

City of Culture

NEWSLETTER

The City of Culture Strategy group have been working super hard throughout Lockdown to plan for how Central Hall can and will play a central role in next years celebrations. Here is some of what we have achieved so far....

A fancy logo...

Very much in the style of the church branding but obviously very much centred on the Arts...



and our theme for the year....



Mosaic

One of the City of Culture Strategies' groups big ideas is to install a fantastic piece of artwork beneath the clock on the lift shaft. In the next few weeks we will be announcing the opportunity for people to submit their ideas and designs for a mosaic in the theme of Faith, Hope and Love. After shortlisting we will then open to a public vote to decide the winner. Once we have secured planning permission we will then commission it's installation. We hope this fantastic piece of art will not only become a talking point, or a meeting place, but also a tourist attraction by being included in the Coventry Mosaic trail.

Press release and Social media statement

Clearly there is no point in doing loads of work and not telling anyone about it!!!! Below is the Social media statement that will also go to form a press release that will be put out after half term.

“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time” Thomas Merton

At a time of massive uncertainty, of pain and anxiety for many, the arts have never been more important. It can inspire, bring joy, bring comfort, make us think. It can lift our soul.

Following a successful bid to secure significant funding, The Methodist Church at Coventry Central Hall are excited to announce our intention to become involved in the City of Culture celebrations next year.

A small team of dedicated church members, employees and representatives from the Arts world and Sitting rooms of Culture groups have been working hard to find ways in which we can make the “Arts accessible for all”

Central Halls were built in City Centres to be a presence in the City as a venue for events. They were intentionally built to not look like churches and to make people feel welcome and comfortable. We are proud that our building has continued to be a place of welcome for nearly 90 years, that it is a place for the community to just come, and be.

It is our hope that this funding will enable us to build on this ethos by hosting events that will bring art and culture to all people. To help us achieve this we will be looking to employ several artists in residence over the course of the year. We hope that these artists will represent a wide variety of the arts and therefore engage with not only the local community but with our worshipping congregation too.

We have also offered significant sponsorship to the Coventry City of Culture Trust in the form of free use of some of our rooms for their events. Our building has always been a magnificent venue for concerts and our Main Hall will continue to be available at fantastic value for money.

Most importantly, it is our intention that next year will be just the beginning, that this will be the first steps towards creating a lasting legacy beyond 2021 that will continue to nurture and grow the arts in our city. We hope to establish a Methodist Centre for the Arts within our building that will continue to support this essential industry at a time when we need it the most.

Skills Survey

Have you filled in your skills survey yet? This simple set of questions will take you 5 minutes and provide us with valuable information as we start to plan what we would like City of Culture to look like. Everybody has something they can offer, even if you don't think it is relevant it could be just what we need! If you haven't had your survey yet please do get in touch with Elaine or follow this link <https://forms.gle/gwUx51LoKRCEcxMR8>

Event planning

Back in February over 40 people met at Central Hall to brainstorm ideas for City of Culture. These ideas will start to shape the next conversations the strategy group will have to plan the kind of events we might like to host. It is not too late to shape these conversations though! If you have any ideas please do email us at CityofCultureStrategyGroup@groups.outlook.com