

Welcome to  
a playground  
of culture

PLAYING

# Welcome to Playing

We spent the first part of this year awakening the city, as much to itself as to the wider world.

Awakening the possibility in each of us, in this city, at this moment in time. And the energy of everything we've already done together has been joyful.

In Part Two, we concentrate on playing. A chance to free ourselves from the known and the safe and play with new ideas and new ways of being. It takes courage to step into the unfamiliar, the different, and to find new ways of thinking, connecting and understanding. Be courageous.

This newness and courage opens up the chance for wonder. Wonder allows us to explore the world afresh. To be surprised and moved in ways we may never have imagined. A truly transformative act!

So, we invite you to Part Two of our Year of Culture: Playing. Playing with new ways of seeing our city; playing with new ways of being with each other; playing with new ways of creating stories. Finding wonder in the everyday and the unfamiliar. Whether that is exploring a sculptural forest in the heart of our city; coming face to face with the solar system in a mobile observatory; or coming together to raise a barn in 24 hours.

Be prepared to find the wonder in every part of the city, as each ward presents its own special celebration of our Year of Culture. Find out what is happening in your community, and perhaps even explore another part of the city.

Enjoy playing in our city. See what your imagination can unleash and what you can imagine into being!

**Kully Thiarai**  
Creative Director and CEO  
LEEDS 2023

Image: ©JMA Photography.



## Introduction from Mason, the Children's Mayor of Leeds

I'm so proud to be the Children's Mayor of Leeds this year! I want to bring children together of all backgrounds, including refugees and those with special needs, through activities that everyone can do. Young people should have a say in the things that are happening in their city.

LEEDS 2023 gives people of all ages a chance to try new things and be part of something really special. There are loads of exciting and free opportunities for young people to get involved with, from Children's Day: Reimagined at Roundhay Park, to the My LEEDS Summer events in communities all around the city.

I want to create an even better child-friendly city for all children where they can play, have fun and be happy. And we can make it a welcoming place for young people who have had to come here to escape wars in other countries.

I'm so excited about all the events that are coming up and I believe that together we can celebrate our amazing city and create memories that will last a lifetime and inspire future generations.

Come on Leeds!

**Mason Hicks**  
Children's Mayor of Leeds  
Whitkirk Primary School

# Contents

Page		Page	
4	Still to come in Part One	31	Queenie and the Pooka
6	The WOW Barn	32	My LEEDS Summer
10	Leeds Jazz Festival	34	My LEEDS Summer: the Neighbourhood Hosts
12	Playing in the city	36	The Gift
14	Making A Stand	37	The Leeds International African Arts Festival
16	Seeds, Dreams and Constellations	38	Green Leeds
17	Saturday Town Portrait Studio and Exhibition	40	Family Flourish Day
18	Northern Roll Festival	41	The Big Harewood Garden Party
19	Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way	42	Children's Day: Reimagined
20	Smeaton300	44	Noah's Flood
22	Moon Palace	46	Kick Off
24	It's A Wrap Reggae Party	46	No Home Advantage
25	Requiem: Mozart and Muyanga	47	Afra Eisma: splashdown tender
26	Discovering the city afresh	48	Creatives of the future
28	Musicathon: 24-hour celebration of Leeds Music	50	Culture in the classroom
28	Leeds Youth Music Festival: Celebration Concert	52	Event Listings
29	Summer Solstice: Asian Music Festival	63	Volunteering
30	Encounters: Dancing in Your Shoes	64	Partners and Supporters

# About this guide

## Our 2023 adventure is well underway.

Now we've awakened our senses, it's time to let our inner explorer loose in a city stirring with unmissable events. Welcome to Part Two of our Year of Culture, where we're bringing out the playful side in all of us.

In this guide, you can discover the events and activities taking place this spring and summer, plus a round-up of some of the other fantastic stuff going on in and around Leeds.

We've included dates, times, locations, and accessibility information where possible, and we'll be adding more details on our website every day.

For the most up-to-date information on times, access, prices, and bookings please visit the What's On guide at [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk).

If you would like a large print version of this guide, please email [info@leeds2023.co.uk](mailto:info@leeds2023.co.uk).

The interactive cultural map on our website is bursting with insider views of Leeds' extraordinary venues, 360-degree tours of the city and stories of Leeds' cultural history.



And best of all, you can access it from your phone or desktop, meaning you can experience the Leeds adventure wherever you are.

## Welcome to Part Two. Leeds is waiting for you!

### Access symbols:



Assistance  
Animal Facilities



Accessible  
Toilet



Assistive  
Listening



Audio  
Description



Auslan  
Interpreting



Baby Changing  
Facilities



Blue Badge  
Parking



Large  
Print



Quiet  
Space



Relaxed  
Performance



Visual  
Story



Wheelchair  
Accessible

Before we get stuck in to Part Two, here's a quick reminder about what's still to come from Part One: Awakening



### ADD FUEL Mural

**DATE** Monday 27 March  
**PLACE** Old Black Horse:  
Mabgate, Leeds LS9 7DZ

Portuguese visual artist ADD FUEL comes to Leeds to create one of his world-renowned murals in Mabgate. As part of A City Less Grey with East Street Arts.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Image: LINEAGE photo © Diogo Machado,  
courtesy of East Street Arts.

### RUN: LEEDS BECKETT FASHION

**DATE** Tuesday 4 April  
**TIME** 9am – 6pm  
**PLACE** Main bridge and LEEDS  
2023 Hub: Trinity Shopping  
Centre, Albion Street,  
Leeds LS1 5AT

Overseen by Matty Bovan, Leeds Beckett students take over Trinity Shopping Centre with a vibrant public photoshoot. An exclusive preview ahead of the RUN Fashion Show at Leeds School of Arts in June.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

### Waking the Artist: Exhibition

**DATE** Tuesday 4 to  
Saturday 8 April  
**PLACE** The Merrion Centre:  
Floor 10, Merrion Way,  
Leeds LS2 8NG

Celebrating the creativity of Leeds, we're bringing to life the artworks collected for The Awakening in a pop-up exhibition in a surprising Leeds location.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

### EUNIC: IN SHORT Film Festival

**DATE** Friday 21 to Sunday 22 April  
**PLACE** Everyman: Level 4, Trinity  
Shopping Centre, Albion  
Street, Leeds LS1 5AT

IN SHORT celebrates European cinema and its brilliant filmmakers, spotlighting just how important Britain's cultural connection to Europe is. Supported by the EU Delegation to the UK.

**Free, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

### I-ken: Shop of Opinions

**DATE** Friday 21 to Sunday 30 April  
**PLACE** LEEDS 2023 Hub: Trinity  
Shopping Centre, Albion  
Street, Leeds LS1 5AT

You're invited to shop for an opinion - on everything from migration to global-warming. Thoughtful, eh?

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

### 1001 Stories and Sinfonia

**DATE** Monday 24 April  
to Saturday 6 May  
**PLACE** Leeds Playhouse:  
Playhouse Square, Quarry  
Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP

A revolutionary two-week takeover where older people perform, exhibit and express their stories of lives lived to the fullest.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

# April — May The WOW Barn

**DATE** Sunday 30 April  
to Sunday 21 May

**PLACE** Cinder Moor, Woodhouse  
Lane, Leeds LS6 2UZ

What happens when you raise a barn, then fill it to the rafters with hopes for the future? Come on in and find out.



Following a spectacular 24 hour build by 300 women, girls and non-binary people, The WOW Barn will be on Cinder Moor in Leeds for three weeks, hosting events, gatherings and The WOW Barn Festival. Come and be inspired by this dream of an equitable world; a world in which all women, girls and non-binary people have the space, time, support and permission to live their dreams.

The WOW Barn and the Cinder Moor site is an accessible, inclusive space where everyone is welcome to join the movement.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



Image: © Lucille Moore.

Presented in partnership by WOW – Women of the World and LEEDS 2023. Supported by West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Leeds City Council and Arts Council England. Delivered in partnership with Civic Engineers and Leeds College of Building. Original concept commissioned by UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK with funding from UK Government. WOW Festivals and events are presented by arrangement with the Southbank Centre.

Barn Visual Design EV Hardaker.

## Raising The WOW Barn

**DATE** Sunday 30 April  
to Monday 1 May  
**TIME** 6pm–6pm  
**PLACE** Cinder Moor, Woodhouse  
Lane, Leeds LS6 2UZ

Drop by to witness The WOW Barn take shape as we raise it over 24 hours.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



## The WOW Barn Festival

**DATE** Saturday 13 May  
**TIME** 10:30am – 5:30pm  
**PLACE** Cinder Moor, Woodhouse  
Lane, Leeds LS6 2UZ

### The WOW Festival.

Here's your chance to be part of the first ever WOW – Women of the World Festival in Leeds. We'll celebrate women, girls and non-binary people with a day of talks, rallies, activities and fun. There's something for the whole family to do – from learning plumbing skills to visiting our WOW Marketplace. Got a Big Idea? Share it here. We'll all come together to swap thoughts on everything from housing and health to ageing and sport. Ready for a day of joy, food, laughter, music and mayhem? Everyone is welcome. Keep an eye on our website for the latest updates.

**Pay What You Decide, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

## Evenings at The WOW Barn

**DATE** Monday 8 to  
Sunday 21 May  
**PLACE** Cinder Moor, Woodhouse  
Lane, Leeds LS6 2UZ

A programme of evening events taking place in The WOW Barn.

Comedy, performances and gigs, there'll be something for everyone. Want to stay in the know? Check the website for the latest updates.

**Ticketed events, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

## Not your average school day

**DATE** Tuesday 9 May  
to Friday 12 May  
**PLACE** Cinder Moor, Woodhouse  
Lane, Leeds LS6 2UZ

Schools are invited from across West Yorkshire to spend the day at The WOW Barn.

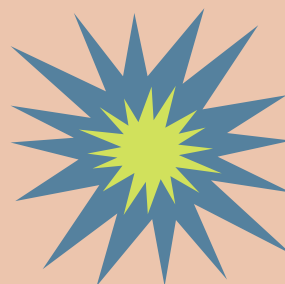
They'll learn about gender equality, activism, and pick up construction and DIY skills too. 10–12 year old children will join the fun.

**Free for schools, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

## Make some noise for the Marathon runners

**Sunday 14 May**

Join us as we whoop and clap for the thousands of runners taking part in the very first Rob Burrow Leeds Marathon and Half Marathon. There'll be entertainment for the crowds as the route runs past Cinder Moor.



May

25—30 MAY  
2023

## EVENTS & NIGHTS INCLUDE:

**SNAZZBACK**  
@ THE DOMINO CLUB

**MATT ANDERSON QUARTET**  
@ HEART

**HYDE PARK JAZZ CLUB  
PRESENTS JOHN CAGE'S  
INDETERMINACY**  
@ HYDE PARK BOOK CLUB

**SHOVE IT: THE XERO  
SLINGSBY STORY**  
@ SEVEN ARTS

**WORLD ISLAND PRESENTS:  
HEADLINED AND CURATED  
BY GILLES PETERSON**  
@ BELGRAVE MUSIC HALL

**SOFT MACHINE**  
@ CITY VARIETIES MUSIC HALL

**PYJAEN**  
@ BRUDENELL SOCIAL CLUB

**GRIFTON FORBES AMOS**  
@ THE HIFI CLUB

**VIPERTIME ALBUM LAUNCH**  
@ HYDE PARK BOOK CLUB

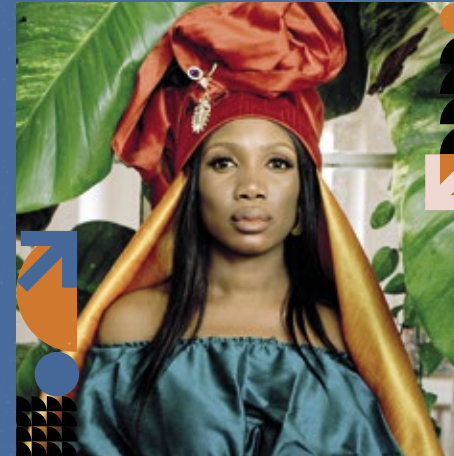
**MICA MILLAR**  
@ THE WARDROBE

# LEEDS JAZZ FESTIVAL

## Leeds Jazz Festival

**DATE** Thursday 25 May  
to Tuesday 30th May  
**TIME** Various times  
**PLACE** Venues across Leeds city  
centre and suburbs

A whole range of jazz  
related activity will be  
popping up in cosy clubs,  
underground bars and  
spaces around the city  
for Leeds Jazz Festival!



Rokia Koné @ Howard Assembly Room.

Free activity includes the 'Welcome to Leeds' stage running over the bank holiday weekend in the city centre, where you'll find the finest local and UK wide artists curated by Sable Radio, DJ Lubi, Launchpad and JazzLeeds.

Down at the train station, you'll find an immersive installation by jazz artist Lara Jones. Step out of the bustling station and into the dome to experience her music like never before.

More of a photography fan? There's a beautiful exhibition of unseen Denis Dalby photographs at Left Bank. Interested in learning to DJ? Head up to Canned Heat to learn from DJ NikNak.

Alongside this is a programme of free and ticketed events still to be announced!

**Ticketed events, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



Gilles Peterson @ Belgrave Music Hall.

The festival is produced by a city-wide network of partners, representing venues, programmers, musicians and more, coordinated by Music:Leeds and supported by Arts Council England, LEEDS 2023, LeedsBID, Split Design, arts@leeds, Leeds City Council and bcausam.



# Playing in the city

Image: Child Friendly Leeds LIVE! in Millennium Square.

Now the warmer weather is here, there's no better time to go out exploring and enjoy the events, festivals and activities right here on your doorstep.

From city centre activities to the My LEEDS Summer events happening in all 33 wards, there are lots of opportunities to expand your horizons, meet new people and fill those school holiday days!

It's ten years since Leeds set out a citywide ambition to make it the best city to grow up in. Child Friendly Leeds and Breeze are long-term initiatives which provide opportunities for children, young people and families across the region to get together, experience new things and have fun.

Child Friendly Leeds LIVE! makes a welcome return to Millennium Square in August as part of National Play Day. This event is one of the biggest children's festivals in Yorkshire and is a fun-filled day featuring popular children's characters, performers, music and entertainment.

Breeze is hosting more than 20 events across the city during the school holidays this summer, including 'Breeze in the Park'. With activities spread right across the city, it promises to be full of thrills with everything from classic inflatables to art zones and fun fairs.

And this summer, head off on an adventure with Leeds Bear Hunt, a free public art trail created by Wild in Art and a range of artists to help raise funds for Leeds Hospitals Charity. The Bear Hunt will bring the magic of Michael Rosen's iconic children's book, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, to life with more than 50 giant Bear sculptures on the streets and within the parks of Leeds. Together, the bears will form a family-friendly trail of discovery which promises to be quite special.

Finally, there's culture on your doorstep with the My LEEDS Summer programme (Pages 32-36 of this guide), a collection of free events across the 33 wards of the city designed by local communities and where everyone is welcome.

Playing isn't just for children. We can all get out and experience something new. This guide is full of opportunities to fill your spring and summer. Dive in!

**Find out more:**

**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Summer

# Making A Stand

Reconnecting  
with our roots.

**DATES** From Summer 2023  
**PLACE** City Square, Leeds LS1 1PJ



Co-created by Michael Pinsky and Studio Bark.  
Produced and commissioned by LEEDS 2023.  
Supported by Channel 4, Arts Council England  
and Leeds Beckett University.

This new public artwork  
in City Square reawakens  
history and captures  
the magic of the Forest  
of Leodis.

Inspired by our city's roots as an ancient woodland, world-famous visual artist Michael Pinsky and award winning environmental architects Studio Bark put sustainability at the heart of this epic piece. Take in the architecture and beauty of the sculpture, learn about the stories and materials that brought it to life, or sit back and enjoy inspiring events and performances, including work led by Leeds Beckett students. So get ready for a striking and thought provoking feat of engineering, right here in the middle of the city.

There's even more  
to explore.

## Online

**Making A Stand ONLINE**  
[leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

This digital artwork shares the creative journey of Making A Stand. Learn how the life of the forest inspired the artwork.

## Events

### Wellness Wednesdays

Free beginners classes in Yoga, Mindful Movement and Meditation. These sessions combine music, poetry and stillness in a welcoming environment. Wellness Wednesdays are created in association with Mill Hill Chapel.

### Music and Spoken Word Unplugged

Share your creativity loud and proud. This open-mic event welcomes all styles and genres of music and spoken word.

### Leeds School of Arts, Leeds

#### Beckett University presents:

A host of exciting and immersive events across a range of creative disciplines brought to you by Leeds Beckett students.

## Tours

Come down to learn more about the project and artists behind it.

### BSL Interpreted tour

### Audio Described and Tactile tour

### Relaxed tour for neurodiverse and learning-disabled visitors

**Volunteer Tours** – Our amazing volunteers will be giving free tours where you can find out more about what it took to create Making A Stand.

**Check out our full line-up of events, tours and performances:**

**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

May

# Seeds, Dreams & Constellations

**DATE** Thursday 25 to Saturday 27 May  
**TIME** 7:30 – 9pm  
**PLACE** Riley Theatre: Northern School of Contemporary Dance, 98 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4BH

## From Earth to Sky and Back Again.

Inspired by migration, transformation, and tales of new beginnings, musician Corinne Bailey Rae and choreographer Sharon Watson MBE join together to craft an uplifting performance.

Explore your place in the cosmos and ask the big questions – can we influence the future? Reimagine the past? Featuring evocative music, powerful dance and beautiful visuals, Seeds, Dreams, and Constellations is a journey into the potential of the human spirit. The piece is performed by an international cast from Leeds-based dance companies: Watson Dance Project, VERVE and award-winning Mobius Dance.

**£12 – £15, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [nscd.ac.uk/whats-on](https://nscd.ac.uk/whats-on)



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023. Supported by Northern School of Contemporary Dance, Mobius Dance and Arts Council England.

Corinne Bailey Rae image: © Alexandra Valenti.  
Sharon Watson MBE image: © Benji Reid.

March  
— July

# Saturday Town Portrait Studio and Exhibition

**DATE** Until July  
**TIME** 12 – 4pm  
**PLACE** LEEDS 2023 Hub:  
Trinity Shopping Centre,  
Albion Street,  
Leeds LS1 5AT

Saturday Town is the award winning pop up portrait studio of international photographer Casey Orr.

In 2023 all fashionable folks in Leeds are invited to show off their style and be photographed.

The project explores youth culture, fashion, identity, bodily self expression and the high streets and public spaces across the city. The studio takes place on Saturday afternoons.

The portrait studio will be in the LEEDS 2023 Hub on selected Saturday afternoons and is popping up across the city throughout Spring 2023. Find out more on Instagram @saturdaytownphoto.

An exhibition of new photographs to the series will be on display from 6-20 July.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



Supported by Arts Council England, Leeds Inspired and LEEDS 2023.



Images: © Casey Orr.

Where every day is Saturday!!

# May Northern Roll Festival

**DATE** Friday 19 May  
to Sunday 21 May  
**PLACE** Multiple venues

## This is how we roll.

Roller skates at the ready, because LS-TEN Charity are bringing Northern Roll, a festival on eight wheels, to Leeds. With a packed weekend of workshops, discos, roller dance, and roller derby, the Royal Armouries will transform into a huge skate rink where everyone is invited to have a go (skate hire available!). Over at LS-TEN Skatepark the fun continues with plenty of skate stalls to explore, food stalls and live music. The best part? All profits will go to the Charity and the Skate Scholarship – a scheme that gives free skates and coaching to disadvantaged young people and their families. Who knew doing good could be this much fun?



## Skate 'n Play Party

**Friday 19 May, 5–10pm**  
**LS-TEN Skatepark, Leeds LS10 1NT**  
£10 – £20

## Workshops (Adult and Family)

**Saturday 20 May, 9am – 4pm,**  
**Location to be announced**  
£15

## Street Skate

**Saturday 20 May, 4–5pm,**  
**Leeds City Centre**  
FREE

## Roller Disco

**Saturday 20 May, New Dock Hall,**  
**Leeds LS10 1LT**  
Family Session 3:30 – 5pm: £7  
Adult Session 6 – 10pm: £20 – £25  
Skate hire £3.50

## Quad and Inline Jam

**Sunday – 21st May, 2 – 9pm,**  
**LS-TEN Skatepark, Leeds LS10 1NT**  
£15 – £20

**Find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

**ACCESS** The adult rollerdisco is 18+ but everything else is family friendly. Skate hire available at roller discos. Please email [hello@ls-ten.org](mailto:hello@ls-ten.org) if you have specific access needs.



LS-TEN CHARITY, Get Set Leeds Local, Skate Pro, Rookie Skates, Boom Chikka Boom. Supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and LEEDS 2023.

May  
—November

# Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way

**DATE** Friday 26 May to  
Sunday 5 November  
**TIME** Tue to Sat: 10am – 5pm  
Sun: 11am – 3pm  
**PLACE** Leeds Art Gallery: The  
Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AA

Feeling Her Way by Sonia Boyce OBE RA was commissioned by the British Council for the 59th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia, 2022. It brings together collage, sculpture, video and music in an arresting body of work that centres around the vocal experimentations of five Black female musicians.

Reflective gold geometric structures and tessellating wallpaper frame videos of artists: Jacqui Dankworth MBE, Poppy Ajudha, Sofia Jernberg, Tanita Tikaram and composer Errollyn Wallen. These intergenerational musicians were brought together to explore how improvisation and play lead to creation. You can experience this immersive, Golden Lion-winning work for best National Participation in Venice at Leeds Art Gallery.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



The exhibition is supported by Art Fund and Henry Moore Foundation, Leeds City Council and Arts Council England.

Artist Sonia Boyce standing in the exhibition Feeling Her Way, 2022. British Pavilion – La Biennale di Venezia 2022. Image by Cristiano Corte © British Council.

Image: © Nadia O'Garra by Tim Dunk.

June  
—December

# Smeaton300: The Art of Engineering

Engineer

Designer

Astronomer

John Smeaton was born in Leeds and his trailblazing Civil Engineering projects continue to shape the world around us today.

Created by Foxglove, Smeaton300 celebrates his life, legacy and influences all the way up to his 300th birthday in 2024.

Get playful with engineering at museum events, STEAM activities in schools and interactive workshops in libraries. Hear talks and debates from bright minds in art and science to get us all thinking big about our future.

Look up to the sky with a visit to Moon Palace. This beautiful mobile observatory inspired by the work of John Smeaton, tours Leeds from June.

The Smeaton300 programme starts in June and continues throughout the year with more events to be announced in Part Three.

**Find out more:**

**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Smeaton300 is an original idea developed by Foxglove, enabled by Leeds City Council in partnership with LEEDS 2023. Supported by National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, Bruntwood, Burberry and Scottish Power Foundation.

June  
—December

# Moon Palace

**DATE** From June to  
December 2023  
**TIME** Various times  
**PLACE** Various locations

Come with us to  
the moon and back.

A gift from East Leeds to the world, Moon Palace is your ticket to the stars without leaving Leeds. Created by artists Heather Peak and Ivan Morison, this new artwork and mobile observatory is inspired by the legacy of John Smeaton and the observatory he built in East Leeds. Bringing together creativity and art, engineering and science, collaboration and public good, Moon Palace is an absurdly joyful experience you don't want to miss. Find Moon Palace on tour from June to December, book your place for after-dark moongazing with expert astronomers, and join us on this other-worldly adventure.

**Find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



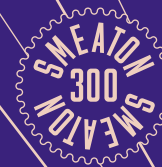
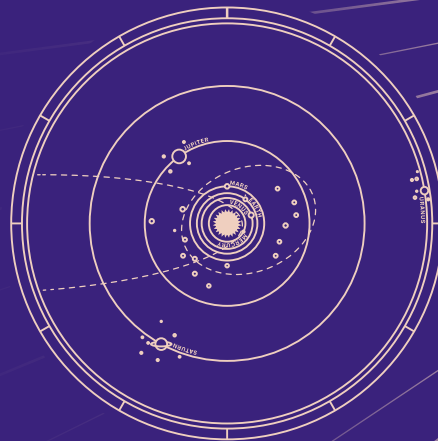
**After Dark  
Observing Sessions:**

**DATE** Sunday 9 July  
**PLACE** City Centre

**DATE** Thursday 24 August  
**PLACE** Gipton

Further monthly After Dark  
Observing Sessions to be announced  
along with Daytime Observing  
Sessions.

**Ticketed events, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



Moon Palace is by Heather Peak and Ivan Morison. It is an East Leeds Project and LEEDS 2023 Co-Production and is commissioned by Foxglove and LEEDS 2023 for Smeaton300. The work is based on an original idea of a mobile observatory by East Leeds Project. Developed in collaboration with the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Leeds. Supported by LEEDS 2023, Leeds City Council, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, Bruntwood, Burberry and Scottish Power Foundation.

# May **IT'S A WRAP**

## **REGGAE PARTY**

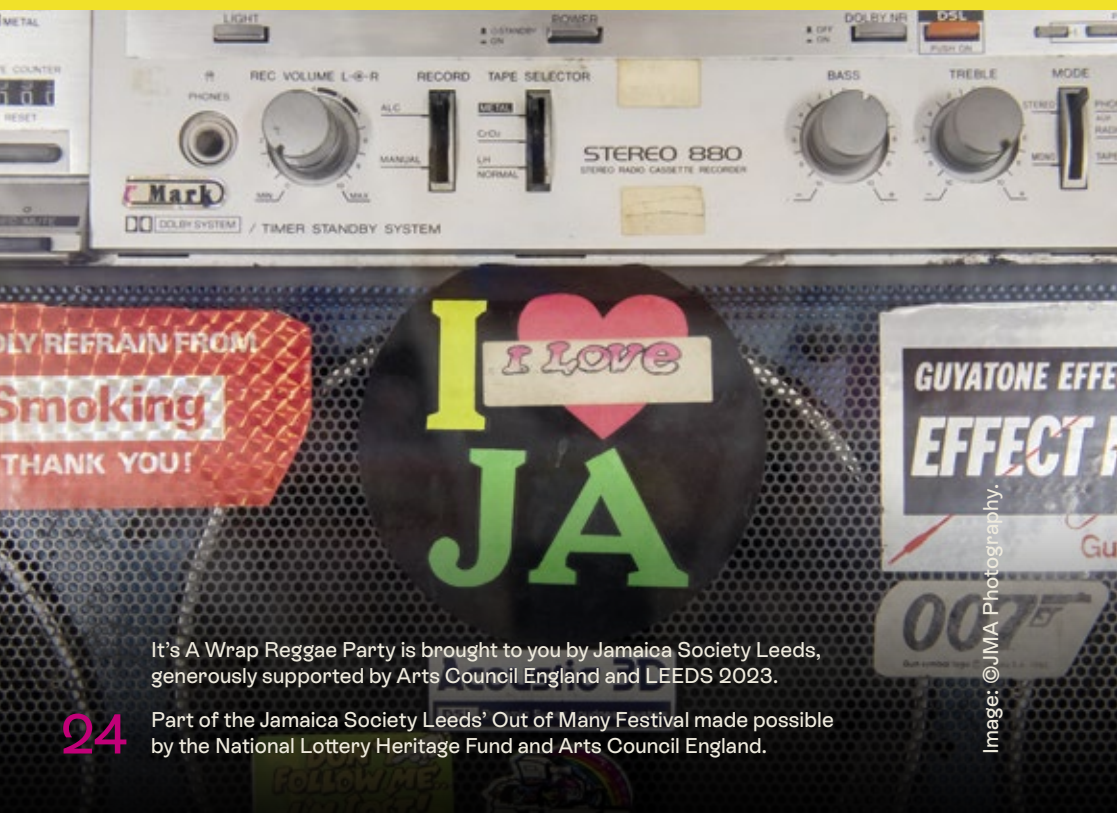
**DATE** Saturday 27 May  
**TIME** From 7pm  
**PLACE** New Dock Hall:  
 Leeds LS10 1LT

The only way to end the Jamaica Society Leeds Out of Many Festival's year-long ode to Jamaican culture? It's A Wrap Reggae Party of course!

What better way to look back on what has been a tribute to the impact of Jamaica's phenomenal cultural influence than a night of dance-inducing, joy-filled reggae music.

The last in a trilogy of Out of Many Festival reggae music spectaculars, if you enjoyed the sold-out Road to Trojan and Rebellion to Romance shows, you'll love It's A Wrap Reggae Party.

**Ticketed event, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [jamaicasocietyleeds.co.uk](http://jamaicasocietyleeds.co.uk)



It's A Wrap Reggae Party is brought to you by Jamaica Society Leeds, generously supported by Arts Council England and LEEDS 2023.

Part of the Jamaica Society Leeds' Out of Many Festival made possible by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England.

May  
 — June

# **REQUIEM**

## Mozart and Muyanga

**DATE** Friday 26 May  
 to Sunday 4 June  
**TIME** 7pm (with matinee on  
 Sun 4 June at 2.30pm)  
**PLACE** Leeds Grand Theatre:  
 46 New Briggate,  
 Leeds LS1 6NZ

Iconic music and vivid  
 dance in a powerful  
 double bill.

Mozart's iconic choral masterpiece is paired in a double bill alongside a new commission After Tears: After a Requiem by South African composer Neo Muyanga.

Both works are choreographed by Dane Hurst, in an intensely emotional and physical response to the grief experienced by so many around the world during the pandemic.

An exciting artistic collaboration between Leeds and South Africa as Opera North, Phoenix Dance Theatre, Jazzart Dance Theatre, and Cape Town Opera join forces.

**From £15, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [operanorth.co.uk](http://operanorth.co.uk)



Opera North in collaboration with Phoenix Dance Theatre, Jazzart Dance Theatre and Cape Town Opera. Co-commissioned by LEEDS 2023, supported by The British Council.

# Discovering the city afresh

Leeds is full of history and exciting stories, so why not explore and see the city in a new light?

Look out for the Leeds Black History Walk run by Heritage Corner. The Walk was launched in 2009 by Joe Williams, as part of a Chapeltown community initiative with the Leeds Bi-Centenary Transformation Project, to transform how Africans are perceived in history. Find out about Nesyamun (the Leeds Mummy) and why the first black circus owner, Pablo Fanque, came to be buried in Leeds. And discover how more recent figures like Arthur France MBE and David Hamilton MBE have helped shape the city's identity. Tickets from £7, tours monthly on Saturday or Sunday.

If you're interested in Leeds' brewing history, the Leeds Heritage Beer Tour, starting at The Tetley covers 300 years of Beer in Leeds, with visits to some of the older pubs including Whitelocks Ale House. Tickets £38 including drinks; alcohol-free beers available.

And Leeds Markets, working with Workers Lunchtime, offer a monthly free tour of Kirkgate Market, where you can learn about the history of the market and chat with traders. Plus, the food scene there is great if you'd like a post tour lunch!

Image: Leeds Industrial Museum at Armley Mills.



SCAN HERE  
FOR OUR  
INTERACTIVE  
CULTURAL  
MAP

Or explore the city on skates! Northern Roll are bringing a festival of skating to the city from Friday 19 to Sunday 21 May, with adult and family roller skating workshops (£15), and a free street skate in Leeds City Centre (see Page 18 of this guide).

There are also plenty of virtual tours you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home. The interactive cultural map of Leeds on the LEEDS 2023 website includes 360 tours of cultural venues and links to other tours of the city, Blue Plaque sites with information from Leeds Civic Trust and even the hidden stories of our cinemas.

Come and join us and explore a city rich in stories and adventure – it's all here just waiting to be discovered.

Find out more:

ONLINE [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

# June



## Musicathon: 24-Hour Celebration of Leeds Music

**DATE** Saturday 17 to  
Sunday 18 June  
**TIME** 12pm – 12pm  
**PLACE** Seacroft Village Green until  
6pm, then inside Chapel  
FM Arts Centre: 1081 York  
Road, Leeds LS14 6JB

40 different artists. 24 hours.  
This musical marathon celebrates  
the sound of Leeds in one epic event.  
Head on down to Seacroft to hear  
performances from all genres, get  
stuck into family activities, and see  
the giant puppets. Yes. You read that  
last bit right.

Audiences can listen remotely through  
the East Leeds FM Radio stream.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [chapel.fm.co.uk](http://chapel.fm.co.uk)



Chapel FM Arts Centre / East Leeds  
FM Radio / We Are Seacroft collective.  
Supported by LEEDS 2023.



## Leeds Youth Music Festival: Celebration concert

**DATE** Wednesday 21 June  
**TIME** 7pm – 9.30pm  
**PLACE** Leeds First Direct Arena:  
Clay Pit Lane, Leeds LS2 8BY

First Direct Arena will overflow with  
sound this summer, as 700 of Leeds'  
most talented young musicians come  
together for a spectacular schools  
event. The Leeds Youth Music concert  
is a celebration of all genres and the  
incredible young people that perform  
them – from jazz-rock and samba, to  
choral and electronic. The night will  
close with a grand finale, where a  
specially commissioned song for the  
event will be performed. Ready for a  
night of mind-blowing musical talent?  
Put this one straight in your diary.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](http://leeds2023.co.uk)



Supported by Leeds Music Education  
Partnership, ArtForms, Arts Council England,  
LEEDS 2023 and Leeds City Council.

# June

Image: © Geoffroy Coenen.

## Summer Solstice: Asian Music Festival

**DATE** Wednesday 21 June  
to Thursday 22 June  
**TIME** 11am – 6am  
**PLACE** Leeds Corn Exchange:  
Call Lane, Leeds LS1 7BR

### Chasing the Light at the Summer Solstice.

The sun has risen from her long  
slumber and dark and dreary nights  
are no more. It can only mean one  
thing; Summer Solstice has arrived.

Gather in the glow of Leeds Corn  
Exchange as South Asian Arts-uk  
mark their 12th summer solstice  
festival. This is a full inner-body  
experience, soundtracked with music  
to stir the spirits and lift the soul. Sink  
into the deep waves of indo-jazz. Let  
the hypnotic melody of the raags carry  
you into the dusk. Is there a better  
way to shake off the dark nights  
than celebrating into the dawn?  
Come down and find out for yourself.

**Ticketed event, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [www.saa-uk.org](http://www.saa-uk.org)



Supported by Arts Council England  
and Leeds City Council. In partnership  
with Leeds Corn Exchange.

July

## Encounters: Dancing in Your Shoes

**DATE** Saturday 8 July  
**TIME** 10am – 10:30pm  
**PLACE** Yorkshire Dance:  
3 St Peter's Square,  
Leeds LS9 8AH  
Leeds Playhouse:  
Playhouse Square Quarry  
Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP

Step into new  
perspectives.

Dancing in your shoes is a one-day festival that encourages audiences to step back and see the world from a different angle. Check out workshops, films and performances at Yorkshire Dance, as well as an afternoon performance at Leeds Playhouse, before heading back to Yorkshire Dance to party into the night. On stage, you'll catch new work from Yorkshire Dance's Company of People – a multigenerational group of performers based here in Leeds. There's also a special guest performance from the European arm of the production – Performing Gender: Dancing in Your Shoes. This uplifting piece explores queer identity and LGBTQIA+ experiences through movement.

Pay As You Feel, find out more:  
[ONLINE yorkshiredance.com](https://www.yorkshiredance.com)



Funded by The Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Arts Council England. Supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and LEEDS 2023. The festival is part of a wider European project, Performing Gender: Dancing in Your Shoes: [www.performinggender.eu](http://www.performinggender.eu)

30

Image: © Elly Welford.

June



## Queenie and the Pooka

**DATE** Saturday 17 June  
to Saturday 24 June  
**PLACE** Multiple locations  
across Leeds

### Wild Adventures of the Heart.

Queenie is a Traveller girl with a wild imagination. She dreams of exploring the world as a famous dancer and musician, telling tales of traveller folk through her talents. Unfortunately for Queenie, her parents don't approve.

Little does she know, a shape-shifting Pooka is trapped in the trailer – and this mischievous faerie has plans for an adventure. This mesmerising tale uses dance, music and object theatre to capture the imaginations of big and little kids alike.

With heartfelt insight into Gypsy Traveller culture and lifestyles, Queenie and the Pooka is a story of acceptance and following your heart.

**FREE, find out more:**  
[ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk](https://www.leeds2023.co.uk)

Produced by Spin Arts, directed by Carlos Pons Guerra and co-choreographed by Pons Guerra and Keira Martin. Supported by LeedsGATE, Bradford Council, Arts Council England, LEEDS 2023 & Leeds Dance Partnership.

June  
—August

# My LEEDS Summer

## My culture. My community. My LEEDS Summer.

**DATE** June to August  
**TIME** Multiple times – see website  
**PLACE** Across the 33 wards (one event in each)

There's no culture without people, and that's why we're putting you in the spotlight.

A three month festival is coming to your local parks, village halls, high streets and shopping centres. There are 33 free events in the calendar, and each one will take place in a different part of Leeds. Our Neighbourhood Hosts are working with residents in each ward to show off the fantastic talent right here on our doorstep. This is a proper celebration of belonging, and a chance to champion what makes this city special – our communities. Artist Keith Khan will also be presenting a gift to every ward of the city as part of the celebrations. So check out what's going on in your area, grab your neighbours, and head on down.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Arts Council England and Without Walls. In partnership with University of Leeds Horizon Institute. Produced by LEEDS 2023.

# Made in Leeds: The Neighbourhood Hosts

It's the people that make a city what it is.

Here in Leeds, we're lucky enough to have 33 vibrant wards, each with a story to tell. And our Neighbourhood Hosts are holding the mic. So, who are they? What do they do? The Neighbourhood Hosts are local, passionate people from across Leeds. Working with a local Anchor Organisation they're helping us highlight the creativity that makes the areas they live in so special. Working closely alongside residents, they'll show off the talent in their ward for the whole city to see – with everything from dance performances and baking to art exhibitions and magic shows.

Each ward has been given a community grant to help create a special event as part of our festival. If there's one thing they'll have in common – it's that they'll all be as unique as the communities they celebrate.

“Myself and the rest of the Neighbourhood Hosts are so excited to deliver our events as part of My LEEDS Summer. It will truly be a city-wide celebration of creativity, our vibrant culture and our amazing community.”

**Abeer Mukhtar**, Hyde Park and Headingley Neighbourhood Host

## Check out when there's an event in your area!

Find out more about this project:  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Delivered in partnership with UNION: The Northern School for Creativity and Activism. Supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Arts Council England. With thanks to the ABCD Network, Voluntary Action Leeds and all the Anchor Organisations supporting the Hosts.

**Adel and Wharfedale**

15 July

**Alwoodley**

9 July

**Ardsley and Robin Hood**

9 July

**Armley**

5 August

**Beeston and Holbeck**

24 June

**Bramley and Stanningley**

27 August

**Burmantofts and Richmond Hill**

12 August

**Calverley and Farsley**

26 August

**Chapel Allerton**

Date to be announced

**Crossgates and Whinmoor**

24 June

**Farnley and Wortley**

23 July

**Garforth and Swillington**

23 July

**Gipton and Harehills**

8 July

**Guiseley and Rawdon**

2 July

**Harewood**

9 July

**Headingley and Hyde Park**

22 July

**Horsforth**

1 July

**Hunslet and Riverside**

17 June

**Killingbeck and Seacroft**

12 August

**Kippax and Methley**

22 July

**Kirkstall**

Date to be announced

**Little London and Woodhouse**

5 August

**Middleton Park**

6 August

**Moortown**

24 June

**Morley North**

19 August

**Morley South**

23 July

**Otley and Yeadon**

6 July

**Pudsey**

22 July

**Rothwell**

Date to be announced

**Roundhay**

17 June

**Temple Newsam**

2 July

**Weetwood**

12 August

**Wetherby**

1 July



Image: ©JMA Photography

June  
—August

# The Gift



**DATE** From Summer 2023  
**PLACE** In every ward of Leeds

## The fabric of community.

If your neighbourhood was a work of art, what would it look like? Artist Keith Khan is here to discover just that. Inspired by 33 wards that make up Leeds, Keith has created 33 different designs that are woven into a beautiful textile. Each will be gifted to the wards this year in the form of striking wall hangings. Fancy trying the pieces on? There are also wearable artworks.

See if you can spot these pieces at some of the My LEEDS Summer events. Plus, discover an epic digital world where the designs come to life.

The Gift is a celebration of our people, our neighbourhoods, and Leeds' textile history and future.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Produced by LEEDS 2023. Part of My LEEDS 2023, supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Images: © Keth Khan.

July

# The Leeds International African Arts Festival

**DATE** Saturday 8 July  
to Saturday 15 July  
**TIME** See website for times  
**PLACE** Various locations  
across Leeds

## An explosion of dance, artwork, poetry, and film.

The Leeds International African Arts Festival debuts at LEEDS 2023, led by Creative Producer Ndidi Nkwopara. African communities from the city and beyond will come together in a celebration of their rich heritage and the creativity that runs through it, with work from emerging artists and innovators.

It'll be heating up in the kitchen, too. In a live-streamed Jollof rice cook-off, we'll finally decide (well, for the day at least) which country takes home the Jollof cooking crown.

**Ticketed events, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

**ACCESS** People who can't attend the performance can engage via: a digital twin, a live stream, an online Q&A or an activity pack.



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023 as a part of My World My City My Neighbourhood supported by Arts Council England, Leeds Community Foundation and Mohn Westlake Arts Engagement Fund.

Image: © The Leeds International African Festival.



# Green Leeds

There are many ways to enjoy culture and do our bit for the environment at the same time.

The city's efforts to become carbon neutral by 2030 can often be less visible. We have a district heating network that is leading the way in reducing our reliance on fossil fuels. Bridgewater Place now has the highest beehives in Yorkshire. All over Leeds there are exciting projects coming up with new ways of helping us to reduce our impact on the planet.

If you're looking for something to do, why not visit one of our city's great green spaces. From St Aidan's Nature Reserve, which is beautiful and home to some incredible rare birds, to Meanwood Valley Urban Farm where you can meet the animals (our favourites are the Alpacas) and visit the only farm shop in the inner-city area.

Or visit one of many parks – from Kirkstall Abbey to Middleton Park, Temple Newsam to Roundhay – and get to know some of our new green spaces, like the Monk Bridge Viaduct Urban Garden.

You can call in at Eat Your Greens, a grocery store by day and delicious organic restaurant and natural wine bar by night. We also love Kino, which runs on renewable electricity from its own solar panels and from the grid. Cha Lounge in Dock St have a zero-waste brunch menu and their weekly curry night uses family recipes and fairtrade wines.

Image: Leeds Markets.



Rainbow Junktion, operating at All Hallows Church in Headingley, intercepts food from restaurants that would have gone to waste to offer pay as you feel meals every Monday and Thursday. And we are so lucky to have such a range of local traders in Leeds Market; whether you're picking up some veg or trying one of the tasty vendors in the food hall.

For culture, Sustainable Arts in Leeds (SAIL) has created a year-by-year plan for arts organisations to become net zero by the end of the decade. That means when you're visiting your favourite venue in the city, you're part of their journey to becoming a more sustainable place.

So, whether we're eating, exploring, watching or listening – Leeds has a lot to offer when it comes to sustainable culture, reconnecting with nature and having fun at the same time.

Find out more:

**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

# May Family Flourish Day

**DATE** Sunday 21 May  
**PLACE** Roxby Community Garden:  
Roxby Close, LS9 7LR

## Lincoln Green: A Community in Bloom.

It's the people that make a place special. To celebrate the communities of Lincoln Green, an all day family fun event is happening right in the heart of the neighbourhood. Expect workshops, pop up exhibitions, food and live music from local musicians.

Following the grand launch of the Roxby Community Garden, there'll be seasonal fruit and veg grown right here in the city to look forward to in the summer months. The day is part of a wider calendar of events designed and run by Mafwa Theatre. Their Flourish programme brings locals together in celebration of the wonderful communities they have built together.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023 as a part of My World My City My Neighbourhood supported by Arts Council England, Leeds Community Foundation and Mohn Westlake Arts Engagement Fund. In partnership with Leeds City Council, Lincoln Green and Mabgate Neighbourhood Forum.



Image: © Tribe Four Films.

# July The Big Harewood Garden Party

**DATE** Saturday 8 July  
to Sunday 9 July  
**TIME** 10am – 6pm  
**PLACE** Harewood House:  
Harewood, LS17 9LG

## We're going to need a bigger blanket.

Nothing brings people together like food. So grab your hamper and pick a sunny spot, because Harewood House is hosting the big garden party. Bring your friends and family, a book and some snacks, or just stretch out on the grass and take in the spectacular view of this historic Yorkshire home.

There'll also be food trucks serving up all kinds of delicious dishes, as well as activities and entertainment for everyone to enjoy. Up on the terrace, community groups from across the city will be invited to share a special meal, hosted by world-famous creatives Lucy and Jorge Orta.

**Day Ticket for Sat 8 July £10–£18.**

**Find out more and full access info:**  
**ONLINE** [harewood.org](https://harewood.org)



Harewood House Trust, Lucy + Jorge Orta.  
Supported by LEEDS 2023 and The National Lottery Heritage Fund.



Image: © Harewood House Trust and Lee Beal.

July

# Children's Day: Reimagined

**DATE** Friday 14 July  
**PLACE** Roundhay Park:  
Mansion Lane, Roundhay,  
Leeds LS8 2HH



A day for children, about  
children, by children.

Imagine a field covered in the  
words of children; all their dreams  
and demands and questions there  
for everyone to see.

Imagine building a space together,  
for each other, to eat, rest and play.

Imagine films flickering into life  
on giant screens, live performance,  
and spoken word: words of power,  
of hope and of joy, demanding  
to be heard.

Imagine the children of Leeds  
coming together and raising their  
voices to the night sky in song.

This is Children's Day:  
Reimagined.

Children's Day: Reimagined has been  
co-created by Fevered Sleep and the  
Young Creatives – 12 young people  
aged 8-14 from across the city

**FREE tickets will be available from  
early summer 2023, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Commissioned and produced by  
LEEDS 2023. Supported by National  
Lottery Community Fund, Arts Council  
England, Foyle Foundation and FirstBus.



July

**DATE** Friday 7 July  
**TIME** 7pm – 8:30pm  
**PLACE** The Warehouse in Holbeck,  
Crosby Street, Holbeck,  
Leeds LS11 9RQ

### Britten: Boldly Retold.

Noah's been tipped off that the world is about to end. Can he save the animal kingdom from extinction?

# Noah's Flood

In this vibrant retelling of Benjamin Britten's community opera, director Alan Lane takes us on a voyage of hope and survival. True to Britten's vision for an inclusive production, performers from Holbeck and Manchester bring the tale to life.

Alongside 180 schoolchildren as the animals and Lemn Sissay as the voice of God. A medley of recorders, wind machines and even mugs hit with sticks soundtrack the scene, led by an orchestra of world-class musicians.

You can also get involved with a series of skills workshops exploring the making of Noah's Flood. These include make-up, video projection and tie-dyeing. No experience or equipment needed, Slung Low will provide everything and even put the kettle on.

**Pay What You Decide, find out more:**

**ONLINE** [slunglow.org](https://slunglow.org)



LEEDS 2023 presents Noah's Flood, a Slung Low and Manchester Collective co-production in association with Leeds People's Theatre, Ingram Road Primary School, and Factory International for Manchester International Festival.

Image: © Tom Atber.

July



## Kick Off

**DATE** Thursday 27 to  
Saturday 29 July  
**PLACE** Leeds City Centre

Through an eruption of dance and live music, Kick Off celebrates the dynamism and skill of women's football and its link to the history of women's protest and activism. Presented by Gracefool Collective, performers of all ages will storm through the city centre offering an alternative to the noise of "lads lads lads" and proposing a future of loud, unapologetic, defiant women.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** leeds2023.co.uk



Conceived and devised by Gracefool Collective with the support of Yorkshire Dance. Produced by Gracefool Collective and Joao Maio. Co-commissioned by LEEDS 2023, Leeds Dance Partnership, Jerwood Arts, through Yorkshire Dance: For Arts Sake.

Image: © Paula Solloway.

August



## No Home Advantage

**DATE** Saturday 12 August  
**TIME** 1 – 4pm  
**PLACE** LEEDS 2023 Hub: Trinity Shopping Centre, Albion Street, Leeds LS1 5AT

Babeworld has found that marginalised people don't have enough safe, accessible and affordable spaces where they can watch football. No Home Advantage creates a welcoming space. There's an online workshop providing a relaxed environment for participants to share experiences. Followed by an event at the LEEDS 2023 Hub - including an artist talk, space to watch iconic footie clips together and hear more about Babeworld's research.

**FREE, find out more online:**  
**ONLINE** leeds2023.co.uk



Supported by LEEDS 2023.  
In partnership with Babeworld.

Image: © Gabriella Davies.

June

# Afra Eisma

## splashdown tender

**DATE** Friday 23 June  
to Sunday 22 October  
**TIME** Wed – Sun, 10am – 5pm  
**PLACE** The Tetley: Hunslet Road,  
Leeds LS10 1JQ

## Please Do Not Touch the Art.

Dutch artist Afra Eisma puts on a playful, colourful, and interactive exhibition down at The Tetley. The brewery-turned-gallery will be filled with her trademark ceramics and textiles, each with a tale to tell.

From imaginary characters to snapshots of intimate relationships, Eisma's work is brimming with humour, sensuality, and satire. And don't worry about keeping your hands to yourself either. Visitors are encouraged to cuddle, poke, squash, and sit on the pieces, plunging you headfirst into the artist's whimsical world.

**FREE, find out more:**  
**ONLINE** thetetley.org



Image: © Kristien-Daem.

Supported by the Mondriaan Fund, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and LEEDS 2023.

Leeds is a city bursting with creativity and LEEDS 2023 is providing a springboard for the next generation of talented young creatives. Working with regional and national partners, we're giving young people the opportunity to gain skills in the creative sector through masterclasses with industry experts and professional experience on unique projects.

# Creatives of the future

Image: @azucar\_creativespace  
and @lightworkphotography \_

Young people taking part in 'Come Platform Me', being delivered in collaboration with Leeds-based Come Play With Me, are gaining the skills and experience needed to be a promoter in the music industry. Through placements and masterclasses, the promoters are learning everything from designing a gig to booking artists and marketing. Later in the year, participants will create their own live music events, giving them the opportunity to put what they've learned into practice.

Lucy Preston, a student at Leeds Beckett University, says the programme has helped her enormously. "There always seems to be a massive gap between graduating and actually putting on big, cool events that people will turn up to. So, something like this helps bridge that gap and it shows people that it's possible to be part of that world."

Our creative media project 'Lift the Lid', in partnership with Creative Lives and supported by Leeds Community Foundation and Channel 4, is giving 24 participants the chance to learn the skills behind podcasting and journalism. Following masterclasses with a BBC producer and Sharp Futures, young people will produce their own podcasts and articles, ensuring new voices get heard.

As part of The WOW Barn Festival – the first Women of the World Festival in Leeds – a group of young women and non-binary people from across West Yorkshire are learning how artists and creatives advocate for gender equality and how to design and produce events, workshops and exhibitions. They'll put these skills into practice with their own event at The WOW Barn Festival in May.

And we're working with National Youth Theatre, Leeds Playhouse and Compass Collective to develop the next generation of performers in the region. Taking part in a ten-day course, young people will develop their acting skills and go on to perform in a major new production later in the year.

LEEDS 2023 is about celebrating creativity and creating a legacy with and for the people of Leeds. Chris Ansell, Head of Creative Learning and Engagement at LEEDS 2023, sums it up:

"LEEDS 2023 is designed with the future in mind and the young creatives in our programme are part of that future."

**For details of current opportunities visit:**

**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

# Culture in the classroom

Our creative learning programme continues in Part Two with even more opportunities for Leeds' schools to play their part. We're holding a megaphone to children's voices, exploring the world with them and – of course – getting stuck in with plenty of play!



Image: © JMA Photography.

## Saturday Town

Join Casey Orr for a creative workshop aimed at KS5 Art and Design students throughout Leeds. The half day workshops will explore the themes of Saturday Town and respond to a brief using Casey's materials and backdrops.

## The WOW Barn Schools Days

Spend a day at the The WOW Barn this May. We've got activities and workshops to support the aspirations of girls and non-binary people and promoting gender equity.

## Smeaton300

A day bringing secondary teachers together to celebrate STEAM education. On Thursday 8 June at a full day conference teachers, academics and creative artists will come together to explore how to use creativity in STEAM subjects.

## Under Our Feet

15 schools re-nurture a small area of land on their site. Applications for this project are now closed, but check our website to follow the project online. With the support of the Cultural Relations Platform, an EU-funded project that connects cultural practitioners worldwide for dialogue, exchange and co-operation.

## Children's Day: Reimagined

33 primary schools, one from every ward in Leeds, are invited to take part in this epic summer project! Starting with workshops in schools this project culminates in a big day of celebration in Roundhay Park.

## Leeds Youth Music Festival: Celebration Concert

A huge celebration of all genres and the incredible young people that perform them! An annual song competition with primary schools followed by a spectacular schools event at First Direct Arena this June.

## Schools Summer Grants

Schools are invited to apply for a small grant to put on their own event as part of My LEEDS 2023.

**Find out how you can get your school involved:**

**ONLINE** [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Supported by National Lottery Heritage Fund, Esmeé Fairbairn Foundation and Arts Council England.

May  
—August

# A round-up of some of the other exciting cultural happenings in our city.

For more ideas of things to do in Leeds visit: [leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk) and [leedsinspired.co.uk](https://leedsinspired.co.uk)

## The Big Art Giveaway

**Ongoing until 31 December**

No agenda, no complexity, just art. Staff and students from Leeds City College have been creating a collection of art, photography, and graphic design- all to give away.

**LEEDS 2023 Hub:**

**Trinity Shopping Centre, Albion Street, Leeds LS1 5AT**

[leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

## Phoenix Dance Theatre Virtual Gallery

**Ongoing until 31 December**

This imaginative, immersive, and interactive exhibition explores the rich history and artistry of the Leeds-based contemporary dance company – Phoenix Dance Theatre. [phoenix.virtual-gallery.uk](https://phoenix.virtual-gallery.uk)

## Shifting Borders: A Journey to the Centre of our World(s)

**Until 21 December, 10am – 5pm**

This is an exhibition for the curious explorer! Delve into the world of maps from a pioneering travel guide printed in the fifteenth century to contemporary artists books.

**Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery:**  
**Parkinson Building, University of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9JT**  
[library.leeds.ac.uk](https://library.leeds.ac.uk)

## Michael E Smith

**24 March to 18 June, 10am – 5pm**

Sculpture Exhibition at the Henry Moore Institute. Michael E. Smith's sculptures respond to a culture of aggressive consumption and the rapid exhaustion of reserves.

**Henry Moore Institute:**  
**74 The Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AH**  
[henry-moore.org/](https://henry-moore.org/)  
[henry-moore-institute](https://henry-moore-institute)

## Cotton Connections: From India to the High Street

**31 March to 15 October, 10am – 5pm**

An exhibition showcasing a range of cotton textiles and clothing from India and Europe across the past 300 years and its relevance/ importance to fashion, identity, world/ ethical trade, and the environment, encouraging us to reflect on what cotton means to us today.

**Lotherton Hall:**

**Lotherton Lane, Aberford, Leeds LS25 3EB**

[lotherton.leeds.gov.uk](https://lotherton.leeds.gov.uk)

## Leeds Young Film Festival

**1 April to 8 April**

Explore the world of cinema and join us this Easter for a whole week of film screenings and movie-related activities for the whole family.

**Carriageworks Theatre:**  
**The Electric Press, 3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD**  
[leedsfilm.com/lyff-2023](https://leedsfilm.com/lyff-2023)

## Outside In

**1 April to 5 November, 10.30am – 5pm**

A series of three artistic interventions at Temple Newsam to celebrate 100 years of the house opening as a museum.

**Temple Newsam House:**  
**Temple Newsam Road, Leeds LS15 0AE**  
[templenewsam.leeds.gov.uk](https://templenewsam.leeds.gov.uk)

## Womens Only Cycle Training

**Multiple sessions between 17 April and 12 June, 5.30pm**

Women-only cycle training open to those who never learnt to cycle or those who haven't been on a bike for years and want to regain their confidence.

**The Brownlee Centre:**  
**Bodington Cycle Circuit, Adel, Leeds LS16**  
[cyclenorth.co.uk](https://cyclenorth.co.uk)

## Pride and Prejudice\* (\*sort of)

**24 to 29 April, 7.30pm**

Direct from its triumph in the West End where it won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Comedy, *Pride and Prejudice\* (\*sort of)* is a unique and audacious retelling of Jane Austen's most iconic love story.

**Leeds Grand Theatre:**  
**46 New Briggate, Leeds LS1 6NU**  
[leedsheritagetheatres.com](https://leedsheritagetheatres.com)



Image: *Pride and Prejudice\* (\*sort of)*, © EMMYST.

## Arcadia for All?

**26 April to 29 July,  
10am – 5pm**

In this group exhibition, diverse artists explore both 'real' landscapes and representations of landscape, and through this, address key issues of our time: political, aesthetic, and ecological.

**The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery:  
Parkinson Building, University  
of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane,  
Leeds LS2 9JT**  
[library.leeds.ac.uk](http://library.leeds.ac.uk)

## Solem Quartet | LICS on Tour 2022/23

**3 May, 7.30pm**

Solem Quartet presents music by 20th-century Dutch composer Henriëtte Bosmans, Radiohead guitarist Jonny Greenwood, and renowned American minimalist Steve Reich.

**Mill Hill Chapel:  
City Square, Leeds LS1 5EB**  
[leedsconcertseason.co.uk](http://leedsconcertseason.co.uk)



Image: © Solem Quartet.

## [re]locate: Countering Racism through Stephen Lawrence's Story. By Tahera Aziz

**Open 4, 11, 18 and 25 May,  
12.30 – 3.30pm**

An immersive multi-speaker audio installation which places audience members at the bus stop on the night of Stephen Lawrence's murder, recounting events from a number of **East Street Arts:**

**St Mary's Lane, Leeds LS9 7EH**  
[eaststreetarts.org.uk](http://eaststreetarts.org.uk)

## BREATHE A rollercoaster love letter to music by SK Shlomo

**5 May, 8pm**

An award-winning new solo show from SK Shlomo – a love-letter to the lifesaving power of beats, bass & breathing.

**Carriageworks Theatre:  
3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD**  
[carriageworkstheatre.co.uk](http://carriageworkstheatre.co.uk)

## Sketches

**5 May, 7.30pm**

The launch of a series celebrating new ballet - an eclectic selection of pieces choreographed by Northern Ballet's own dancers and premiered by fellow members of the Company.  
**Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre:  
Northern Ballet, 2 St Cecilia Street,  
Leeds LS2 7PA**  
[northernballet.com](http://northernballet.com)



Image: Soul & Cells, © NSCD.

## SOULS & CELLS

**6 May, 7.30pm**

A poetic duet between dance artists Akeim Toussaint Buck and Crystal Zillwood, exploring common ancestry and origins through ritual, voice, music and body.

**Riley Theatre:  
Northern School of Contemporary  
Dance, 98 Chapeltown Road,  
Leeds LS7 4BH**  
[nscd.ac.uk/riley-theatre](http://nscd.ac.uk/riley-theatre)

## Leeds Trinity University End of Year Show

**10 May, 4.30pm**

A show celebrating the work of students at Leeds Trinity University, from a range of degree programmes, including Photography, TV and Film Production, Podcasting, Computing and Business.  
**Leeds Trinity University:  
Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5HD**  
[leedstrinity.ac.uk](http://leedstrinity.ac.uk)

## Podcast Social Club

**10 to 12 May, 7pm**

Become part of the live audience during the recording of a fascinating, entertaining podcast- think part lecture, part radio show but always live.

**Leeds Trinity University:  
Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 5HD**  
[leedstrinity.ac.uk](http://leedstrinity.ac.uk)

## We live, like trees, in the footsteps of our ancestors

**11 May to 23 July, 10am – 4pm**

An exhibition comprising artistic works from Latin America that delve into environmental sensibilities and local knowledge to suggest new ways at looking at critical insights on ecological and decolonial practices.  
**Blenheim Walk Gallery:  
Leeds Arts University,  
Blenheim Walk, Leeds LS2 9AQ**  
[leeds-art.ac.uk](http://leeds-art.ac.uk)



Image: © Be Curious.

## Be Curious

**13 May, 10am – 4pm**

The University of Leeds' annual family open day! Each year their campus is transformed into a hive full of family-friendly activities, where you can get hands on with the research that happens right here in Leeds.

**Parkinson Building:**  
**University of Leeds,**  
**Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9JT**  
[leeds.ac.uk/becurious](https://leeds.ac.uk/becurious)

## SQUISH : TRASH : COSMETIC : an Inaugural Performance by Professor Matty Bovan

**19 May, 9am – 5pm**

Yorkshire designer Matty Bovan's opening performance offers an exclusive chance to engage with him and his work live. This is a rare opportunity to witness a lecture on art, design, and life.

**Leeds School of Arts:**  
**Leeds Beckett University City**  
**Campus, Portland Way, Leeds LS1**  
[leedsbeckett.ac.uk/](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk/)  
[leeds-school-of-arts](https://leeds-school-of-arts)



Image: Squish:Trash:Cosmetic,  
© Lucy Alex Mac.

## A Passionate Woman

**20 May to 10 June, 7.45pm**

Kay Mellor's acclaimed drama premiered at the Playhouse in 1993 and this revival, directed by Tess Seddon, is dedicated to Kay's memory. A story of family, love and Leeds, that challenges the notion of what it means to be the family matriarch.

**Leeds Playhouse:**  
**Playhouse Square, Leeds LS2 7UP**  
[leedsplayhouse.org.uk](https://leedsplayhouse.org.uk)

## Dressed in Time: Dancing Through the Decades

**20 May, 2pm**

A special journey through the decades, and watch as the story of M&S fashion is brought to life, featuring a fusion of dance, music, and film.

**Carriageworks Theatre:**  
**3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD**  
[archive.marksandspencer.com/](https://archive.marksandspencer.com/events)  
events



Image: © Dressing in Time.

## Yorkshire Ability Triathlon

**21 May, 10am**

A fun and relaxed event for children and young people with a disability, involving swimming, cycling, and running. Alternative activities will be available for those unable to take part in all 3 disciplines.

**Leeds Beckett University:**  
**Sports Centre, Headingley Campus,**  
**Leeds, Leeds LS6 3QQ**  
[gotri.org](https://gotri.org)

## Jesus, Jane, Mother and Me

**25 to 26 May, 7.30pm**

A twisted coming-of-age story blending pitch black humour and heartache by award-winning playwright Philip Stokes.

**Carriageworks Theatre:**  
**3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD**  
[carriageworkstheatre.co.uk](https://carriageworkstheatre.co.uk)



Image: © Live at Leeds in the park.

## Live at Leeds in the park

**Sat 27 May, 12pm**

A multi-stage, greenfield, one day festival with performances from artists including Two Door Cinema Club, The Big Moon and Everything Everything.

**Temple Newsam Gardens:**

**Temple Newsam Road,**

**Leeds LS15 0AE**

[liveatleeds.com](http://liveatleeds.com)

## CROWNING GLORY: HAREWOOD AND THE CORONATION

**29 April to 1 May**

**and 6 to 8 May, 10am – 5pm**

Mark the coronation of King Charles II in true royal style over the May bank holidays. Celebrate the special occasion with an exhibition, royal-themed children's activities, and a street party atmosphere.

**Harewood House:**

**Harewood, Leeds LS17 9LG**

[harewood.org](http://harewood.org)

## Football Freddie

**31 May to 3 June**

Football Freddie is a magical new show for children and their families. The production features playful storytelling, friendly audience participation and integrated audio description alongside original sound design and vibrant set and costumes.

**Leeds Playhouse:**

**Playhouse Square, Leeds LS2 7UP**

[leedsplayhouse.org.uk](http://leedsplayhouse.org.uk)



Image: © Football Freddie.



Image: RUN © Show Preview.

## RUN Graduate fashion show

**1 June, 2pm and 6pm**

The RUN: graduate fashion show will present the final year collections from Leeds Beckett's Fashion Class of 2023, overseen by Matty Bovan.

**Leeds School of Arts theatre:**

**Leeds Beckett University,**

**City Campus, Portland Way,**

**Leeds LS1**

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk](http://leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

[/leeds-school-of-arts](http://leeds-school-of-arts)

## The Bull & the Moon

**4 June, 2pm and 4pm**

An endearing family-friendly show that celebrates anyone who dances to their own tune.

**Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre:**

**Northern Ballet, 2 St Cecilia St,**

**Leeds LS2 7PA**

[northernballet.com](http://northernballet.com)

## Things Left Unsaid Percy Wyndham Lewis, Iris Barry, Helen Saunders and the story of Praxitella

**22 June to 5 November, 10am – 5pm**

This exhibition tells the fascinating story, and investigation, of one of the most iconic 'portraits' of the early 20th century- Praxitella.

**Leeds Art Gallery:**

**The Headrow, Leeds, LS1 3AA**

[museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk](http://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk)

## FUTURE NOW

**5 July to 8 July, 7.30pm**

Witness the next generation of dancers and dance makers. Students completing their undergraduate studies at Northern School of Contemporary Dance perform three distinct new works by established guest artists.

**Riley Theatre:**

**Northern School of Contemporary**

**Dance, 98 Chapeltown Road, Leeds**

**LS7 4BH**

[nscd.ac.uk/riley-theatre](http://nscd.ac.uk/riley-theatre)



Image: © The Bull & the Moon – Nacho Gonzalez.

## Summer Dance Platform

**6 to 7 July, 7pm**

A celebratory event at the end of the academic year, bringing together community groups, prevocational training cohorts, schools and colleges who have worked with Phoenix Dance Theatre over the past 12 months.

**Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre:**  
**Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7PA**  
phoenixdancetheatre.co.uk

## The Weight of Words

**7 July to 26 November, 10am – 5pm**

An international group exhibition features an intergenerational array of contemporary artists exploring the pursuit of poetry through sculpture.

**Henry Moore Institute:**  
**74 The Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AH**  
henry-moore.org/  
henry-moore-institute

Image: 80s Classical, © Nik Kershaw.



## JULIE: The Musical

**12 to 14 July, 7.30pm**

A brand new, original musical telling the life and adventures of historical LGBTQ+ icon Julie D'Aubigny.

**Carriageworks Theatre:**  
**3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD**  
carriageworkstheatre.co.uk

## Nile Rodgers feat CHIC

**19 July, 6.30pm**

Musical legends Nile Rodgers & CHIC will bring the world-renowned, hit-filled party to Leeds this summer bursting full of chart-topping tracks.

**Millennium Square:**  
**Leeds, LS2 3AD**  
millsqleeds.com/whatson

## 80s Classical

**28 July, 6.30pm**

Returning for a fourth season, enjoy hit after hit of 80s gold, reworked into breath-taking orchestral versions, and performed live by the original artists.

**Millennium Square:**  
**Leeds, LS2 3AD**  
millsqleeds.com/whatson



Image: © Club Classical Anthems – Janice Robinson.

## Medieval Horse Display

**26 July to 3 Sept, 10am – 5pm**

See expert historical horse riders demonstrating their skills, plus live-action combats and shows – for free. Plus, experience a spectacular Jousting Tournament over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

**Royal Armouries:**  
**Armouries Drive, Leeds, LS10 1LT**  
royalarmouries.org

## The Addams Family

**28 July to 29 July, 7.30pm**  
**(Saturday matinee 2pm)**

Leeds Grand Youth Theatre (LGYT) presents The Addams Family, their 10th full-length show at City Varieties. A comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family. The musical features an original story that is every father's nightmare. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family.

**Leeds Grand Theatre:**  
**46 New Briggate, Leeds LS1 6NU**  
leedsheritagetheatres.com

## Club Classical Anthems

**29 July, 7pm**

Enjoy as some of the greatest club anthems of all time are re-imagined and performed live by the original artists and the 50-piece symphony Orchestra of Opera North.

**Millennium Square:**  
**Leeds, LS2 3AD**  
millsqleeds.com



Image: The Addams Family  
© Leeds Grand Theatre.



Image: © Black Music Festival.

## Gospel Explosion

**3 August, 6.30pm**

A celebration of gospel music brought to the centre of Leeds featuring some of the best gospel artists and choirs from Leeds and the UK

**Millennium Square:**

**Leeds, LS2 3AD**

[blackmusicfestival.org](http://blackmusicfestival.org)

## Black Music Festival

**27 August, from 12pm**

Celebrate the genres of black origin and feel the rhythm, with songs performed by local, national, and international artists.

**Potternewton Park:**

**Leeds, LS7 4HA**

[blackmusicfestival.org](http://blackmusicfestival.org)

## Leeds West Indian Carnival

**28 August, From 2pm**

The perfect blend of jaw-dropping costumes, infectious tropical rhythms, mouth-watering food, Caribbean culture and entertainment for everyone.

**Potternewton Park:**

**Leeds LS7 4HA**

[leedscarnival.co.uk](http://leedscarnival.co.uk)



Image: © Leeds West Indian Carnival.

For more ideas of things to do in Leeds visit:  
[leeds2023.co.uk](http://leeds2023.co.uk) and [leedsinspired.co.uk](http://leedsinspired.co.uk)

# This is the moment to show off your city



To volunteer,  
apply here  
[leeds2023.co.uk](http://leeds2023.co.uk)

Photo by Ant Robling

**LEEDS**  
YEAR OF CULTURE  
**2023**

Supported by Leeds City Council

# Partners and Supporters

Leeds is at its very best when we come together to achieve amazing things. To all those people and organisations who supported Leeds in the bid to be European Capital of Culture – thank you. We're delighted to welcome on board even more partners and sponsors for Part Two. Without you all, none of this would be possible.

We'd like to offer huge thanks to everyone below:

## Principal Partners



## Principal Education Partners



## Project Funders



## Headline Partners



## International Project Partners



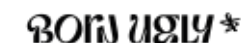
## Platinum Sponsorship Partners



## Gold Education Partners



## Gold Sponsorship Partners



## 2023 Club Members



## In Kind Supporters



# LEEDS YEAR OF CULTURE 2023

Supported by Leeds City Council



Printed on FSC  
accredited paper.

Front cover image: McCann Leeds,  
photography © Steve Sharp.  
Guide design: Lee Goater.