

October 2026

ST HELENS LOCAL CULTURAL
EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

www.sthelens.gov.uk/cultured

CREATIVE! ROUND UP

cultured

St Helens Cultural Education Partnership

A MESSAGE FROM THE ST HELENS LCEP

As we approach the half-term break, we'd like to take the opportunity to celebrate some of the recent successes and exciting developments that the Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP) has been involved in across St Helens.

Thank you to all the schools, teachers and partners who continue to work with us to create high-quality arts, culture and creative learning opportunities for children and young people. We are always keen to welcome new schools into the Cultured network and would love to hear from anyone interested in getting involved.

SEE OUR IMPACT REPORT FOR THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR ON THE NEXT PAGE



STAY CONNECTED

STEP FORWARD DANCE FESTIVAL

Following a highly successful pilot last year, Step Forward returns bigger and better in '27. Performances for school and community dance groups will take place at Theatre Royal St Helens on 19 and 20 May 2027, alongside a programme of free dance workshops available to schools and community groups across the borough. Full details will be arriving in your inbox soon.



LOOKING AHEAD: WHAT'S COMING UP THIS YEAR



Christmas in St Helens
We're delighted to be supporting the Council's Christmas events programme once again this year. Keep an eye on your inboxes for details of exciting free opportunities for schools and young people to get involved.

CREATIVE CAREERS 2027

Thursday 11 February 2027

Our hugely popular Creative Careers Event returns for its third year and, as always, attendance is completely free. Designed for young people in Year 9 and above who are interested in careers within the creative industries, the event provides a unique opportunity to explore a wide range of creative pathways. Participants will be able to:

- Take part in industry-standard workshops
- Meet higher and further education providers
- Talk directly to creative professionals and industry experts
- Discover the diverse range of careers available across the creative sector

Further details and booking information will be reshared soon - places limited so don't miss out!

The Youth Open Art Competition and Exhibition will return during the summer term.

The exhibition will once again be hosted in a community venue, showcasing every piece of artwork submitted. A range of awards and prizes will be available across multiple categories, celebrating the creativity and talent of young people from across St Helens. Competition details will be announced after Christmas.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, enthusiasm and commitment to arts and cultural education. Together, we are helping to ensure that every child and young person in St Helens has access to inspiring creative opportunities.

If you would like to become more involved with Cultured, we'd love to hear from you. Schools subscribing to the Cultured Service Level Agreement (SLA) benefit from:

- Access to quality-assured workshops, projects and cultural experiences
- High-quality CPD opportunities for staff
- Dedicated support and advice
- Discounts with partner organisations
- Priority access to additional projects and opportunities
- Advance notice of arts and cultural activities
- Increased visibility across council teams and partner networks

CULTURED IMPACT REPORT 2025-26

ST HELENS CULTURAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Creating opportunities for children and young people through arts, culture and creativity

Our year in numbers:

16 schools subscribed, with all schools having access to additional opportunities

Over 50 workshops in schools delivered

5 additional projects developed

Over 5000 people engaged in activities

FLASH Programme

Future Leaders in Arts in St Helens

11 young artists completed the course; 6 training sessions and 35 mentoring sessions delivered; 30+ workshops in schools delivered; 4 subsequent projects delivered by graduates of the programme.

The FLASH programme brought together young people from across St Helens to develop leadership, facilitation and creative skills before delivering workshops in primary schools.



Creative Careers

Inspiring Future Creative Talent

100+ attendees at World of Glass Event; 1,000+ pupils reached in schools
Creative Careers events helped young people understand the breadth of opportunities available within the creative and cultural industries.

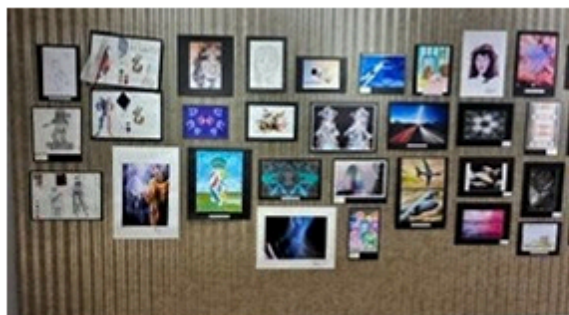


St Helens Dance Festival

Celebrating Dance Across the Borough

20 performing groups over 2 nights; 200 free workshop participants; 400 audience members

The Dance Festival brought together schools, dance groups and young performers from across St Helens.



Youth Open Art Exhibition

Celebrating Young Artistic Talent

Almost 400 Competition Entries; Around 1,000 Visitors; Approximately 300 Children & Young People participating in Free Arts Activities

The exhibition provided a platform for young artists to showcase their work while engaging families with arts and culture.



HAF Summer School

3 week programme of activities during the school summer holidays hosted at World of Glass. The event supported the St Helens Biennial Festival; Delivered enriching creative activities; Increased access to arts and culture during school holidays

Creative Opportunities • Cultural Experiences • Brighter Futures

cultured
St Helens Cultural Education Partnership



SPEAK UP ST HELENS

Our exciting new spoken word festival is currently in development, and we are now recruiting schools to take part in the pilot programme. This project aims to celebrate creativity, oracy and confident self-expression. Participating schools will receive:

Professional development opportunities for staff

Support from a partner artist working directly with pupils

The opportunity for students to perform their work during the summer term

If your school would like to find out more, please get in touch.



Please find details of opportunities that may be of interest from our partner organisations:

LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC OFFERS FOR SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE



- Free concert tickets for secondary schools/colleges: Over 1,000 free tickets are available for selected Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concerts in 2026/27, including major orchestral repertoire and contemporary music. Tickets are limited and allocated on a managed, first-come-first-served basis. Book here for your group! <https://www.liverpoolphil.com/take-part/schools/secondary-schools-ticket-offer/>
- Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra Schools Concerts: there are only a few weeks left to benefit from the super low Early Bird ticket rate (only £5.75 per child with free adult tickets).
- Key Stage 1 Concerts 2027: The Hunt for Pirate Treasure take place 28-30 June 2027. <https://www.liverpoolphil.com/events/key-stage-1-the-hunt-for-pirate-treasure/>
- Key Stage 2 & 3 Schools' Concerts 2027: Music in My Bones: How Music Moves Us takes place 7-11 March 2027 <https://www.liverpoolphil.com/events/key-stage-2-and-3-schools-concerts/>
- Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company: Young musicians, singers and music creators can join ten youth ensembles, with opportunities ranging from orchestras, choirs and brass to contemporary music, alongside masterclasses, performances and the Rushworth Young Composers & Songwriters scheme. <https://www.liverpoolphil.com/take-part/young-people/youth-company/>

WHAT'S ON

LOWRY
CENTRE FOR
ADVANCED TRAINING



LOWRY YOUTH DANCE PROJECT

THURSDAYS AT 4:45PM



CONTEMPORARY DANCE TECHNIQUE WORKSHOP

SAT 03 OCT 2026 AT 4:15PM



DANCE MAGIC

WED 28 OCT 2026 AT 10AM



FLOORWORK & FLOW DANCE WORKSHOP

SAT 14 NOV 2026 AT 4:15PM



LOWRY BOYS - EXPLORE MOVEMENT

FROM SUN 18 OCT 2026



DANCE FOUNDATIONS

FROM SUN 11 OCT 2026

*OFFSITE

SCAN ME



family arts day

This FREE session offers families in St Helens the chance to come together, socialise and get creative with 3D pens, LEGO, digital art and crafts!

date:

**Tuesday
27th October**

location:

**Moss Bank
Community Library,
WA11 7PQ**

time:

**1:00 pm
- 3:00 pm**

**just come
along!**

www.digitalartsbox.org



Digital Arts Box



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Heart of Glass

We wanted to take a moment to reintroduce ourselves. We're Heart of Glass, a Merseyside-based community arts organisation bringing artists and communities together to make collaborative art.

We believe art has the power to bring us together, imagine new futures and create real change. We create spaces where people can bring their lived experience, knowledge and perspectives – and understand the world differently, together.

Our work with young people and schools

We love working with schools who share our ambition for children and young people to be curious, creative and have a say in the world around them.

We build long-term creative partnerships between artists and schools – supporting young people to become more confident, creative and socially engaged citizens.

We also offer artist-led workshops, as well as support and resources to help you explore our projects in your own way.

To find out more, email: learning@heartofglass.org.uk

Discover everything we do at: heartofglass.org.uk



Network Rail and Northern are inviting school choirs and singing groups to perform Christmas carols at either Manchester Piccadilly or Liverpool Lime Street stations during December.

Free rail travel can be arranged for participating groups, and there may also be opportunities for groups to undertake charitable fundraising whilst performing. It offers a fantastic chance for young people to showcase their talents, spread some festive cheer, and perform in front of large audiences at two of the region's busiest railway stations.

Any interested schools or groups should get in touch with Andy Griffin and he can provide further details:

Andy Griffin

Community & Stations

(Please note my working week is Monday - Thursday)

Mobile: 07710 958 582

Email : Andrew.Griffin@networkrail.co.uk

Join us for our next St Helens Arts, Culture & Creativity Network Meeting.

Wednesday, 28 October 2026
5pm-6.30pm
Chester Lane Library, St Helens

We'll be sharing updates on the Town of Culture bid, NPO developments, Glass Biennale, and upcoming Arts in Libraries events, plus there'll be time to discuss ideas, opportunities, and challenges with fellow creatives.

Afterwards, stay and enjoy On The Mic, showcasing fantastic grassroots talent from across the borough.

It's a great chance to catch up, hear what's happening locally, and connect with other creatives.

📅 Book your free place on our website - St Helens Arts, Culture & Creativity Network Meeting - ArtsInLibraries

Image credit: Angela Wilkinson
Andrew Logan Jewellery Extravaganza at the 2026 International Festival of Glass, held at the World of Glass, as part of the St Helens Arts in Libraries NPO programme.



**ST HELENS ARTS,
CULTURE & CREATIVITY
NETWORK MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2026
5PM - 6.30PM
CHESTER LANE LIBRARY
FREE

BOOK HERE



 ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

 Funded by
UK Government