

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Derbyshire, UK – 22 July 2024

Arts Derbyshire Secures £99,900 from Arts Council England to Boost Cultural Initiatives across the County

Arts Derbyshire is thrilled to announce the successful funding bid from Arts Council England. This significant grant of £99,900 will support three crucial strands of our organization's work, reinforcing our commitment to enriching Derbyshire's cultural landscape.

Delivering a Landmark Project in 2025

The grant from Arts Council England will enable us to deliver a comprehensive programme designed to strengthen the local arts ecosystem and elevate the visibility of Derbyshire's talented artists. We will collaborate with the local company *The Tent People* to create a spectacular touring environment, showcasing artists' work at five Derbyshire festivals in 2025 and partnering with two indoor venues in key areas across the county.

We envisage an ambitious cross-artform presentation with staging for performance & digital capability to present further artworks on site and

online. Artists will be identified via open call out, benefitting from the publicity to help them reach new audiences.

At its core, the project aims to provide essential support to artists and cultural organisations throughout Derbyshire. By offering professional development opportunities, mentorship, and resources, we aim to empower local creatives to enhance their practice and achieve greater success. Workshops, networking events, and one-on-one consultations will form part of this support, designed to address the specific needs and aspirations of our artists.

Community Engagement through Social Prescribing

We recognize the transformative power of the arts in promoting well-being. With this funding, we will collaborate with healthcare providers and community organizations to integrate arts-based activities into social prescribing programs. Building on Arts Derbyshire's national reputation for creative health work, with a key partnership with public health at Derbyshire County Council, we will use an arts-led approach to developing more innovative Social Prescribing practice in Derbyshire. We will focus on developing activity where there is currently little provision, challenging inequalities

Organisational Development: Sustainability & Governance

Arts Derbyshire is committed to sustainability and growth. The grant will enable us to invest in our staff, governance, and strategic planning,

strengthening our capacity to serve Derbyshire's communities more effectively.

Three Strands Together That Will Provide A Boost for Local Communities & Tourism

The touring nature of this project will benefit artists and invigorate local communities, attracting visitors to Derbyshire. Each stop on the tour will offer opportunities for community involvement and collaboration, enhancing the cultural vibrancy of our towns and cities. We anticipate that the project will boost local tourism and contribute positively to the regional economy.

Quotes

Director of Arts Derbyshire, Stephen Munn, commented on the exciting news:

"This funding is a game-changer for Arts Derbyshire. It allows us to increase our impact, nurture local talent, and further contribute to our amazing vibrant cultural County."

Peter Knott, Midlands Area Director at Arts Council England said, " We're delighted to support Arts Derbyshire with their New Horizons project, thanks to almost £100,000 from National Lottery Project Grants.



“This funding will allow them build on the foundations already in place, working with local communities, supporting artists across Derbyshire and enhancing creative offerings throughout the county.”

For more information about this project and the plans for 2025, please contact editor@artsderbyshire.org.uk



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For media enquiries, please contact: Debbie Porter at Destination Digital, debbie@destination-digital.co.uk

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Note to Editors: High-resolution images and additional information are available upon request.

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Trustees: Deborah Hedderwick (Chair), Sharon Brown, Simon Hobbs, Alice Marshall,
Daniel Oakley, Emma Oaks, Sanjoy Sen, Kalila Storey



Arts Derbyshire is grateful for the support of Arts Council England and looks forward to an exciting chapter of growth and creativity.

NOTES FOR THE EDITOR

About Arts Derbyshire

Arts Derbyshire is a dynamic organization dedicated to promoting creativity, inclusivity, and cultural vibrancy across the county. Through partnerships, events, and advocacy, we champion the arts as a force for positive change.

- Our vision is for a vibrant, connected and resilient arts ecology that enriches the lives of people in Derbyshire.
- Our mission is to provide strategic direction for arts development in Derbyshire, building on the unique creative, cultural, natural and heritage assets of our county.

Arts Derbyshire is the strategic arts charity for our county and is at the heart of Derbyshire's creative sector. We have over 1250 artists and cultural organisations as Network Members.

We take pride in our vision, in the work we are doing together as an arts community and in our trustees who represent our creative county.

www.artsderbyshire.org.uk

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About Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let's Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where every one of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences. From 2023 to 2026 we will invest over £467 million of public money from Government and an estimated £250 million from The National Lottery each year to help support the sector and to deliver this vision.