

Home > Residents > Libraries arts and heritage > Arts > Creative People and Places

# Creative People and Places

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## A new programme of arts and cultural activity in Blackpool and Wyre

A new programme of arts and cultural activity will be taking place in Blackpool and Wyre over the next three years. It is part of a national programme of activity funded by Arts Council England called Creative People and Places.

In the North West, the Blackpool and Wyre consortium who brought together the bid (consisting of Blackpool Coastal Housing, Merlin Entertainments, Blackpool Council, Wyre Borough Council, Grand Theatre Blackpool and local community groups) have secured funding over a three year period to enable the people of Blackpool and Wyre to develop and take part in high quality arts.

The Creative People and Places programme focuses on parts of the country where people's involvement in the arts is significantly below the national average and takes a new approach by allowing communities and grass roots organisations to play a leading part in inspiring others to get involved with the arts.

Jane Beardsworth, North West regional director, Arts Council England said: "We are delighted for Blackpool and Wyre. The programme will be developed by local people for local people and will also allow those visiting Blackpool to experience some outstanding events that really could only happen in Blackpool. Long term this will increase engagement in the arts in Blackpool."

The projects will be delivered by consortia and partners which include arts organisations, museums, libraries, local authorities and commercial organisations working in collaboration with the local community, grass roots organisations and the amateur sector.

The Creative People and Places programme is one of a number of initiatives designed to help the Arts Council achieve its goal of more people experiencing and being inspired by the arts – as set out in the Arts Council's ten year strategic plan.

## Get involved

You can get involved in a number of ways:

- As a participant
- As a partner
- As a sponsor
- As a volunteer
- As a supplier of arts activities

To pledge support, register interest or to hear about the progress of the project please contact Blackpool Coastal Housing, the organisation chairing the consortium at: [creativepeopleplaces@bch.co.uk](mailto:creativepeopleplaces@bch.co.uk)

↑ Back to top

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