which people live differently with their clothes. Through these creative activities, children learn new skills and identify possibilities for real-world action.

The resource, written by researchers at Nottingham School of Art and Design, is informed by a pilot project involving Ignite!, Bulwell Arts Festival and six Nottingham primary schools, which was documented in a short film. Activities within the resource pack can be combined to suit different age groups, timescales and settings.

[Click HERE for info & to download the Fashion Fiction resource](#)

[Click HERE to apply for a Fashion Fiction bursary](#)

[Click HERE to watch the pilot project film](#)



Key Stage 4+

British Film Institute: Film Hub Midlands 16+ Opportunities and resources

Are you an educator who works with young people aged 16-25 in the Midlands region who wants to access opportunities and events? If you would like regular updates about opportunities through the British Film Institute [Click HERE for BFI Info Sign Up Form](#)

Open applications, Film Academy Specialist Courses 2024-25!

These opportunities for 16-to-19-year-olds help develop skills and build a career in the film industry. They are designed to develop more specialist filmmaking skills. These specialist courses will be delivered as an intensive week or over a set number of weekends. Young people will work

closely with leading industry professionals who will give you a unique insight into the filmmaking business. Limited places available!

- [Curation and Archiving](#), deadline 17th January 2025.
- [Visual Effects \(VFX\)](#), deadline 24th January 2025.
- [Cinematography](#), deadline 5th May 2025.

[More information about BFI specialist courses HERE](#)

2024-25 Film Hub Midlands x BFI Film Academy opportunities:

- Craft Skills and Specialism talks with BFI Film Academy and industry professionals, highlighting the vital and creative Below the Line careers in the screen industry.
- Young Programmers: Build Your Own Film Night series delivered by Flatpack in Staffordshire as part of Film Hub Midlands wider BFI Film Academy activity, FAN Spotlight on the county taking place this Winter and Spring.
- BFI Future Film Festival 2025 (FFF). Taking place February 2025 across the region, in-person and online.
- Young Programmers Film Club Takeovers in Nottingham and Derby taking place March 2025

Other Resources:

Making Music Videos in 2025, BFI Film Academy Labs

In this Lab, the panel discuss the reality of making music videos now: the challenges, resources, audience demand and possible next steps for anyone working in this format. Hosted by Reem Muhammed, with guest panellists Ewan Jones Morris, Joe Andrews and Greg Bevan. This Lab is delivered by Chapter in Wales. You can watch the recording [here](#).

#CreativeCareersWeek2024:

Spotlight on Ella Townsend, Young Talent Coordinator at Film Hub Midlands

Ella Townsend was invited by ChalleNGe to feature as a creative industry professional as part of #CreativeCareersWeek2024. You can read Ella's case study and others from a range of creative industries [here](#).

FilmWire newsletter

Check out the latest exhibiting new and old titles, one-off events and opportunities taking place across the Midlands [here](#).

If you would like a visit or online session from Ella Townsend, Young Talent Co-ordinator on creative screen careers, what her role involves at Film Hub Midlands and opportunities for young people aged 16-25 in the region, [email](#) her directly.



Arrange dates

In school and/or at Broadway
Cinema, Nottingham
Key Stage 3

**£295 per day, including
production of final film**

**SilverScreen Education:
Adam Pepper
Film workshops to support
curriculum development:**

For the last fourteen years, SilverScreen Education, has been working across the UK, supporting schools' English and subject curriculums through a range of film-driven workshops. The workshops are delivered and differentiated using the current objectives in the National Curriculum and are designed on a bespoke basis to match pupils age, abilities, interests, stage of learning and potential written/topic/creative outcomes.

Many of the school projects delivered result in an afternoon of film-making, designed to celebrate and consolidate the children's learning across the morning sessions. The workshops are useful CPD for staff too. Contact Adam Pepper for more information and to book

silverscreenprimary@gmail.com



Jan - July 2025

Key Stage 3-5

Free: Online resource

**Nottingham Music Service
MusiQuest**

MusiQuest is an online interactive music challenge for schools. Working as a class, pupils take on challenges, answer questions and unlock the clues! Classes will explore a range of musical concepts, taking part in interactive musical quests to take them through each stage. Anyone is welcome to join in and taking part is completely free!

MusiQuest covers many areas of the Model Music Curriculum and can be used as a comprehensive and engaging learning and assessment tool. The Music Hub hope that schools will join the Guardians of Music and make it to their boss level!

[Watch the MusiQuest trailer](#)



Arrange Dates

Key Stage 3 & 4, up to 16 years
Free

Crafts Council – Craft School Material World, Exploring the Climate Emergency through Craft

Calling all creative teachers! Craft School: Material World, the Crafts Council's national school's craft programme, is back for another year! Craft School has teamed up with the Eden Project to invite all education providers to get making. Over the course of the year learners from ages 5-16 are invited to respond to one of three briefs:

Renewable Materials, Creative Mending or Reclaim and Reuse and commit to 6 hours + of crafting across the year.

Support for teachers is at the heart of Craft School. The programme offers a toolkit of resources to help teachers deliver the challenge with their learners, as well as three online teacher training sessions and monthly online catchups.

[Click here to register and find out more](#)



Until July 2025

Key Stage 3 & 4, Years 7-11
Free

Nottingham Trent University Outreach Offer to Secondary Schools

For 2024-25, NTU have a new format for their secondary outreach programme. They now have the option for schools to book assemblies for all pupils in years 7-11.

All assemblies are followed by a workshop exclusively for Free School Meal (FSM) pupils.

These workshops will develop and build on the knowledge gained in the assembly. The programme will provide pupils with an opportunity to access information about higher education and explore the journey from secondary school to university.

Pupils will also look at the skills needed for progression into post-16 learning and consider future education pathways. If you would like further information, please email ose@ntu.ac.uk



From September 2024

Key Stage 3-5, ages 11-18

Young Writers Programme First Story

First Story provides young people experiencing disadvantage with extracurricular creative writing activities that foster creativity, confidence, and talent. Their flagship Young Writers Programme places professional writers in secondary schools in low-income communities. Their regular events, competitions and teacher resources complement core provision.

Events for Nottingham schools in the past have included: Authors Day with Nottingham City of Literature and University of Nottingham Lakeside Arts Centre and a performance poetry partnership with Nottingham Poetry Festival, culminating in a public showcase at Central Library. School registration for 2024/25 is open till the end of January 2025 or talk to Pippa Hennessy about a taster programme or joining in 2025/26.

[Contact Pippa Hennessy](#), East Midlands Programme Manager for more details.

[Find out more](#)



Online resource

Free

Exploring 'Piano' by DH Lawrence Nottingham City Museums

Nottingham City Museums have created four video resources for secondary schools to support their teaching of 'Piano' by D.H Lawrence.

Part 1: Introduction - Routes in to working as a Poet. Poet and Theatre Maker Matt Miller talks about their career progression and offers advice and ideas on how to progress as a freelance poet and performer.

Part 2: Exploring the Poem 'Piano' Filmed in the parlour of the D.H Lawrence Birthplace Museum, Matt Miller explores the poem 'Piano',

Part 3: Writing a Poem about a Memory. Matt Miller leads the group through a series of activities to help them build, create and edit their own poems about a memory.

Part 4: Tour of the D.H Lawrence Birthplace Museum.

[Find out more](#)

Performances





28 January to 1 February

Coming to England

Theatre Royal

Age Guidance: 7+ Note: This production includes strong language and historically accurate racially abusive language

School Groups: **All tickets £16.50** with 1 free teacher per 20 seats booked.

Available for Tuesday 11am & Thursday 11am performances.

An inspirational story of hope, determination and triumph. Floella Benjamin's award-winning and iconic book *Coming to England* comes to life in this joyful stage adaptation with music, storytelling and song.

Coming to England tells Floella's own story of moving to England as a child. Aged just 10, she and her siblings left Trinidad and sailed alone to join their parents. But Floella's excitement for her new life in England is short-lived, with her family subjected to racism and

intolerance in 1960s' London. Guided by her mother, and working twice as hard as her classmates, *Coming to England* tells the story of how a young Floella overcame adversity and grew to become Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham.

A vibrant and energetic musical, adapted for the stage by David Wood ("the national children's dramatist" – *The Times*).

[Find out more](#)



THE MAGIC FLUTE LITE MOZART

20 March

Opera North: The Magic Flute Lite

Theatre Royal and Royal Concert Hall

Suitable for KS3-4 (ages 11-16 Schools groups only)

School Groups Tickets **£8 per student** with 1 free teacher per 10 pupils.

In addition schools can book a half-day in-school workshop for students. This fun and engaging session explores the music, plot, and characters in Mozart's opera, led by a vocal animateur and drama practitioner from Opera North's Education team. To find out more and book, email: schools@operanorth.co.uk

Sung in English with English subtitles this special matinee performance packs all the drama, magic and music of Mozart's magical fairy tale into a perfect show for schools (Key Stage 2-4), families and anyone wanting a shorter version of the opera.

With some of the greatest operatic music ever written, the dashing prince Tamino is on a quest to find love and happiness. With the bird-catcher Papageno at his side and armed with a magic flute, he must battle dangers, trials and an evil sorcerer to rescue the imprisoned Pamina. Yet, just when success seems within reach, the Queen of the Night has a final surprise in store.

[Find out more about The Magic Flute](#)

Please call 0115 989 5555 to book.



7 May to 17 May

Royal Concert Hall

Key Stage 3 - 5

All seats £22 for Wed & Thurs 2pm & Mon to Tues 7.30pm performances in the Stalls & Tier 2, plus 1 free teacher per 20 tickets booked.

War Horse

The National Theatre's acclaimed production returns in an all-new UK and Ireland tour. War Horse is an unforgettable theatrical experience which takes audiences on an extraordinary journey from the fields of rural Devon to the trenches of First World War France. Based on the beloved novel by Michael Morpurgo, this powerfully moving and imaginative drama, filled with stirring music and songs, is a show of phenomenal inventiveness.

[Learning resources for schools](#)

[Read more](#) and call 0115 989 5555 to book.



28 Nov to Jan 2026

Theatre Royal

Early Years to Key Stage 2 (3years+)

Schools and Groups of Under 16s -

All tickets £17.50 for green & orange midweek performances plus 1 free teacher's seat for every 10 seats if booked before 31 March 2025.

Tickets **£18.50** from 1 April 2025

Cinderella

You shall go to the ball with the spectacular family pantomime Cinderella. Next Christmas Craig Revel Horwood will lead the Theatre Royal Nottingham panto cast as the Wicked Stepmother in a production packed with laugh-out-loud comedy, stunning scenery, beautiful costumes and plenty of boos and hisses! Join Cinders as she goes from rags to riches, outwits her very wicked sisters and meets her Prince Charming.

Please email the Group Sales (group.sales@nottinghamcity.gov.uk) team or call 0115 989 5555 to book.

[Find out about Cinderella here](#)

Out of School Opportunities





Until 15 July

Lakeside Arts

Key Stage 3 & 4

Sessions take place on

Tuesday evenings 6.30-8.30pm

Free optional donation

Phoenix Theatre Company: SHEWOLVES Productions

Lakeside Arts are seeking 15 female, trans and non-binary young people, 13-19 years to join Phoenix Theatre Company in their year's residency at Lakeside Arts Centre, Nottingham. This group is led by professional theatre-makers Evie Osbon (they/them) and Octavia Nyombi (she/her).

The group explores skills including Directing, Acting, Stage Management, Costume & Set Design, Branding, Producing and Script Writing. Working alongside writer Sarah Middleton (she/her) they will co-create a new play, rehearsing and performing at Lakeside Arts Centre. Snacks are provided at all sessions, and there are opportunities for the group to attend free local theatre trips.

[Phoenix Young Company sessions
weareshevolves.co.uk](https://weareshevolves.co.uk)



11 January to 29 March

Lakeside Arts

Upper Key Stage 2 -

Key Stage 5 (11 - 17 years)

£12 per session, includes all materials

Gallery Art Group

Young artists can take inspiration from the current exhibitions at Lakeside and explore materials, develop art skills and techniques whilst building confidence in a relaxed and sociable environment.

This is a great opportunity to try new techniques and ideas outside of school art lessons and it can help build GCSE or A level portfolio content. Additionally young people can access Arts Award qualifications with the opportunity to gain additional UCAS points. Work is also exhibited at a summer exhibition at Lakeside.

[Find out more about the Gallery Art Group HERE](#)

[Book Lakeside Gallery Art Group HERE](#)



10 to 21 February

Across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire
F1 to KS5

Schools programme:

Mon 10 - Fri 14 February 2025

Public programme:

Sat 15 - Fri 21 February 2025

Free

**Nottingham Festival of Science
and Curiosity 2025**

How are you getting involved in this year's annual festival?

FOSAC which is all about showcasing a world of science and curiosity that's all around us every day. The festival invites the people of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to share not only what they know, but also what they would like to know; it's about celebrating curiosity, asking questions and taking a leading role in finding out the answers.

[Find out more](#)



2025 Festival magazine

The 2025 Festival magazine has contributions from researchers, scientists and young people from across Nottinghamshire and beyond. The graphic design was completed by Laura Flatt, a student at Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies, part of Nottingham Trent University.

[Download the Festival magazine](#)

Spotlight on funding for out of school activities





Key Stage 3, 4 & 5, up to 21 years
for City of Nottingham residents
[Bursaries available to individuals only](#)

Nottingham Education Trust

Did you know that young people who pursue interests and hobbies outside of school can benefit from funding?

The Nottingham Education Trust is a locally managed trust which exists to support young people, under the age of 21 and permanently resident in the City of Nottingham, to pursue activities outside of formal education, particularly in Music & the Arts, the Sciences, Languages, Travel and Cultural Experiences, Sports and Outdoor and Adventurous pursuits, who would otherwise not have the opportunity.

Eligible young people can apply for bursaries up to £800 in total to fund their projects and the application process is straightforward.

[Click here for more information and to read about the impact for previous recipients](#)



Parents and Carers Enews

ChalleNGe produces bi-monthly newsletters for Primary teachers, Secondary teachers and Parents and Carers. Please share the Parents and Carers Enews [sign up link](#) within your parents communications. You can also visit [Activities and Groups on our website](#) for information that you can signpost your students to outside of school.

Connecting Notts

[Connecting Notts](#) is a website for young people, aimed at young creatives aged 14+, helping them connect with Nottingham's arts organisations and local groups. You can book a free talk or workshop from Connecting Notts members to meet a group of sixth formers, to share their experiences of working in the arts.



Nottingham's Cultural
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Nottingham Trent
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