

Update on the Cultural Olympiad in the East of England

December 2011

As we are about to welcome the new year this update brings you London 2012 related culture news. In the new year we will be bringing you more regular updates. We will be making more announcements about the Cultural Olympiad and London 2012 Festival programme in coming months.

In the meantime we wish you season's greetings and an extraordinary 2012.

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1 Twelve things to do in 2012

As new year approaches and we look forward to 2012 here are some things you might like to do in the coming months. A summary of this is also attached to this newsletter so that you can forward it to your networks.

- 1 Sign up to be among the first to receive information about the London 2012 Festival at www.london2012.com/festival The UK's biggest ever cultural festival, with 1000 events and over 10 million free opportunities to take part. There should be something to suit everyone's interests.
- 2 Register for Local Leaders - this initiative is an invitation to people across the UK to take the 2012 Games into their community and create their own celebrations next year register at www.london2012.com/localleaders
- 3 Get dancing, sign up for the Big Dance and www.bigdance2012.com You can take part in a world record breaking attempt on 18 May, or get involved for Big Dance Week that will run from 7 – 15 July, including the Big Street Dance on 14 July.
- 4 Join *Hopscotch to Victory* with Live Arts Collective East and be part of a world record hopscotch attempt on 30 June 2012. Watch their video and sign up for information at <http://liveartcollectiveeast.com/hopscotch-to-victory/>
- 5 Line the streets when the Olympic Torch Relay comes to the region – visiting 63 communities from 3 July to 9 July, stopping for overnight celebrations in Peterborough, Norwich, Ipswich, Chelmsford, Cambridge and Luton. To find out where the flame is going visit <http://www.london2012.com/olympic-torch-relay-map> and for some tips on how to celebrate visit <http://www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders/line-the-streets/>
- 6 Ring a bell for Martin Creed's biggest ever work *All The Bells*. For more information and to register to ring a bell (at 8.00am – 8.03am on the morning of Friday 27 July) www.allthebells.com Hand bells, door bells, bicycle bells, church bells, town hall bells, sleigh bells, cow bells, school bells, last orders bells, dinner bells... where there is a bell, we need someone to ring it!
- 7 Help the Pacitti Company write an online Encyclopedia for the East of England. Over the past year they have gathered lots of stories and local knowledge. They are now inviting you to help them write *A People's Encyclopedia* to share with others around the world. These stories have helped create 205 symbols. Select a symbol and add your factual or historical entry at http://www.onlandguardpoint.com/?page_id=1209

- 8 Organise an Opening Night In when the greatest show on earth starts with the Opening Ceremony for the Olympic Games on 27 July. For more information visit www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders/
- 9 Visit the London 2012 Live Site in Norwich on Chapelfield Plain. Since being installed in July 2008, just in time for the Olympic handover from Beijing, the screen has supported many community arts events. Look out for events and the screening of the Games in 2012. For more information about events from Norwich City Council sign up for e-alerts
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKNORWICH/subscriber/new?topic_id=UKNORWICH_43
- 10 Saturday 4 August is anticipated to be Super Saturday, on a medal-winning weekend. So on 4 August invite neighbours you've never chatted to round for a BBQ to watch record breaking athletes. To get more details visit www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders/
- 11 The Paralympic Torch relay will run from 24 – 27 August in 2012. Glow with the glory of the Paralympic Games: make a lantern and join a Flame Festival... or make a lantern procession of your own. More information due shortly from www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders/
- 12 The last day of the Games, the closing ceremony for the Paralympics and the close of the Cultural Olympiad will be Sunday 9 September. Bandstand marathon will take place across the UK and other events and activities are planned for us to celebrate an extraordinary summer. For information on Bandstand Marathon visit <http://bandstandmarathon.org.uk/> and for details of other events visit www.london2012.com nearer the time.

If you have any questions about how you can take part contact your local 2012 lead or Liz Hughes, Creative Programmer for the East of England for London 2012 email liz.hughes@artscouncil.org.uk or telephone 01223 454435.

The Creative Programmer post is hosted by Arts Council England on behalf of London 2012. The post is funded by Arts Council England, the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, London 2012 and the Legacy Trust UK.

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2 The Space

Arts Council England and the BBC have announced a partnership to create The Space – an experimental digital arts media service and commissioning programme that could help to transform the way people connect with, and experience, arts and culture. This new pop up service will launch in May, running until the end of October 2012. It will challenge artists, arts and cultural organisations to collaborate with each other and partners to capture and create a wealth of cultural experiences, drawing on the richness of the summer of arts in the Olympic year. The deadline for this has now passed but if you have any questions about the programme please contact the Arts Council Enquiries team on 0845 300 6200 or enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk for more information visit <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/strategic-funding/thespace/> or

3 Shake the Dust

Shake the Dust is a national poetry slam competition with opportunities for Schools to benefit from workshops with poets. In the East the Writers Centre in Norwich have already confirmed working with a number of schools and they are also hoping to run an out of school group from The Garage in Norwich which will include a group of refugees from the Gateway Project alongside other young people who have expressed an interest in creative writing. They are currently recruiting schools to work with. Please contact Toni Bentley at the Garage for more information telephone 01603 283366 toni.bentley@thegarage.org.uk and for more information visit <http://www.shakethedust.co.uk/get-involved/poet/>

4 Winning Words

Winning Words is working with the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) and London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) to integrate both temporary and permanent poetry installations in the Olympic Park. Their website features examples of ways Schools and community groups can create their own Winning Words projects and share them online. <http://www.winningwordspoetry.com/>

5 Discovering Places

Discovering Places has announced a programme for wildlife events. If you are running a wildlife event in the spring or summer of 2012 your event could count on a UK-wide scale by becoming a Meet the Species accredited event, simply by recording species and sharing the data. Meet the Species has been inspired by ecologists and designers building the 2012 Olympic Park. They have created a world-class sporting venue with 45ha of new wildlife habitat. Becoming an accredited event means your findings will contribute to creating an Olympic-scale snapshot of wildlife in the UK that will help scientists protect species and preserve habitats into the future. The Meet the Species toolkits will give you all you need to make your event part of this major research project and we'll work with you to help get your event talked about and reach new audiences, locally and perhaps even nationally.

If your event meets the criteria below then you can fill in the registration form at www.bnhc.org.uk/home/meet-the-species and they will be in touch within 10 working days. Events should take place between 1st March and 9th September 2012 include an element of wildlife record collecting (they will supply you with all the resources needed to add this to your event) have no commercial sponsorship. If successful you'll be on your way to being part of the 2012 Cultural Olympics when you Meet the Species!
<http://www.discoveringplaces.co.uk/our-projects/meet-the-species>

6 Big Dance Opportunity

Big Dance is London's Legacy Trust UK programme, delivered by the Greater London Authority, Arts Council England and Foundation for Community Dance. The project is currently running a young people's design competition. They are looking for designs on the theme of 'Dancing in the Streets'. The winners from two age groups will have their design made into a travel card cover and displayed in the Design Museum Shop. The deadline is 1 March 2012. For more information: <http://designmuseum.org/families/young-people>
For other information about the Big Dance programme in 2012 sign up for emails here <http://www.bigdance2012.com/>

7 Local leaders

The 'Local Leaders' initiative is an invitation to people across the UK to take the 2012 Games into their community and create their own celebrations next year, for the Olympic Torch Relay and other key moments during the Olympic and Paralympic Games. People are encouraged to sign up to the Local Leader programme at www.london2012.com/localleaders to receive further information on a range of themed celebration ideas focusing on the Opening Ceremony evening, gardening, quizzes and barbecues and be in the front row to receive free London 2012 event materials.

8 Get Set Network

Final call for sign up to Get Set network for schools to be eligible for ticketshare scheme. Schools need to be approved as a network school by 16th Dec. The 'Get Set for the Olympic Torch Relay' education resource, is available to all schools registered with Get Set, London 2012's official education programme. The aim of the resource is to provide schools with cross-curricular resources aimed at teachers working with 3 to 16 year olds to aid learning around the history of Olympic Torch Relays, the design of the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay and the Torch itself. A further resource will launch next year to encourage schools to plan a welcome for the Olympic Flame and show support for the Torchbearers. Lloyds TSB, official Education Partner of the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay, has launched its Flame Followers schools programme which complements the Get Set resources, and gives schools once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to be right at the heart of the excitement and celebrations of the Relay.

<http://getset.london2012.com/en/join-us/registrations-in-your-region>

9 Time and Tide 2012 Exhibition

Time and Tide museum was developed in consultation with local people to present their stories and ensure the community was at the heart of its displays. The diversity and richness of our community is forever growing and has developed significantly since the museum was first opened. For 2012, the museum is developing an exhibition to explore the journeys of people and objects to Great Yarmouth. The exhibition will reveal the paths those objects and people took to reach Great Yarmouth and celebrate the cultural diversity of our museum collections and the communities of our town. We are looking for individuals, families and community groups who would like to share the story of their journeys to and lives in Great Yarmouth to form the core of the exhibition. The exhibition will open at the end of March 2012 and run until the end of September. If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved, please contact: Alison Hall, Exhibitions Coordinator on 01493 743945 or email alison.hall@norfolk.gov.uk

10 somewhereto_ showcase event

somewhereto_ needs young performers aged 16-25 for Ipswich Town Football Club. Ipswich Town Football Club is offering 4 performance spaces before Saturday matches between January – April 2012. The performance space is for 1 hour and it will be in front of a brilliant crowd of 3,500 – 5,000 people! So if you are in a cheer-leading team, somewhereto_ can give you this amazing space for your performance debut, or are you in a dance group and need somewhereto_ perform to an audience you will never forget? Then get in touch with somewhereto_! If you want to keep up to date with opportunities and spaces coming up across the east then follow @somewhereto_EST on twitter Or contact Elly Wilson somewhereto_ Regional Coordinator – East elly@somewhereto.org 07712473191

11. Inspire News

The Inspire Programme has now closed. We will be making announcements about successful projects in the new year.

12 Accessing up to date information

As we enter an increasingly busy time we will be publishing up to date summaries of activity planned by county and also previous newsletters on the East of England Rising to the Challenge website. <http://www.risingtothechallengeeast.co.uk/culture/> In the New Year you will also be able to follow us on social media – more information to follow in January.

Contacts

Cultural Olympiad leads in your area

To contact the Nations and Regions East culture lead in your part of the region please contact

Bedfordshire and Luton

Andy Grays Andrew.Grays@LutonCulture.com 01582 878110

Cambridgeshire

Joanne Gray Joanne.Gray@cambridgeshire.gov.uk 01223 715476

Essex

Linda Gaine linda.gaine@essexcc.gov.uk 01245 431491

Hertfordshire

Annie Hawkins annie.hawkins@hertsc.gov.uk 07770 635305

Norfolk

Helen Lee helen.lee@norfolk.gov.uk 01603 638124

Suffolk

Adam Baker adam.baker@suffolk.gov.uk 01473 260821

Broxbourne, Olympic host borough

Steve Whitlam sw.leisure@broxbourne.gov.uk 01992 785555 x5909

Many districts have London 2012 and Cultural Olympiad leads. County leads can put you in contact with these individuals.

London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay leads

Tuesday 3 July Peterborough Annette.Joyce@peterborough.gov.uk

Wednesday 4 July Norwich HelenSelleck@norwich.gov.uk

Thursday 5 July Ipswich John.Stebbing@ipswich.gov.uk

Friday 6 July Chelmsford Bernard.Mella@chelmsford.gov.uk

Saturday 7 July Cambridge sportsdevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk

Sunday 8 July Luton Sinead.McNamara@luton.gov.uk

Keeping up to date

To receive updates from Liz Hughes, Creative Programmer for the East of England for London 2012 email marc.atkinson@artscouncil.org.uk to join the mailing list.

To receive updates from Nations and Regions East please sign up for email updates at <http://www.risingtothechallengeeast.co.uk/subscribe/> (you can also register to receive alerts on culture news here).

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