

CREATIVE FUTURES

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Dukes



ABOUT CREATIVE FUTURES

**Are you aged between 16 - 25
and have a creative idea?**

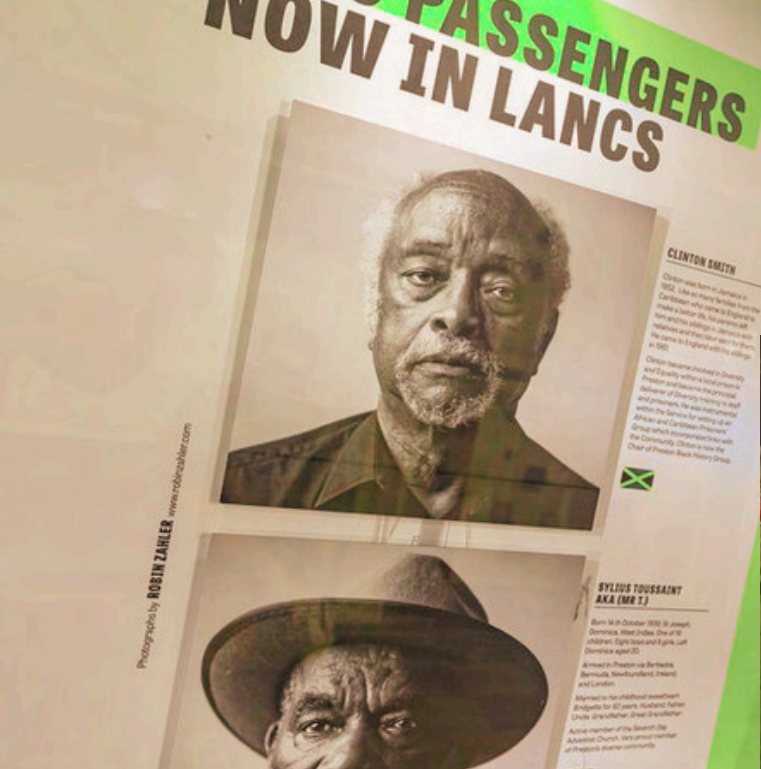
Building on the work of our in-house Youth Board, Creative Futures returns for a second year. Across 2026/27 we will be supporting another two young people with the time, space, and funds to pursue a creative project of their choosing.

What will Youth Board: Creative Futures offer?

Creative Futures will allocate a budget of £500 to two young people's projects. We'll support you to plan and put together a budget that accounts for materials and other costs and provide free space for rehearsals, meetings or events.

We will also work with you to find a mentor, a creative professional who specialises in your area of interest. This is a chance for you to gain further support, advice and new industry contacts.

Bi-monthly sessions will run throughout term time. Starting in October, you will spend term 1 developing your project. Between January and June, you will develop your project, ending with an opportunity to share your work with other young people between June and July.



What could a creative project look like?

The Dukes is a theatre, cinema and gallery, however we welcome a range of creative ideas for activities, events and presentations. Poetry readings, knit-a-thon's, beat boxing workshops, dance performances, clay exhibitions, gigs or something we haven't even thought of - we want to give you the chance to express yourself in your own, unique way and offer you a platform to share or develop something for others.

The main thing we're looking for is something that the young people of Lancaster can engage with. So if you have an idea of how you can do that, in whatever form you like, then apply now!

Who can apply to Youth Board: Creative Futures?

We are looking for two motivated young people

This is targeted towards young people aged 16-25, no matter your education level or background. We strongly encourage candidates of all different backgrounds and identities to apply.

As this project is running between September and July, this also means that those living in Lancaster on a temporary basis (e.g. university students) are able - and encouraged - to apply

Deadline for applications is 05/10/26.



HOW TO APPLY

The application process is split into two stages.

STAGE ONE

Stage one is where we meet you, the creative.

Complete three questions that allow us to get to know you, your idea, your interests, and why you're applying for Creative Futures. These questions can be completed either in written, video, or audio format - 300 words/2 minutes for each.

You can also include up to three examples of your work. If you don't have any past examples, don't worry, we still want to hear from you!

1

Tell us about yourself.

This includes:

- Your passion, your interests, your goals
- Whether you've attended or been involved in any exhibitions/creative projects in the past

2

Tell us why you are applying

This includes:

- Why this project excites you
- How you think you'd benefit from it/what you hope to gain from it
- How we can support you

3

Tell us about your idea.

This includes:

- What would you love to create?
- Who do you think might be interested in attending your creative project or event?

STAGE TWO

Stage two is your chance to meet us and talk about your idea in detail.

If we think your idea can be achieved in budget and is something that we can support, we'll invite you in for a brew and a chat. This will be very informal and can be done online or in-person at a time during week commencing 12/10/26 (we will contact you to arrange a time if your idea is taken to stage 2). We will discuss:

- Your idea and what inspired it
- Who is the target audience for your creative project / event
- How might you reach that audience
- What challenges you may face in your project
- How you may allocate the budget
- Anything new you may want to try
- The kind of Mentor you'd want to support your project



Please send your application to james@dukeslancaster.org

If you would like to apply for this opportunity but need support, feel free to reach out and we would be happy to assist you in your application.



26/27 MEMBERS BENEFITS

On top of the multiple things the Creative Futures programme offers, Members will also receive benefits such as:

- Be a Youth Voice for The Dukes
- Invitation to in-house events here at The Dukes
- Free access The Dukes' inspiring programme of theatre and cinema (subject to availability and certain exemptions)
- Free refreshments at Creative Future meetings

Creative Communities at The Dukes

Our Creative Communities team provide year-round creative engagement activities, no matter who you are, there are plenty of ways for you to get involved at The Dukes. Whether you're an older person, young person, artist, creative, maker, educator or place-shaper, we're sure you will find something that catches your eye. To find out more visit www.dukeslancaster.org

This Youth Board project has been made possible and free of charge to local young people through the generous support from the Banks Lyon Memorial Trust





A LOOK BACK AT OUR 25/26 MEMBERS



Stills from the short film, Bless The People Who Live In This House

Ailsa Madill who created the Screen Dreams Film Club for 16-25 year olds. Screen Dreams explores unusual, dreamlike cinema that pushes the boundaries of storytelling, style and content. The films selected explored themes of feminist rebellion, regional identity, and othering and prejudice. Each session across June to August 2026 included a screening, discussion and creative activity, contributing to a collaborative film zine of visual and written responses to the Screen Dream programme



Publicity material created for Screen Dreams

James and Ailsa have gone on to become Young Film Programmers here at The Dukes. Supported by Film Hub North this is a paid opportunity through National Lottery Funding on behalf of the BFI Film Audience Network. They are both currently working on RIP IT UP, the BFI Fan's UK-wide season that celebrates youth rebellion, culture and expression on screen in the UK alongside Queer Boots and Queer By Gum.