

# Press Release

27.06.17

## **NORFOLK & NORWICH FESTIVAL SECURES ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND NATIONAL PORTFOLIO FUNDING UNTIL 2022**

Norfolk & Norwich Festival (NNF) is delighted to confirm its continued funding as part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio of funded organisations. For 2018 – 2022 Norfolk & Norwich Festival will receive £814,527 per year, as well as £500,000 per year for its Bridge work which increases opportunities for children and young people to access and enjoy arts and culture across Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Peterborough and Suffolk.

**Brenda Arthur, Chair of Norfolk & Norwich Festival's Board, commented:**

*"We are delighted by the continued investment in the work of Norfolk & Norwich Festival by Arts Council England, which demonstrates an ongoing confidence in our success in bringing international quality work to this region and making it available to the broadest range of people. The investment will also enable our ongoing focus on the regional, national and international co-commissioning and co-production of new work, alongside an integrated community engagement and participation programme."*

Each May over 30,000 people attend a ticketed event at Norfolk & Norwich Festival, whilst in excess of 25,000 people experience a wide range of free events and performances. In addition, children and young people across the county are able to take part in arts workshops and attend special performances, whilst each year opportunities are provided for local participants to take part in main stage events across the performance, music and free outdoor programmes. One of the UK's big four arts festivals, in 2016 alone the Festival was estimated to have generated more than £3.9 million worth of economic activity in addition to ticket sales during its 17 day programme.

NNF's work also includes support for emerging regional talent and the co-commissioning of work by leading international artists.

**Alex Darbyshire, Executive Director at Norfolk & Norwich Festival added:**

*"We are very pleased by the continued support from Arts Council England; this support enables us to maintain and grow a wide range of other partnerships and I would like to acknowledge the invaluable ongoing support of local authorities, individual donors, corporate sponsors and trusts and foundations."*

**Michael Corley, Head of Festival Bridge, said:**

*"We are thrilled that the Festival Bridge will be able to continue to collaborate with our partners to deliver innovative programmes that improve opportunities for all children and young people in the area."*

National Portfolio Organisations across the country receive regular funding from the Arts Council. These organisations represent some of the best arts practice in the world and are selected on their ability to support Arts Council England's 10 year strategy of Great art and culture for everyone.

**ENDS**

For more information contact Maisie Lawrence at The Corner Shop PR on 020 7831 7657 or email [maisie@thecornershoppr.com](mailto:maisie@thecornershoppr.com).

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## **Notes to Editors**

Norfolk & Norwich Festival is the flagship arts festival for the East of England with a reputation for innovative and inspirational programming and commissioning. One of the big four UK international arts festivals, each May we transform and celebrate our city and county through an internationally acclaimed programme of music, theatre, literature, visual arts, circus, dance and outdoor arts, enjoyed by over 60,000 people.

The organisation has been an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation since April 2012 and is one of 10 Bridge Organisations with a mandate to develop arts and cultural opportunities for children and young people in the East of England. Norfolk & Norwich Festival is funded and supported by Arts Council England, Norwich City Council and the generous support of other sponsors and donors.

## **Principal Funders**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
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