

Twelve things to do in 2012

The London 2012 Cultural Olympiad is a four year programme involving young people and communities around the UK in a wide range of cultural activity in the run up to the Games.

As we enter the last, and highest profile, year of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad this short summary pulls together some things you might like to do in the coming months.



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As the new year approaches and we look forward to 2012 here are some things you might like to do in the coming months.

- 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 www.bigdance2012.com and 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 (see overleaf for a list of contacts) or Liz Hughes, Creative Programmer for the East of England for London 2012 email liz.hughes@artscouncil.org.uk or telephone 01223 454435.

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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