

CITY OF CULTURE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Information Pack



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Introduction

Do you want to see change across Coventry? Do you have an idea to make it happen? The City of Culture Leadership Programme is a 2.5-year programme to develop and support 15 people who want to change the city and be the next cultural leaders in Coventry. It's open to anybody aged 18+, and you'll get training, learn new skills, have space to develop big ideas and the support of experts to help bring those ideas to life.

Coventry City of Culture Trust, the charity responsible for delivering Coventry's year as UK City of Culture, will transform the city through a year-long programme of arts and culture for all of the city's communities. The City of Culture Leadership Programme will support this by giving people the skills to support Coventry's transformation before, during and after 2021.

This pack contains all the information about the City of Culture Leadership Programme and how to apply. If you have any questions that aren't answered here, contact Ruth Richardson, recruitment@coventry2021.co.uk

What will the programme look like?

Every day of the programme might look different. It will include a combination of training, mentoring, and hearing from guest speakers. The final group will work together to share ideas and learning, and each person will have an individually created programme plan to steer their way through the opportunities on offer in a way that makes most sense for them.

As part of this programme, you'll get:

- Financial support to cover expenses and time spent away from work
- Office space to meet, learn and work alongside other members of the group
- Leadership training
- Sector placement opportunities, locally, nationally and internationally

Who is it for?

The programme is for anyone that lives or works in Coventry. It's for people at all stages of their career. Whether you work for an organisation or independently, whether you want to run a theatre or arts organisation in the future, or set up your own cultural business, the City of Culture Leadership Programme is for you. We are specifically interested in hearing from people who have faced barriers to inclusion in accessing similar opportunities in the past. The programme is open to everyone aged 18+ and no prior experience is needed. We want to ensure the final City of Culture Leadership Programme group reflects the diversity of Coventry, and that each member of the group is passionate to change the city.

We are looking for people who have ideas for changes they want to make for their community and/or the city as a whole and are committed to social change through arts and culture.

Not sure if you're a leader?

When we say 'leader' we mean anyone that wants to make a difference in the city and/or their community through art, culture and creative projects. This change will look different for each person, but the important thing is the dedication to bring it to life.

Not sure if this is the right opportunity for you?

We will be running a series of **taster sessions** to show what the programme might be like.

These hands-on sessions are **free** to attend, and you'll get to:

- Hear from inspiring speakers and participate in group activities to further your thinking
- Ask questions about this opportunity and get more information on how to apply

Places are limited, so we encourage early booking. **You don't have to attend a taster session to apply for the programme.**

Monday 17
February, 6-9pm

Leadership - Shaping a diverse city

This session will look at how cultural and community leaders can use their positions to transform their cities.

[**BOOK HERE**](#)

Wednesday 19
February, 2-5pm

Social Activism - Making a sustainable change for the benefit of the community

This session will look at the role that individuals can play in making sustainable change within their communities.

[**BOOK HERE**](#)

Saturday 22
February, 2-5pm

Community - Realising our cultural aspirations through Coventry's values and challenges

This session will look at the ways communities can identify challenges they face, and how city-wide plans and opportunities can help.

[**BOOK HERE**](#)

Sounds interesting? Here's how to apply:



We are asking all applicants to answer three questions about what they hope to gain from the project. Your application can be written, or you can send us a video/audio response. We will be inviting a selection of people to a Development Day to meet other applicants and develop their ideas further.

Key Dates

Taster Sessions	17, 19, 22 February 2020
Expression of Interests Close	28 February 2020
Candidates invited to Development Days	6 March 2020
Development Days	10, 11, 12 March 2020
Applicants Notified	13 March 2020
Programme Starts	30 March 2020

If you would like support with your application, please get in touch. We can offer general advice as well as more specific help.

Access and support statement

We are committed to supporting any access needs so that anyone can take part in this opportunity. If you have a disability or any other needs, get in touch to discuss how we can support you. Any support adjustments that we put in place will be provided throughout the whole process.

How will people be selected for the programme?

Once we have received all applications, they will be checked over for eligibility. This programme is for people who:

1. Work or live in Coventry
2. Want to use arts or culture to create positive change in Coventry
3. Want to work and learn in a collaborative manner with a diverse range of peers

We want to include a wide range of people in this programme. It has been created for people who will benefit most, with a focus on people underrepresented in the city's cultural leadership. For more information, we recommend looking at [Arts Council England's Creative Case for Diversity.](#)

Across the applications and the Development Days we are looking for people who:

- Will benefit from a range of professional development
- Have experience that is underrepresented in the city's cultural leadership
- Will benefit from, and contribute to, learning in a group
- Can demonstrate a level of personal need (including financial circumstances, lack of opportunities, employment status, and barriers to inclusion)
- Show potential to make a difference in their community

Development Days

Development Days are a chance for you to meet others who are involved in the programme, work on your idea through group tasks and take part in a one to one conversation about the change that you want to see in the city. The Development Days give you more of an insight into what the programme is about and will connect you with others working in and around Coventry. We hope that these will be valuable to anyone taking part, whether or not you go on to join the final cohort.

The Development Days will take place on the 10, 11 and 12 March 2020. You will be invited to attend one of these days, lasting around 5 hours.

The final cohort and other opportunities

The final cohort will be selected based on the above criteria and ensuring there is a diverse range of people, considering the following things:

- Levels of experience
- Geographical areas of the city
- Protected characteristic
- Type of project
- Age

Who is involved in this project?

The City of Culture Leadership Programme is funded by **Coventry City of Culture Trust** and **Arts Council England** through the [Transforming Leadership programme](#).

Project partners are **Beatfreaks Collective**, **Coventry University**, **Coventry University Social Enterprise CIC**, **People Make It Work**, **TRG Arts** and **Warwick Arts Centre**.



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