

Bradford Producing Hub

In June Arts Council England announced funding of almost £1.5million for Bradford to develop a new project called Bradford Producing Hub.

The project will last 3 years and will help people make and see more live performances in Bradford.

Vision

Our vision (or ‘the plan’) is to make sure Bradford is a creative city where lots of live performance is happening all the time.

People in Bradford will experience exciting and brilliant new performances. They will happen in the usual places you might find live performances (like theatres) but also in different places (like empty shops). The performances will help people think of Bradford as a great city to live in, work in and visit.

Artists from all backgrounds and stages of their career will be supported to be brave with their ideas and make their best work.

‘Artist’ can mean theatre makers, writers, dancers, directors, live artists, performers, choreographers, producers, designers and many other people and ideas needed to make brilliant performances.

The project will look for additional funding in order to keep going. We will share what we learnt, what worked and what didn’t work, with other people.

The consortium

The project was started by a consortium (group) of 6 local arts organisations. The funding is not for these organisations, or their regular

activities. This group will make sure that the funding is used to benefit everyone in Bradford.

The consortium members are:

- Theatre in the Mill (Lead partner) - <https://www.brad.ac.uk/theatre/>
- Common Wealth Theatre - <http://commonwealththeatre.co.uk/>
- Displace Yourself Theatre - <https://displaceyourselftheatre.co.uk/>
- Kala Sangam - <http://www.kalasangam.org/>
- Mind the Gap - <http://www.mind-the-gap.org.uk/>
- 154 Collective - <https://154collective.info/>

Supporters

The project has lots of supporters from the arts, businesses, charities and community groups who all helped to get this funding. It is also supported by Bradford Council who will be part of the project all the way through.

The project needs more organisations to be involved, and more supporters from across Bradford and other places. Look out for opportunities to be part of the project in the next few months.

Timeline

In September, we will share more information about the project and ways to get involved. We will start with a 'consultation' where we ask people what they want the project to do, which will then start in Spring 2020.

To find out more

If you would like to be added to a list to get updates on the project, please email or call Lisa Mallaghan: lisa@mind-the-gap.org.uk, 01274 487390.

It will be difficult for us to respond to specific questions straight away, while we get everything in place to start the project properly.

What will Bradford Producing Hub (BPH) actually do?

Consultation

The first 6 months of the project will be about talking to as many people as possible: artists, people who want to be artists, people who like to see live performances (and people who don't!), businesses, young people, funders, and everyone else who can help us think about live performances in Bradford.

To begin with it might look like there isn't much happening, but people will be working hard planning the project, based on what people tell us they need through the consultation.

Artist development

The project will create training opportunities and provide support to help more people be artists, and for artists to make their best work.

New work

The project will help people to make new performances across Bradford. It will include all types of live performances: music, theatre, live art, spoken word, comedy, dance, outdoor spectacular and more. Bradford has a great history of creating really interesting and unusual performances that mix lots of different types of arts, or 'artforms'. The project will support as many performances as possible.

New audiences and new decision-makers

Through the project more people will see exciting new performances. People from Bradford will be part of a new group called the 'Creativity Council'. They will help to decide what the project does and what performances are created.

Accessibility

The project will include everyone. People will tell us what they need and the project will make sure their needs are met or any barriers are removed.

The project will be 'transparent', which means we will be open and honest about where the funding is going, and how the decisions are made.